# Financing Watershed Protection

Evolving perspectives in evolving economic times

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#### Watershed Protection Funding

About Raleigh Public Utilities Salt Lake City Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy • 2002 Olympics UNCWI Funding Past Approach Future Considerations Concluding remarks

## Solvent and Liquid



Because everything in her home is waterproof, the housewife of 2000 can do her daily cleaning with a hose

\* From 1950's era Popular Mechanics magazine

### **Raleigh Public Utilities**

Water, wastewater and reuse
270 square mile service area
5 purification facilities
~ 4500 miles of water/wastewater pipe
156 M\$ budget
Managing ~ 10B\$ in replacement cost assets





#### Salt Lake City Watershed Protection

Watershed purchases since 1885
City owns 24,000+ acres of watershed
Extraterritorial jurisdiction for watershed protection granted in State Law
Program for watershed purchases funded by \$ 0.50 on each bill



#### MWDSLS

Wholesale supplier of water to SLC and Sandy
Multiple watersheds including Colorado River tributaries
Stakeholder based approach to watershed protection - JTAC
Funded largely by water users through rates



### 2002 Olympic Games

Salt Lake City had several watershed areas ideal for Olympic venues
None of the watersheds managed directly by SLC were used as venues
Strong opposition to placing these venues in SLC watershed caused them to be located in MWDSLS watersheds

#### UNCWI - Past

 Raleigh Public Utilities provides water and sewer service to about 475,000 residents in seven different communities

- Water nutrient fee is collected when new land is developed within our service area
  Approximately 1.5 Million dollars per year before economic downturn
- Essentially, new growth funds our portion

#### UNCWI – present and future

- Economic downturn = reduced water nutrient fee
- Funding for watershed procurement continued using bond money to keep program afloat
- Going forward, a more stable and equitable funding source is desirable

#### **Conclusion Questions**

Who benefits from watershed protection?
Who pays for watershed protection?
Who decides?

#### PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT



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