Peace River Manasota
Regional Water Supply Authority

Strategic Plan
[Revised 2017]
Strategic Plan for
Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority

October 15, 2014
[Revised February 1, 2017]

Overview

The Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority is a regional water supply authority that provides wholesale drinking water to its member counties and the City of North Port supporting the region’s economy and quality of life.

The Authority is an independent special district created and existing pursuant to Florida Statutes and interlocal agreement between Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota Counties. The boundaries of the Authority consist of all of DeSoto, Manatee and Sarasota Counties and those parts of Charlotte County which are under the jurisdiction of the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The Board of Directors is vested with all the powers of the Authority.

Statutory Requirements

Pursuant to Section 373.713, Florida Statutes, the Authority shall design, construct, operate, and maintain facilities in locations and at the times necessary to ensure that an adequate water supply will be available to all citizens within the Authority. By statute, the Authority is to maximize the economic development of the water resources while supplying water in such a manner as will give priority to reducing adverse environmental effects.

Vision Statement

Through cooperation and collaboration the Authority and its members shall create, maintain and expand a sustainable, interconnected regional water supply system.

Mission

The mission of the Authority is to provide the region with a sufficient, high-quality, safe drinking water supply that is reliable, sustainable and protective of our natural resources now and into the future.

Core Values

I. Cooperation

Maintaining a strong spirit of cooperation and addressing regional water supply needs through the leadership of the Authority and its member governments.

Unlike other areas of the state where conflict over water supplies has been intense and protracted, the four-county region of DeSoto, Manatee, Sarasota, and Charlotte Counties has avoided “water wars” by maintaining a strong spirit of cooperation and addressing regional water supply needs through the regional partnership of the Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority and its members.

II. Collaboration

The Authority will seek to develop a significant, constructive role for all local governments in regional water supply planning and management.

The Authority has reached out to non-member local governments through the facilitation of the Water Alliance for communicating and collaborating with all water providers in the region. The Authority will continue to develop a
constructive role for non-member local
governments in regional water-supply
planning and management.

III. Regionalization

The long-term aim of the Authority is to
forge a system that is environmentally
sensitive and sustainable, highly
interconnected, diversified and affordable.

The Authority will continue to expand
the regional water-supply system to meet
projected demand by undertaking
projects that yield mutual benefits for its
member counties and customers and
maximization of economic development
of the water resources within the region.
The long-term aim is to forge a system
that is environmentally sensitive and
sustainable, highly interconnected,
diversified, and affordable. In striving to
achieve this vision, the Authority will
develop benchmarks for monitoring
performance and measuring progress.

IV. Diversification

The Authority will work with its
members and water providers in the
region to further diversify supplies,
increase additional water supplies into
the Authority’s regional system, and
protect and enhance water-dependent
natural resources.

The Authority will work with its
member counties, customers, and other
water providers in the region to further
diversify the region’s water supplies,
increase water conservation and
wastewater reuse, interconnect facilities
across the four-county region, and
integrate additional water supplies into
the Authority’s regional system to
support protection or enhance water
dependent natural resources.

V. Financial Stability

The Authority will maintain financial
policies to assure its financial stability
while providing affordable water rates
that are fair and equitable.

The Authority seeks to maintain policies
to retain the highest possible credit
ratings that can be achieved without
compromising the mission of the
Authority or its Customers and meeting
all contractual obligations. The
Authority will keep its rates as
reasonable as possible while balancing
costs with environmental and source-
water protection and infrastructure
needs. The Authority will actively seek
funding from outside sources for
projects to reduce costs to the residents
of the region.

VI. Water Advocacy

The Authority will be a leader for water
advocacy through participation in
legislative water policy and
environmental stewardship for water
source, water supply and resource
protection.

The Authority will actively engage in
legislative and regulatory proceedings to
promote environmental stewardship
through science based regulation and
water resource development and
coordinate with respective agencies
including the Florida Department of
Environmental Protection and Southwest
Florida Water Management District and
with other water users.

Website: www.regionalwater.org
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(941) 316-1776
OBJECTIVES & INITIATIVES
1-Regionalization & Diversification

Goal: The long-term aim of the Authority is to forge a system that is environmentally sensitive and sustainable, highly interconnected, diversified & affordable.

Goal: The Authority will work with its members and water providers in the region to further diversify supplies, integrate additional water supplies into the Authority’s Regional System, and protect and enhance water-dependent natural resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGIONALIZATION &amp; DIVERSIFICATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives</strong></td>
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</table>

**Objective 1-1**  Develop a regional operational protocol for interconnected facilities that supports economical and sustainable use of resources, and emergency operation.

- Initiative 2. Establish an operational protocol for interoperability of the interconnected regional water facilities to optimize flexibility and rotational supply in 2019.

