

Beyond Showerheads and Sprinklers: Water Governance Solutions for Illinois

Developing a Framework for Illinois Water Supply Planning and Management



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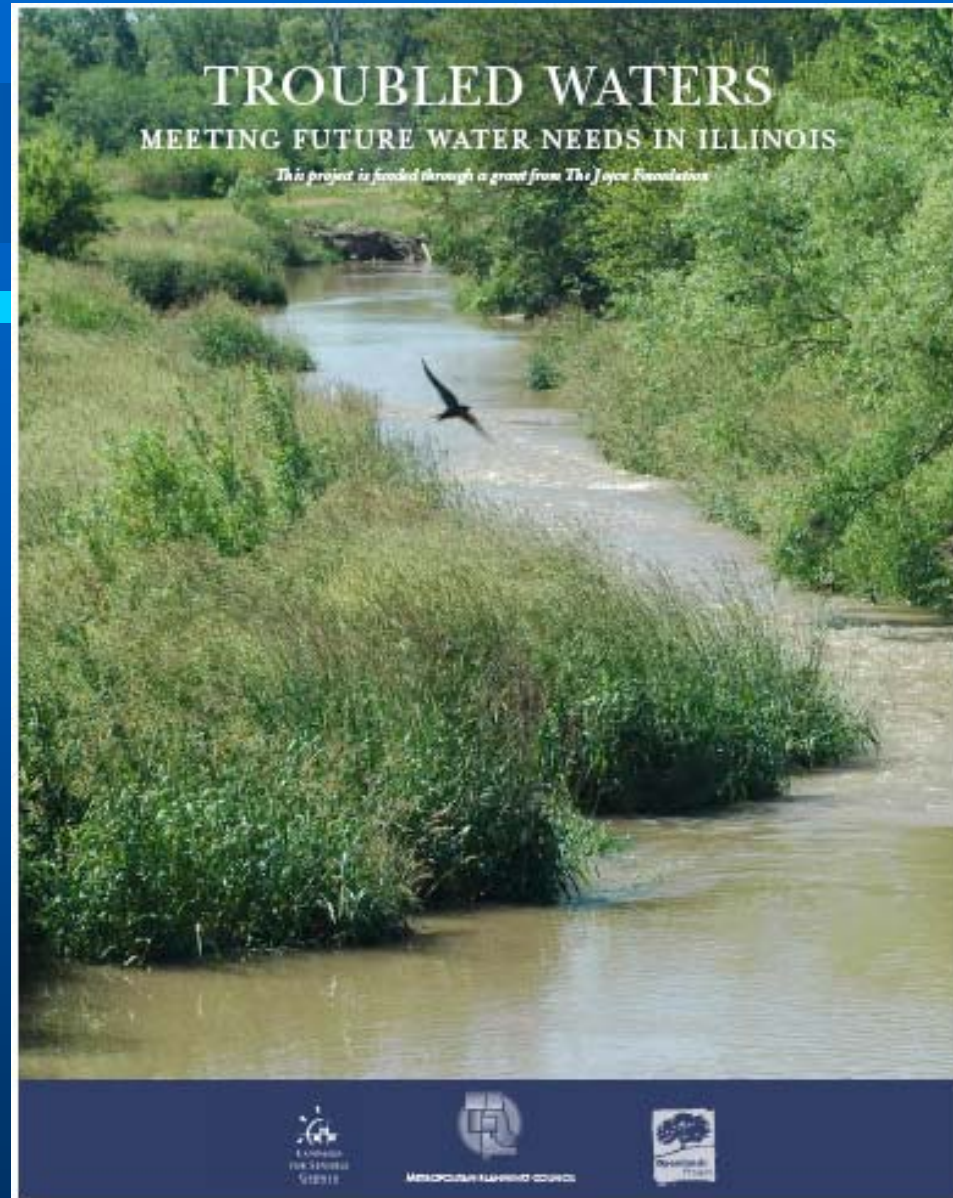
Special efforts from:

