

**Subject:**

Comments and questions on water infrastructure planning

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**From:** Mark Scerbo**Sent:** Tuesday, June 3, 2025 8:11 PM**To:** Planning <Planning@a2gov.org>**Subject:** Comments and questions on water infrastructure planning

Regarding the discussion tonight of water infrastructure planning, some of my questions were answered throughout the presentation, but several of these were not explicitly answered.

1. Capacity analysis chart shows horizontal lines: this assumes each (new) person uses the same amount of water, but water usage has decreased ~15% from the peak in 2014, and higher density developments tend to use less water per person (less monoculture lawns)
  1. Modeling assumes 2.19 people/unit. Assumes a fixed use per person based on current A2 water use. Analysis isn't looking at use per location (downtown vs R1 zones)
  2. Water use/person in A2 is a lot different than other communities (less irrigation, less summer population)
  3. Can we **create a simple model for use per person as a function of population density** (using *use patterns over time* in other cities as a benchmark)
2. Footing drain disconnects could decrease "wet weather" sanitary sewer volumes - we could reinstate this program (in a more equitable way).
  1. This is *required for new development*, but we can retroactively do this for existing homes. We used to do this, but stopped.
3. Even with the SEMCOG (not CLUP) conservative (ie, existing development) growth estimates, we'd need whole new water treatment plants in the next couple of decades. This is above and beyond replacing the 100 year old water treatment plant, and beyond the ability to increase the capacity of the existing plants. So **what is the plan for building new plants for that growth** (whether it happens in 10 years or 20 years)?
  1. Given that new plants will need to be built, I'd much rather that upfront capital cost (land acquisition, fixed construction costs) is distributed among more Ann Arborites than fewer.
  2. Residents in newer developments (renters and owners) will pay more of this inevitable capital cost than residents in existing properties.

Thank you,  
Mark Scerbo