

# This presentation premiered at WaterSmart Innovations

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SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY

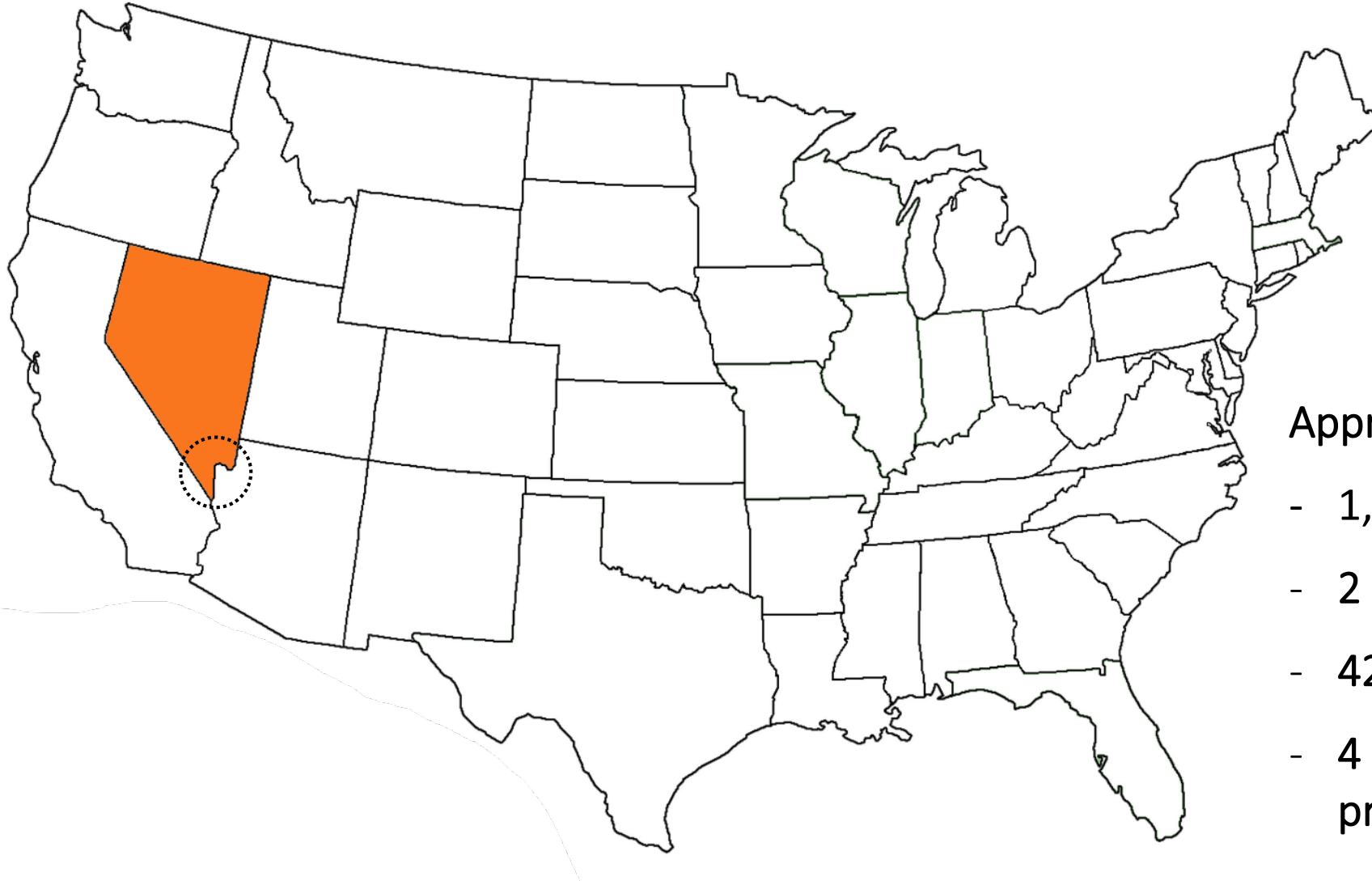
# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Engaging youth through public participation*



watersmart | 2019  
INNOVATIONS

# SOUTHERN NEVADA OVERVIEW



Approximately:

- 1,600 sq. miles (4,143 km<sup>2</sup>)
- 2 million residents
- 42 million annual visitors
- 4 inches (10 cm) annual precipitation

