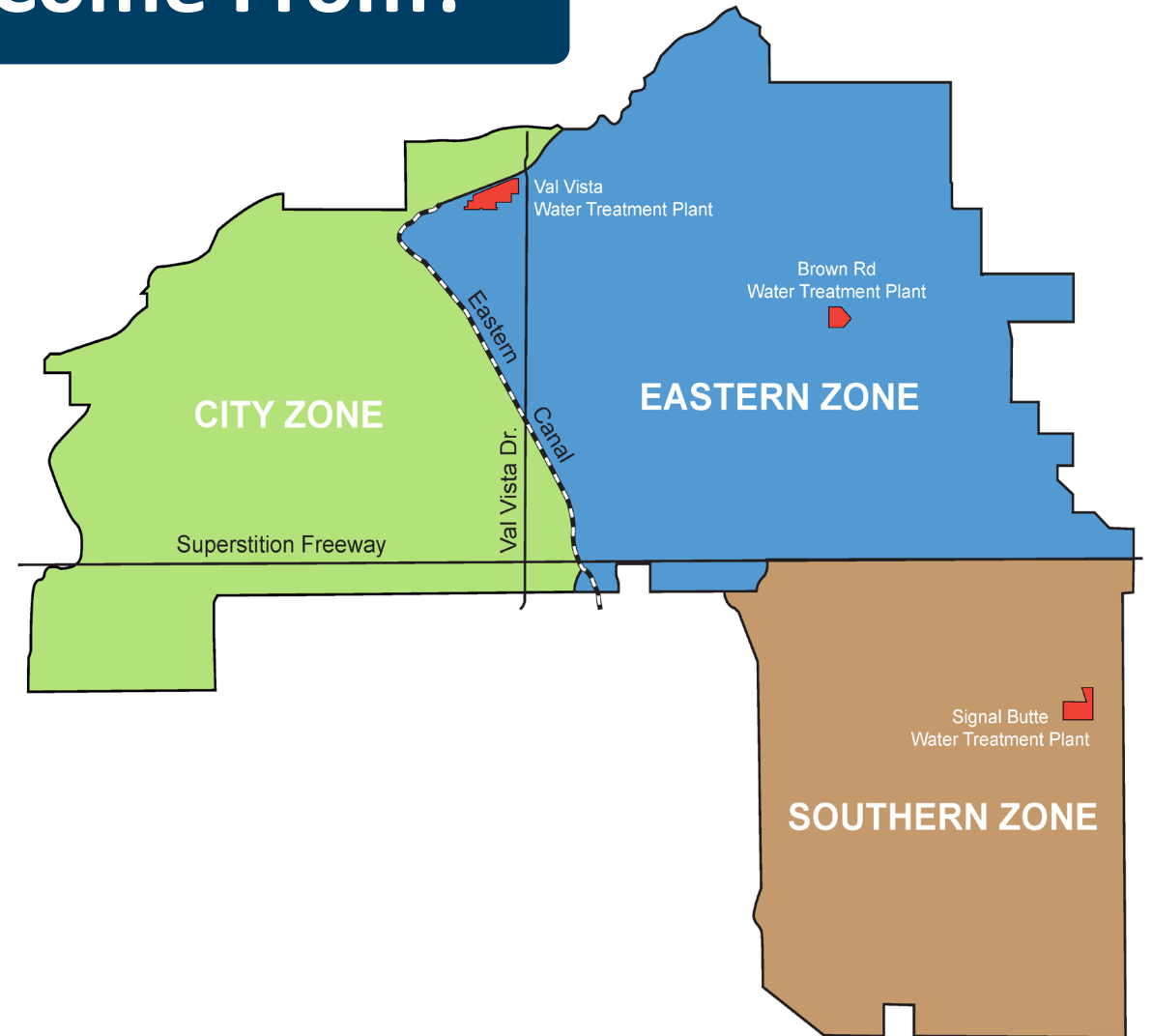




Colorado River Shortage Update
May 12, 2022
Presented by Chris Hassert & Brian Draper