**Ellen Shubart
Campaign for Sensible Growth**

**Scott Goldstein
Metropolitan Planning Council**

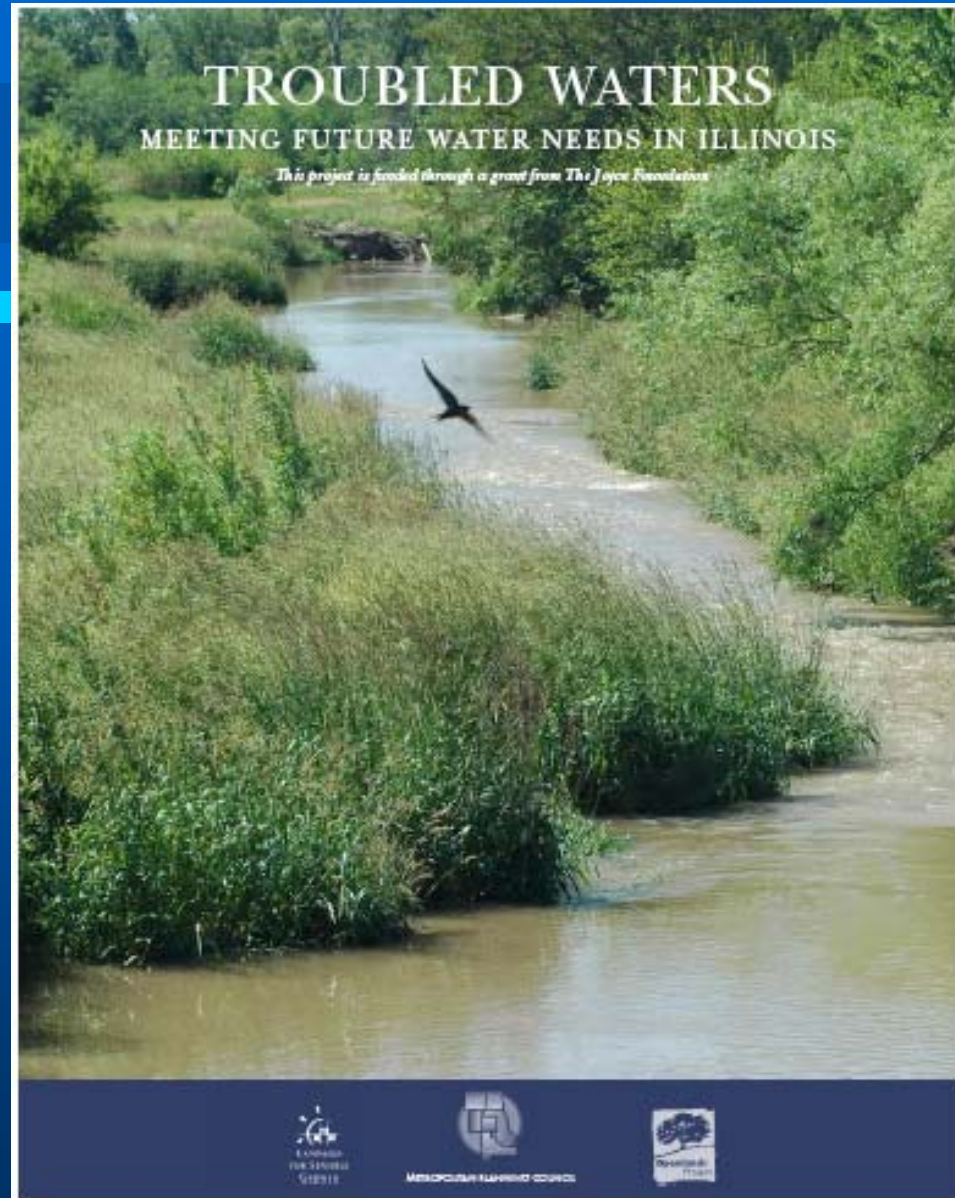
**Joyce O'Keefe
Openlands Project**

**and
Senator Susan Garrett
*December 2005***



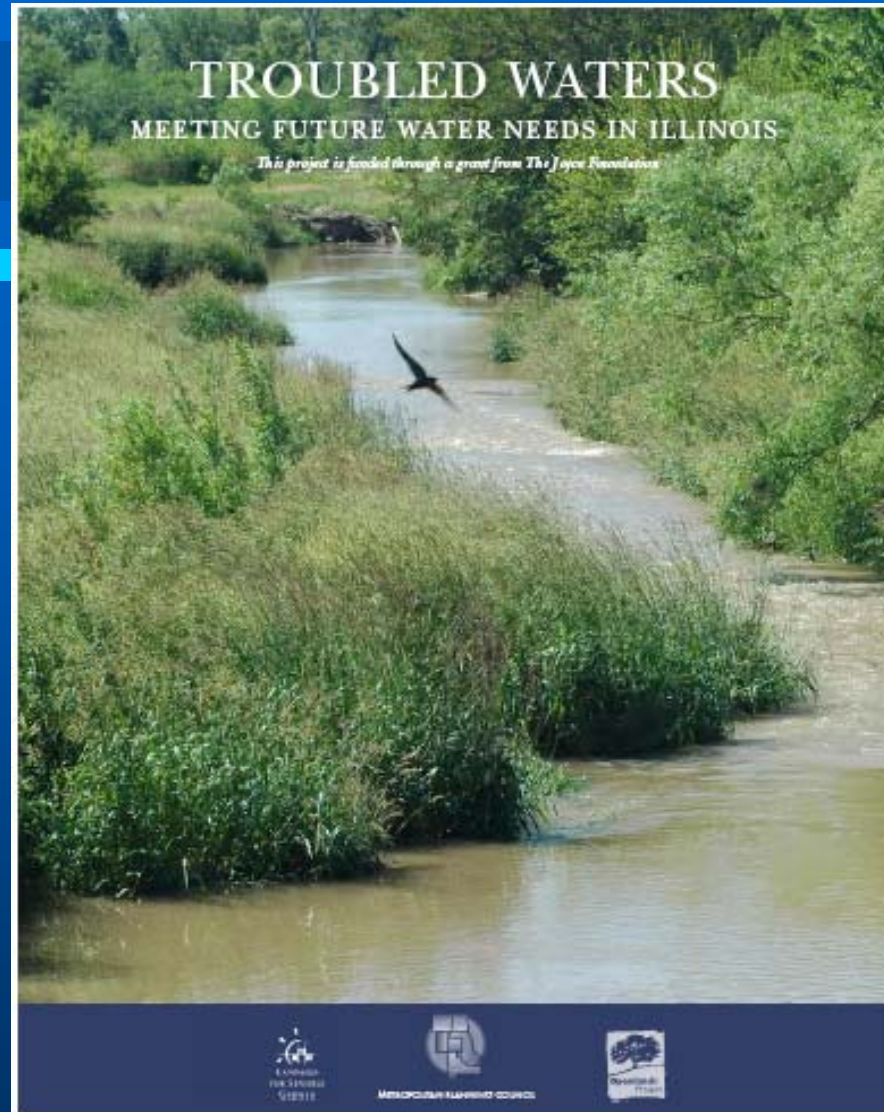
Introduction

“Careful planning and management of our water resources is critical to ensuring supplies of clean water at a reasonable cost in the future.”



Conclusions

“Economic growth, as well as population growth, depends upon a reliable supply of water for public use, thermoelectric generation, and commercial and industrial use. . . . Counties and municipalities need to work together to develop regional plans. ”



Executive Order 2006-01

- three year planning initiative
- \$5 million over three years
- \$1.5 million for local planning grants



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH - GOVERNOR

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Governor Blagojevich orders statewide water supply study

*Governor issues executive order to study state's water needs to protect
against shortages and develop regional plans*

SPRINGFIELD – Following last summer's long and costly drought, Governor Rod R. Blagojevich today issued an Executive Order to develop a comprehensive, statewide water supply planning and management strategy. The Department of Natural Resources Office of Water Resources will oversee the process in conjunction with the State Water Survey (SWS).

