The El Dorado County Water Agency
2016 - 2020 Strategic Plan

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“Ensure that El Dorado County has adequate water for today and in the future.”

EDCWA
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Vision Statement:

Within the next five years, El Dorado County Water Agency will be known as the trusted, county-wide leader on water-resource issues, representing the long-term interest of our community, purveyors and residents through a dedicated team of professionals, responsive and accountable to the public we serve.

Organizational Development

Goal:

Build an organization that is efficient, cost-effective, transparent and adaptive to change

Objectives:

- Define business functions and determine how they will be supported
- Develop organizational chart and job descriptions that support the Strategic Plan
- Develop and implement effective policies and procedures
- Build a cohesive team through respect, trust and open communication
- Maximize use of internal talent
- Promote transparent business practices

Goal:

Realize the potential of the agency’s greatest asset: its employees

Objectives:

- Clearly define each employee’s role and responsibilities
- Develop skills and expertise for benefit of agency
- Define current benefits and compensation
- Maintain level of compensation and benefits that retains a skilled and productive workforce
Financial Management

Goal: Use financial resources in a fiscally responsible manner to achieve agency’s mission

Objectives:
- Establish 10-year budget plan to achieve goals and objectives of Strategic Plan
- Track and report expenditures and progress
- Obtain the best value for goods and services

Goal: Protect existing funds and sources of funding

Objectives:
- Review and implement effective reserve policy
- Promote financial stability through legislation/policy advocacy

Goal: Identify and pursue new funding sources

Objectives:
- Build capacity to pursue grants
- Explore fee-based services
- Pursue other sources of public and private support
Communications

Goal:

Create distinct identity with the public, the water industry and government

Objectives:

✓ Identify key audiences
✓ Develop message on key water issues
✓ Establish and implement communication plan

Goal:

Engage in community outreach and education

Objectives:

✓ Present to community organizations
✓ Educate public on current events and key issues
✓ Utilize agency website as communication tool
✓ Develop education program for schools
✓ Promote local career development in our industry
Policy/Legislative Advocacy

Goal:

Effectively advocate for the interest of our county

Objectives:

✓ Develop channels of communication within the community
✓ Work to understand local needs and concerns
✓ Represent local interests in policy debate
✓ Coordinate with local purveyors
✓ Inform the public of potential local impacts of state and federal policy developments

Goal:

Influence local, state and federal water policy for the benefit of El Dorado County

Objectives:

✓ Take positions on proposed legislation and regulations
✓ Sponsor legislation
✓ Leverage policy efforts of local and regional associations
✓ Build relationships with key decision makers at state and federal levels
✓ Promote interest of upstream communities in statewide policy debate
✓ Work with local, state and federal representatives to address El Dorado County issues
Water Resource Management

Goal:

Protect existing water rights

Objectives:

✓ Promote water conservation, use efficiency and other practices that fulfill legal obligations for continued use
✓ Promote existing legal system of priority of rights and area of origin protections
✓ Support purveyor efforts to perfect and defend existing water rights
✓ Influence state and federal policies affecting water rights

Goal:

Pursue water supplies necessary to serve future needs of El Dorado County

Objectives:

✓ Acquire water rights and develop storage for urban and agricultural land uses projected in General Plan
✓ Promote full potential of local hydro power development including storage
✓ Develop water supplies and storage necessary to prepare for drought
✓ Promote feasible recycled water development
Goal: Enhance reliability of existing and future water supplies

Objectives:

✓ Advance county-wide drought planning effort
✓ Promote conservation and efficiency to maximize beneficial use
✓ Assist residents and purveyors with groundwater supply reliability
✓ Provide county-wide and regional perspective to identify mutual interests and pursue potential partnerships
✓ Pursue funding opportunities to achieve greater reliability
✓ Assist local land use authorities in development and implementation of water-related ordinances
✓ Assist local authorities in emergency preparedness

Goal: Preserve El Dorado County’s outstanding water quality

Objectives:

✓ Support continued existence of working agricultural lands for benefit of water supply and quality
✓ Promote responsible management of public lands for water supply and quality
✓ Work with community groups, Resource Conservation Districts (RCD’s) and other agencies to achieve watershed improvements for benefit of water supply and quality
✓ Support ongoing efforts of local purveyors to preserve water quality
Customer Service

**Goal:**

Provide excellent service to all our customers

**Objectives:**

- Understand the needs of our residents, purveyors, agriculturalists and business community
- Exemplify professionalism, responsiveness and accountability as individuals and as an agency
- Respond to the needs of our customers

Alternative/Renewable Energy Development and Energy Efficiency

**Goal:**

Lead development of hydropower generation in El Dorado County

**Objectives:**

- Champion hydro power as critical component of California energy solutions
- Work for favorable economic and regulatory environment
- Partner with local purveyors and other agencies to achieve multiple benefits from hydro development
- Advocate for hydro development through regional and statewide associations
- Create new streams of revenue to fund purveyor operations
Goal:

Support energy efficiency and renewable energy projects that benefit the core water business of our purveyors

Objectives:

✓ Identify funding opportunities
✓ Monitor regulatory developments
✓ Partner in pursuit of cost-effective programs

Stormwater/Flood Protection

Goal:

Develop opportunities in stormwater management

Objectives:

✓ Work with El Dorado County to define needs of residents
✓ Work with El Dorado County to define role and responsibilities between the two agencies
✓ Prepare county-wide water resources plan
✓ Prepare and identify opportunities for grant funding
The El Dorado County Water Agency
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