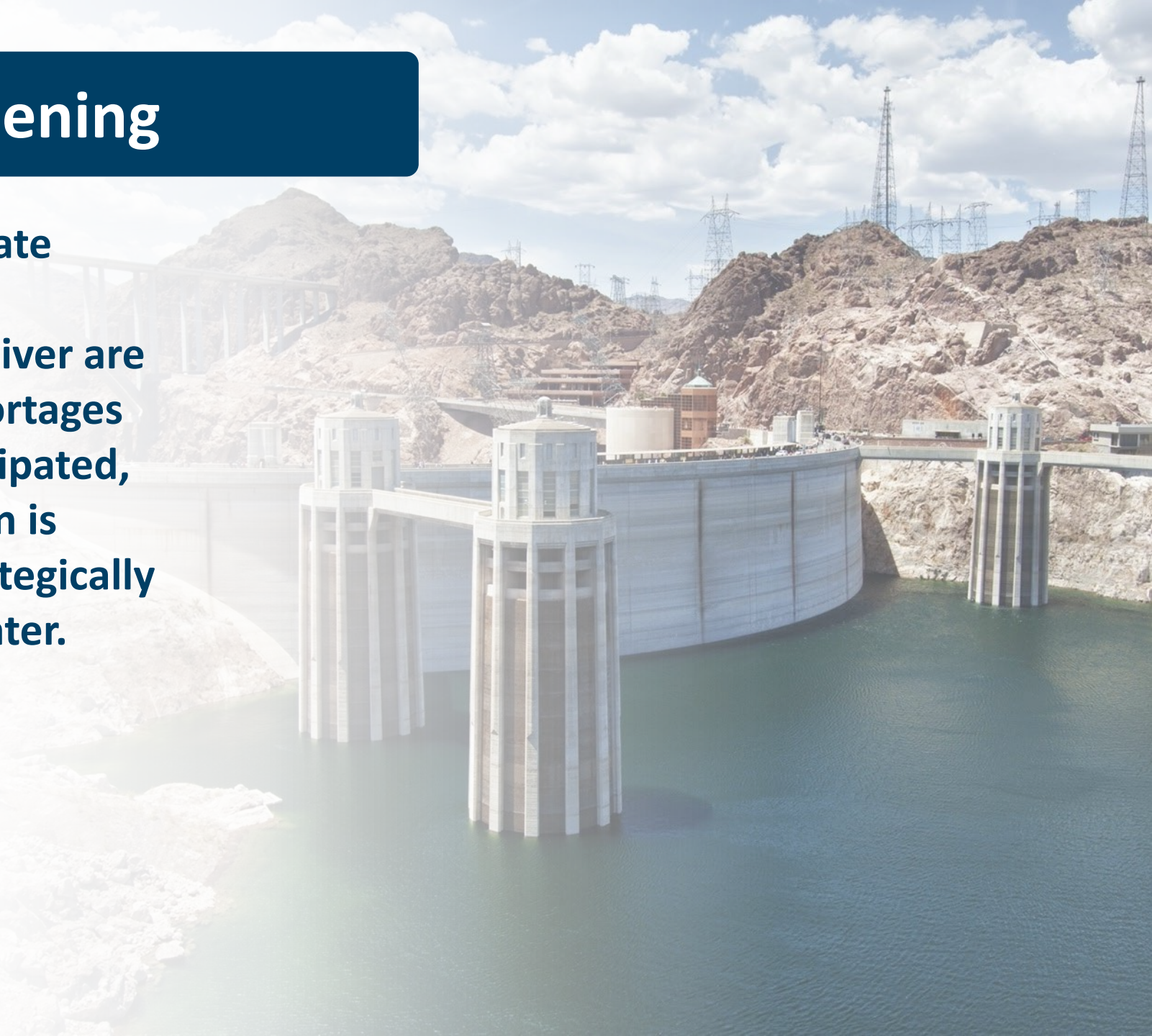
Where Does Mesa's Water Come From?

- ❑ Each valley city has their own water outlook and Mesa has long prepared for shortage through careful planning to build a robust infrastructure and diverse water portfolio.
- ❑ Mesa has three primary sources of water that include surface water from the Colorado River (Eastern and Southern Zones), Salt and Verde Rivers (City Zone), and groundwater supplies (all zones). The water you receive depends on where you live.



What is happening

- ❑ Due to historic drought, climate change, and over-allocation, conditions on the Colorado River are worsening. While deeper shortages may come quicker than anticipated, Mesa recognizes the situation is serious and continues to strategically plan for a future with less water.



Colorado River Reservoir Conditions

Lake Powell



5.77
MAF
|

24%

Lake Mead



8.15 MAF
|

31%

What We've been Doing

- ❑ Managing and balancing the water needs of new growth, including policy changes to manage large water users and working with commercial/industrial customers on water sustainability plans
- ❑ Maximizing efficiency in operations by utilizing industry best practice water auditing
- ❑ Employing advanced technologies for pipe inspection and replacement to reduce water loss in the distribution system
- ❑ Using water efficiently in parks and along City streets by installing smart landscape controllers that monitor weather conditions and plant health and detect leaks
- ❑ Reducing the area of overseeding on select turf areas in City Parks
- ❑ Designing new Parks to focus on functional turf design, minimizing ornamental turf
- ❑ Re-lined the VVWTP Reservoir to save 250k gallons of leakage per day

What We are Doing

- ❑ Reusing effluent for agricultural use in exchange for approximately 6,800 acre-feet (AF) of vital surface water annually
- ❑ Maximizing potable water supplies through the Central Mesa Reuse Pipeline – will exchange up to an additional 12,000 AF of effluent annually
- ❑ Banking 520,000 AF of water stored in the aquifer for long-term supply resilience
- ❑ Exploring sustainable and cost-effective water augmentation opportunities



What We are Doing

- ❑ Expanding customer outreach and conservation programs to help residents and businesses take an active part in using water efficiently
- ❑ Participating in a historic partnership with other water agencies to bolster Lake Mead levels with a 1,200 AF contribution as part of the 500+ Plan

2022 Arizona Contributions to 500+	Volume (AF)
On-River Water Users	30,000
Central Arizona Project	193,000
Gila River Indian Community	78,000
Salt River Project Exchange	10,000
CAP Lake Pleasant	12,000
CAP Tribal Water Users	40,000
CAP Subcontractors	50 - 60,000
Total 500+ Plan Contribution Target	223,000

Water Shortage Plan – Stage I Declaration Components

- ❑ Increased monitoring of SRP and CAP surface water supply availability.
- ❑ Continue to report to City Management and Council as water supply conditions change and potential impacts arise
- ❑ Continued Reduction of water use at City facilities
- ❑ Increased public awareness to alert residents to shortage conditions, impact on Mesa's supplies, and highlight Mesa's efforts to use water efficiently
- ❑ Encourage voluntary water conservation measures by the public
- ❑ Stage 1 does not include any mandatory commercial or residential water reductions



Conclusion

Mesa's effective water management and efficient water use allow us to thrive in the desert, even in a future with less Colorado River water.

While water conservation measures are currently voluntary, practical water-wise changes in lifestyle can significantly impact our community's water future. Water conservation and efficiency are vital to a sustainable future in the desert.

The Stage 1 Declaration of the Water Shortage Plan would show Mesa's commitment to maintaining a sustainable water supply.



mesa·az