"It is critical for Illinois to get ahead of the curve when it comes to water supply planning," said Gov. Blagojevich. "Last summer's drought demonstrated to us that careful management of our water must be a priority so we always have enough supply for people to drink and use, for our industries like agriculture, and for our fish and wildlife habitats."

While Illinois is on the shores of Lake Michigan, one of the largest freshwater sources in the world, and has significant sources of both groundwater and surface water, portions of the state face legal and physical restraints to increasing water supplies. Shortages like last year's drought, and the restrictions it triggered, have so far been rare, but the growing population of the state and increasing demand for water will strain current sources.

Previously, the SWS, the Illinois Interagency Coordinating Committee on Groundwater, and the Illinois State Water Plan Task Force have identified the Priority Water Quantity Planning Areas that are most at risk for water shortages and conflicts. By December 31, 2006, at least two of those areas will have Regional Water Quantity Plans in process.

Executive Order 2006-01

GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER Jan 2006.

Calls on DNR OWR, in conjunction with Surveys, to:

- 1) A comprehensive program for state and regional water supply planning & implementation**
- 2) Public review of a strategic plan for a water supply planning and management program**
- 3) Establishing a scientific basis & an administrative framework for implementation of state and regional water supply planning and management**
- 4) Encourages creation of locally-based regional water supply planning committees**
- 5) By December 31, 2006 have regional water Quantity plans in progress in 2 priority planning areas**



Main Components in Water-Supply Planning

- Determine current water withdrawals & uses
- Construct future water demand scenarios
- Determine the capacity of existing supply facilities
- Determine potential yields & water quality from surface waters & aquifers
- Identify & evaluate impacts from drought, climate change, other risks & uncertainties
- Present & compare water-supply vs. demand scenarios
- Evaluate increasing water supply vs. decreasing demand
- Identify & evaluate risks, costs, & impacts of options

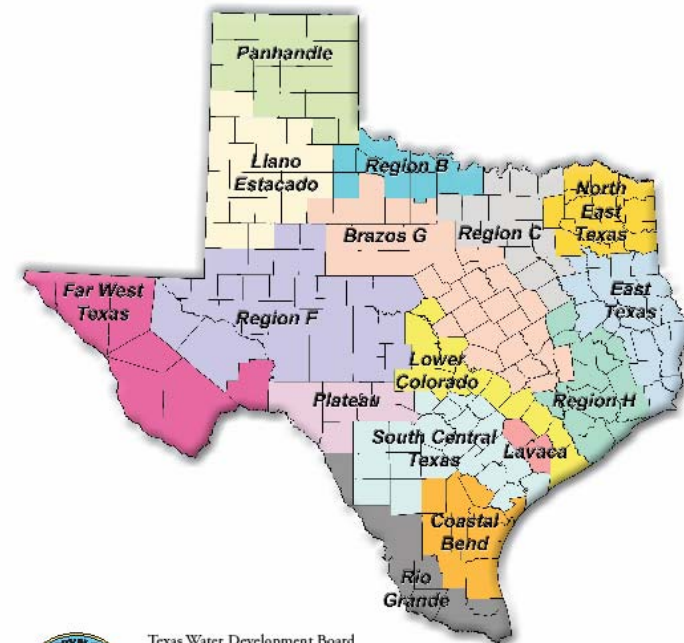
What Needs to be Done

SB 1 created a long-range, bottom-up, water supply planning process in which regional planning groups were responsible for assessing the needs for water in their regions during drought-of-record conditions and developing conservation, management, and mitigation plans to meet those needs.

They designated a political subdivision, such as a river authority or groundwater conservation district to carry out the administrative functions of the planning process. All meetings open to the public.

