Q: What *Colorado* will we, our businesses, and our children, see in 25 years?
What will we need?

- **Quality Companies and Jobs**
  - An economic environment

- **Quality of Life**
  - Neighborhoods, Transportation, Entertainment

- **Infrastructure**
  - Roads
  - Water

The most challenging is **WATER**
Why do we care?

Because our VISION, our future requires water *that we don’t have.*

We discover that WATER is more vital than even roads or education. Getting water becomes a question of [LEADERSHIP](#)
How did water become a problem?

- No significant systems in 20+ years
- How dry was 2002?
- 25 years above average yield, then
- Six straight years below average yield

*Systems we thought were good enough, aren’t!*
Is this an Aurora Problem?

- About 350,000 people in the south metro area are on wells
- Metro grows area 1M in 25yrs, 35yrs with walls
- Growth is occurring largely on wells
- Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) says 730k A.F. by 2040

Conclusion:

There will be a crisis
Our Nightmare

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Denver Area Runs Out of Water

By John Doe

NAIOP
So What Can We Do?

- There is an answer;  
  \textit{but}  
  its not the old answer

- Old answer: Physically move water

- Bad Answer: Stop Growth

- New Answer:  
  \begin{itemize}
  \item multi-pronged approach
  \item partnerships with others in Colorado
  \end{itemize}
The Solution

Cooperation

- Storage
- Limited Agricultural Transfers
- Limited Basin Transfers
- Conservation
We’ve talked enough about “water principles”; its time to take action.
Natural ARR Site

Aquifer Recharge and Recovery Schematic

To the Aurora Reservoir Water Purification Facility

Natural ARR Site

AURORA WATER
Prairie Waters Project
A recharge pond
Prairie Waters Map
Prairie Waters Map
Prairie Waters Map
What is Fallowing?

- Under old law, cities had to “dry up” a farm.
- Fallowing lets a farmer lease up to 1/4th of their water to a city while farming the rest.
- So:
  - The farmer makes more money, continues to farm, and lives in the community.
  - The city gets a reliable supply of water with minimal impact and without years in court.

Cities and farmers are in business together!
The impact of Prairie Waters

- Fastest, most economical way to significantly increase our water supply
- 20 percent more water than today
- Water we already own
- Drought resistant supply
- Better use of an existing resource
- Opens the door to City-Farm Cooperation
- Opens the door to Inter-city Teamwork
Summary

- We need to build 3 DWBs in 40 years
- …the hard way; or, the easy way….
- The old answers won’t work
- The new answers require teamwork
- Prairie Waters is one example of new answers

Thank you