**Objective 1-2**  Develop a “regional program plan” for capital funding of future regional pipelines and sources with SWFWMD, including sub-regional interconnections and Regional Participation in sub-regional projects of regional significance.


**Objective 1-3**  Interconnect all major supply facilities to the Regional Transmission System

- Initiative 1. Establish processes for when new water supply is developed, how new supply projects are selected, and provide range of options for regional participation in 2017.
- Initiative 2. Interconnect all existing major supply facilities to the Regional Transmission System by 2026.
- Initiative 3. Interconnect all new major supply facilities to the Regional System as they are developed.
Goal: The long-term aim of the Authority is to forge a system that is environmentally sensitive and sustainable, highly interconnected, diversified & affordable.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINANCIAL STABILITY</th>
<th>Objectives</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2-1</td>
<td>Strengthen the Authority’s bond credit rating to optimize interest rates on future debt refunding and new issuances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 1.</td>
<td>Formulate strategy for future debt service coverage in 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2-2</td>
<td>Identify capital improvement funding needs, including, new connections to the regional system and regional pipelines for members and partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 1.</td>
<td>Prepare a 5 year capital improvement plan in 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 2.</td>
<td>Prepare a 20 year capital improvement plan in 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2-3</td>
<td>Establish contractual and financial policies that facilitate new connections for both supply from and delivery to the Regional System from Members and partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 2.</td>
<td>Establish terms for regional system connection and capacity fees in 2018.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective 2-4</td>
<td>Investigate new funding sources and mechanisms outside of SWFWMD and state grants including the State Revolving Loans, WIFIA et. al. (ongoing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 1.</td>
<td>Participate in state and federal legislative opportunities to create and provide a continuous source for funding of water infrastructure (ongoing).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Objective 2-5</td>
<td>Review Authority financial policies to ensure they support agency financial goals and modify as needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative 1.</td>
<td>Perform comprehensive review of Master Water Supply Contract to ensure it meets the current &amp; future needs of Authority Customers (2018 through 2019).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 2.</td>
<td>Establish a CIP reserve fund for non-R&amp;R, CIP Authority projects in 2018.</td>
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3- Cooperation & Collaboration

- Richard Anderson, Team Lead

Approved: April 12, 2017

Goal: Maintaining a strong spirit of cooperation and addressing regional water supply needs through the leadership of the Authority and its member governments.

Goal: The Authority will seek to develop a significant, constructive role for all local governments in regional water supply planning and management.

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<th>COOPERATION &amp; COLLABORATION</th>
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<td><strong>Objective 3-1</strong></td>
<td>Establish a mechanism for both Current Customer and Partner input into the water supply planning process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 1.</td>
<td>Working with Local Governments, identify projects of a regional nature that can be implemented using existing infrastructure between Authority, Members/Customers and Partners in 2018.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Objective 3-2 | Update Regional Water Supply Master Plan every 5-years or at greater frequency if conditions warrant (next scheduled update 2020). |
| Initiative 1. | Complete an inventory of all existing reclaimed and storm water systems that have potential as future raw water sources in the region for inclusion in the next Regional Water Supply Plan Update in 2019. |
| Initiative 3. | Coordinate process for developing water demand projections on a regional basis with Customers, Partners and SWFWMD in 2019. |

| Objective 3-3 | Enhance Short term and long-term relationships with all water suppliers in the Authority service area. |
| Initiative 1. | Identify and seek to improve existing infrastructure that could be used cooperatively among Authority Customers and Partners to increase available water for delivery and exchange and maintain connections in readiness to serve status in 2018. |
4- Water Advocacy

- Pat Lehman, Team Lead

Approved: April 12, 2017

Goal: The Authority will be a leader for water advocacy through participation in legislative water policy and environmental stewardship for water source, water supply and resource protection.

WATER ADVOCACY

Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 4-1</th>
<th>Maintain an ongoing collaborative relationship with Customer government governing bodies and staff.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initiative 1</td>
<td>Coordinate a list of water infrastructure needs to support legislative funding in 2017.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative 2</td>
<td>Develop mechanisms for regional involvement/support on sub-regional projects of regional significance in 2019.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>Objective 4-2</th>
<th>Provide a forum for partnership building with local governments, community organizations, business organizations and the public on water issues within the region.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative 1</td>
<td>Identify key contacts and develop communications strategies in 2017.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative 2</td>
<td>Promote the value of water to the public and business community to build understanding and support (ongoing).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative 3</td>
<td>Host outreach initiatives including annual BBQ at Peace River Facility and water forum to engage local and state officials in water issues (ongoing).</td>
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<th>Objective 4-3</th>
<th>Conduct routine annual surveys of Customers and Partners leadership to determine effectiveness of the Authority’s communications and outreach programs.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Initiative 1</td>
<td>Develop survey to communicate to Customers and Partners in 2017.</td>
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