Water for Texas

Summary of Regional Water Plans
February 1, 2001



Texas Water Development Board
Water for Texas
Dependable, Clean, and Affordable
For Our People, Our Economy and
Our Environment

Key Findings from Texas Model/process

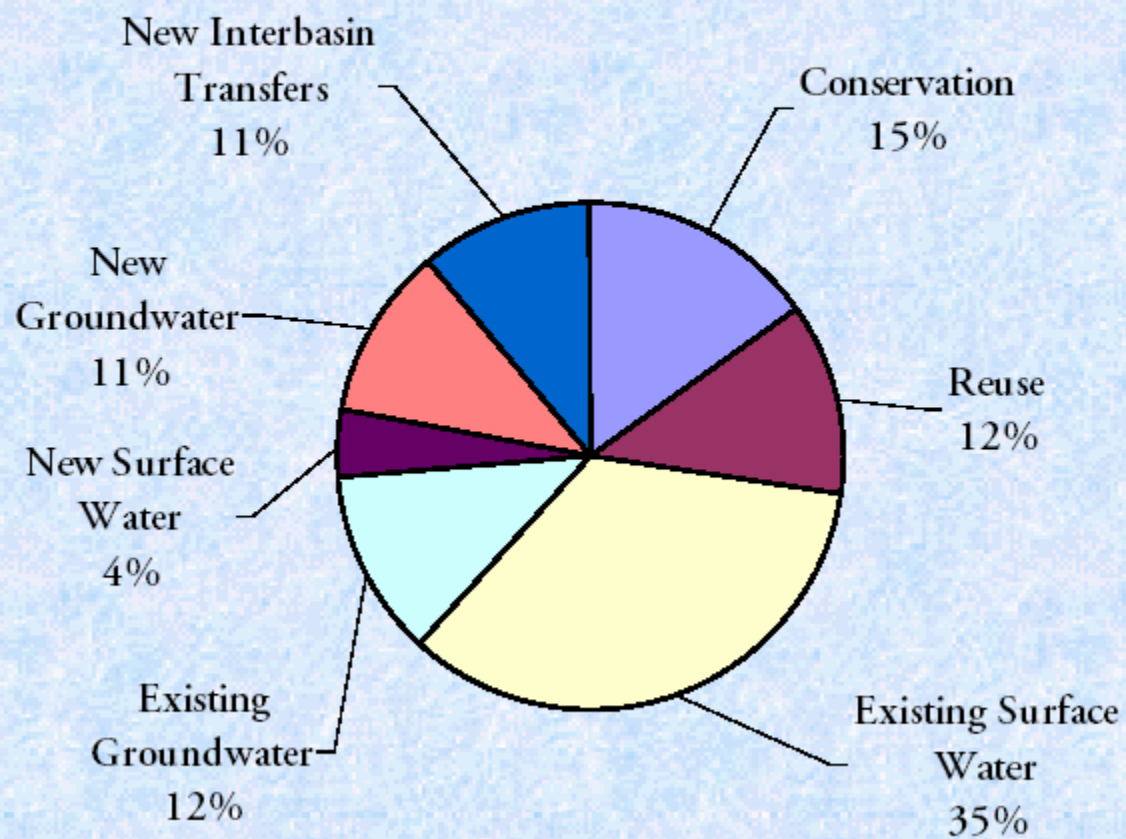
Key Finding

The RWPGs recommended solutions for 813 water user groups that will need additional water supplies during the 50-year planning horizon. In addition, they also identified 75 water user groups with needs for which no feasible water management strategy could be identified — an unmet need.

Key Finding

The most commonly used water management strategy was connecting to existing surface water supplies. Out of 813 water user groups with needs for which water management strategies were recommended, 665 selected this strategy, in whole or in part, to meet needs.

Types of Water Management Strategies Used



Regional Planning Challenges

- “We will never be able to agree on a solution until we can agree on the problem!”
- We must understand water resource development.
- We must meet the needs of growth and drought
- We must manage for the needs of large single purpose users.
- We must deal with domestic well impacts.

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Thank You - Questions



Department of Natural Resources
Office of Water Resources
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