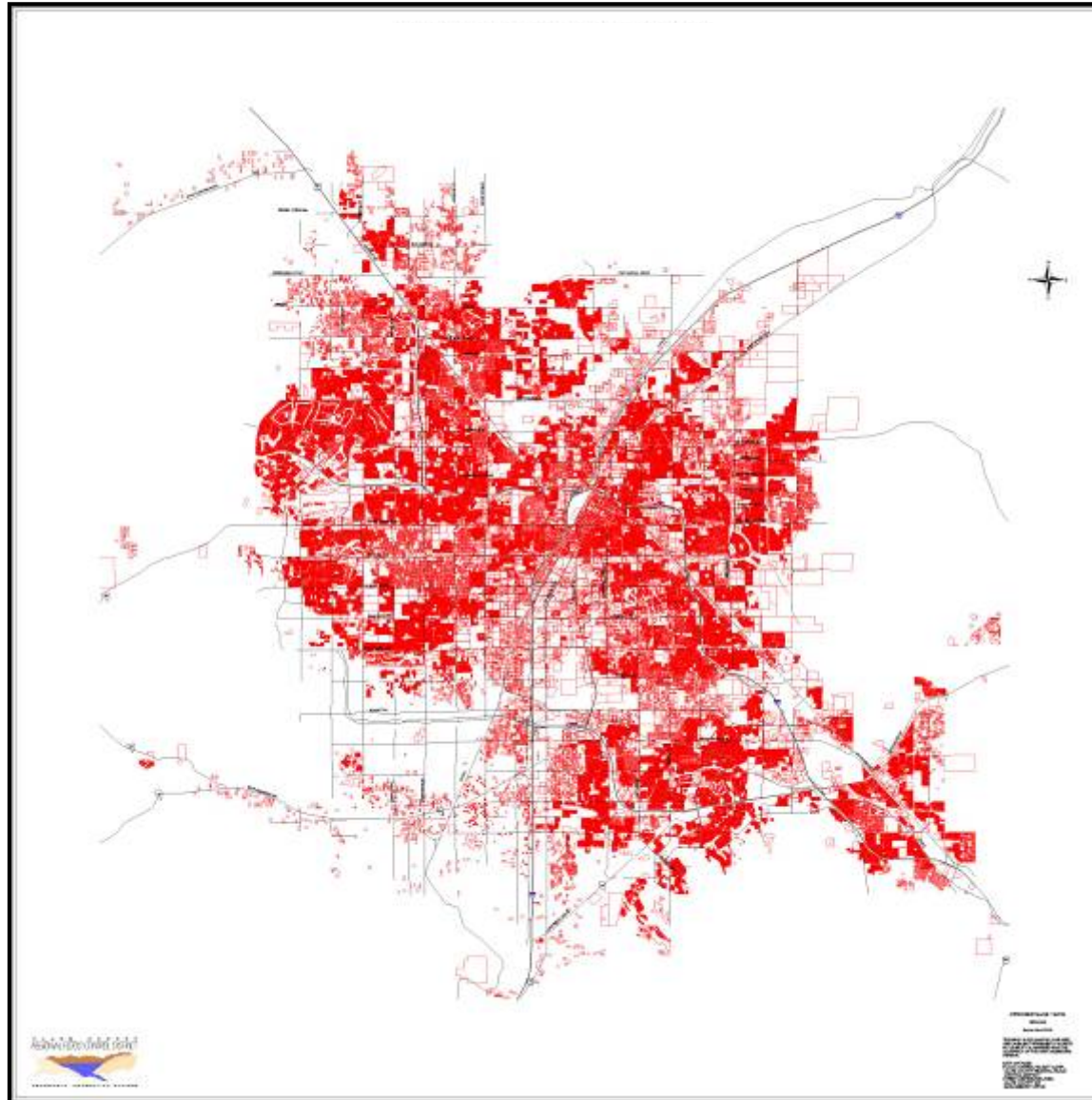
# Las Vegas





Las Vegas

# DEVELOPMENT HISTORY



## Population

**1950 – 47,000**

**1960 – 116,000**

**1970 – 270,000**

**1980 – 444,000**

**1990 – 800,000**

**2000 – 1.3 million**

**2010 – 2.0 million**



**70%** of state's population



**70%** of state's economic output



Less than **5%** of water available for use



# “Water ignites simmering feud between city and county.”

*Las Vegas Review-Journal, March 1991*



# 1991 WATER CHALLENGES

- Resource availability
- Regional coordination
- Facilities
- Conservation
- Funding
- Environment
- Public Engagement





# SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY

- Big Bend Water District
- Boulder City
- City of Henderson
- City of Las Vegas
- City of North Las Vegas
- Clark County Water Reclamation District
- Las Vegas Valley Water District

**Established in 1991 by  
seven local water and  
wastewater agencies to  
address water issues on a  
regional basis, rather than  
an individual water  
purveyor basis.**



# SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY



## CONSERVATION

Incentives, Programs,  
Regulation and Pricing



## WATER SUPPLY PLANNING

Developing and managing  
regional water supplies



## WATER QUALITY

Maintaining and  
protecting water quality



## INFRASTRUCTURE

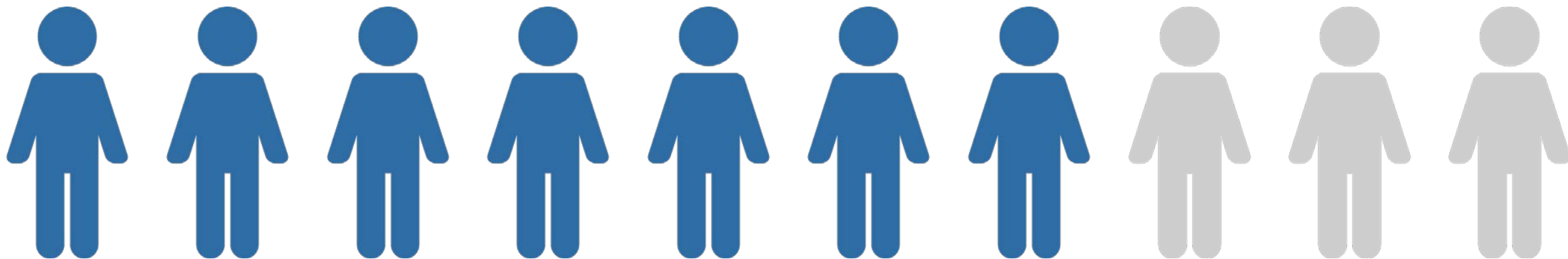
Building and operating  
major facilities



## STEWARDSHIP

Protecting  
environmental resources

**Seven of every 10 Nevadans rely on the SNWA  
to supply water to homes and businesses.**



**In response to the community's water challenges, the SNWA formed a 21-member committee to develop recommendations on future water resources and funding for new regional facilities.**



## Based on IRPAC recommendations, the SNWA:

- Developed a **water resource plan** to project future demands and resources available to meet those demands over time; placed top priority on Colorado River resources
- Implemented a **water facilities program** (MCCP) that is phased and expandable to respond to future uncertainties
- **Expanded treatment and transmission capacity** and constructed a new treatment and transmission facility to improve system reliability
- Implemented a **conservation goal** and incentive programs
- Utilized **diverse funding sources**, based on a “growth-pays-for-growth” philosophy

# The SNWA has continued to actively engage the public in its decision-making processes.

- Integrated Resource Plan Advisory Committee (1994-96)
- Advisory Committee for Groundwater Management (1997-present)
- Water Quality Citizens Advisory Committee (1997-98)
- Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee (1998-present)
- Youth Advisory Council (1999-present)
- Drought Citizens Advisory Committee (2003)
- Integrated Water Resource Planning Advisory Committee (2004-05)
- Integrated Resource Planning Advisory Committee (2012-2014)



# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Created in 1999 by the SNWA Board of Directors
- More than 400 high school students have participated
- Forum for high school students to explore, research, and address water issues in Southern Nevada



# WHY HAVE A YOUTH ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM?

- Youth are water consumers
- Youth are future decision-makers
- Community opportunity and responsibility
- Responsible environmental citizenship



# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL GOALS

1. Students will appreciate the unique qualities of water, and the role water has played in the history and culture of Southern Nevada.
2. Students will conserve water resources in the choices they make as citizens and consumers.
3. Students will protect the quality of our water resources, both in Nevada and around the world.

# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL GOALS

**Goals correlate with Clark County School District curriculum.**

**Example:**

- SNWA Objective  
*Describe water conservation techniques*
- CCSD Objective  
*Apply science to real-world problems using technology*

# LEARNING



- Receive expert instruction on local and regional water issues
- Learn more about SNWA and its major responsibilities
- Tour essential water facilities and Springs Preserve
- Apply knowledge to educate others

# EXPLORING



groundwater<sup>®</sup>  
Exhibits • Workshops • Summit week  
Las Vegas, Nevada • December 3-6, 2018

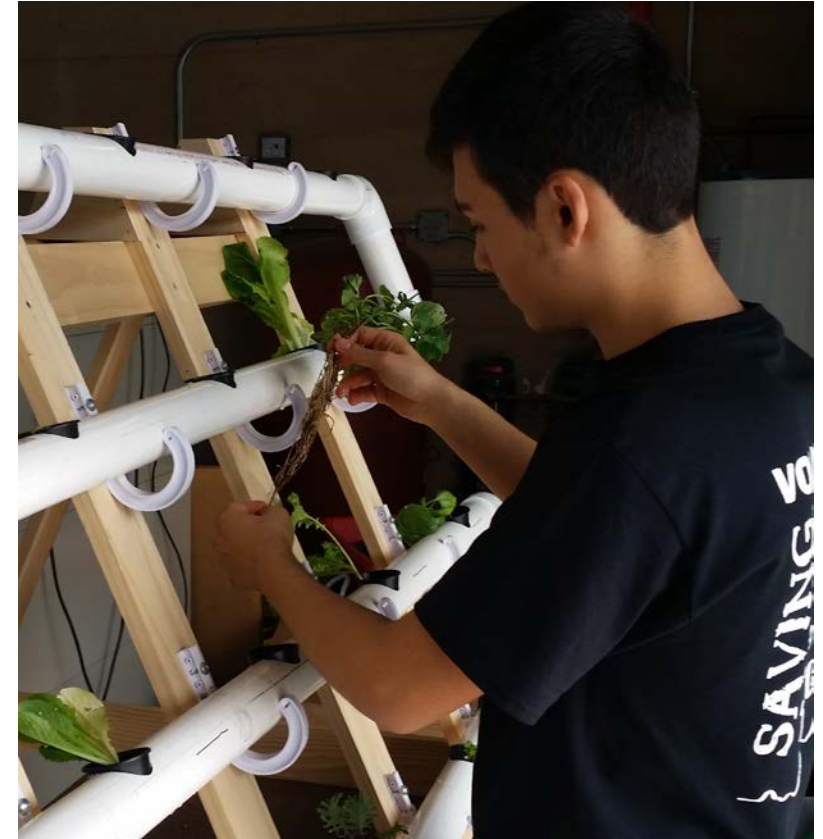
# APPLYING – PROJECTS



Residential Use  
(Water Smart Model Home)



Sustainable Lifestyle  
(Water Smart Landscapes  
Design and Conversion)



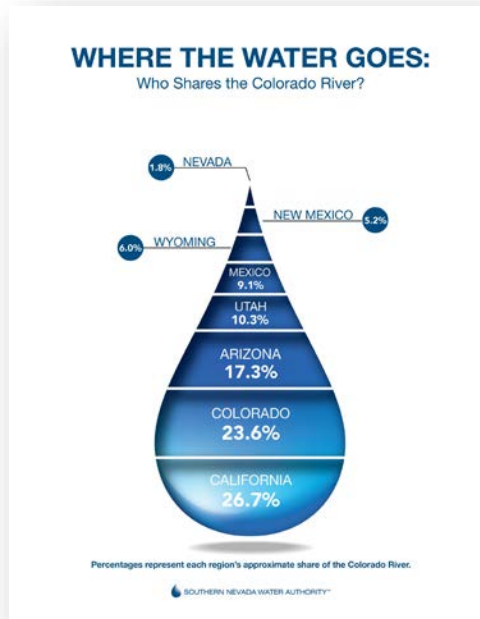
Alternative Farming  
(Hydroponic Demonstration)



# 2019 YOUTH WATER SUMMIT

# SUMMIT GOALS

- Understand community's relationship to the Colorado River
- Recognize drought in the Colorado River Basin
- Southern Nevada addressing water issues



# SUMMIT ACTIVITIES



# SUMMIT TOURS AND BOOTHS





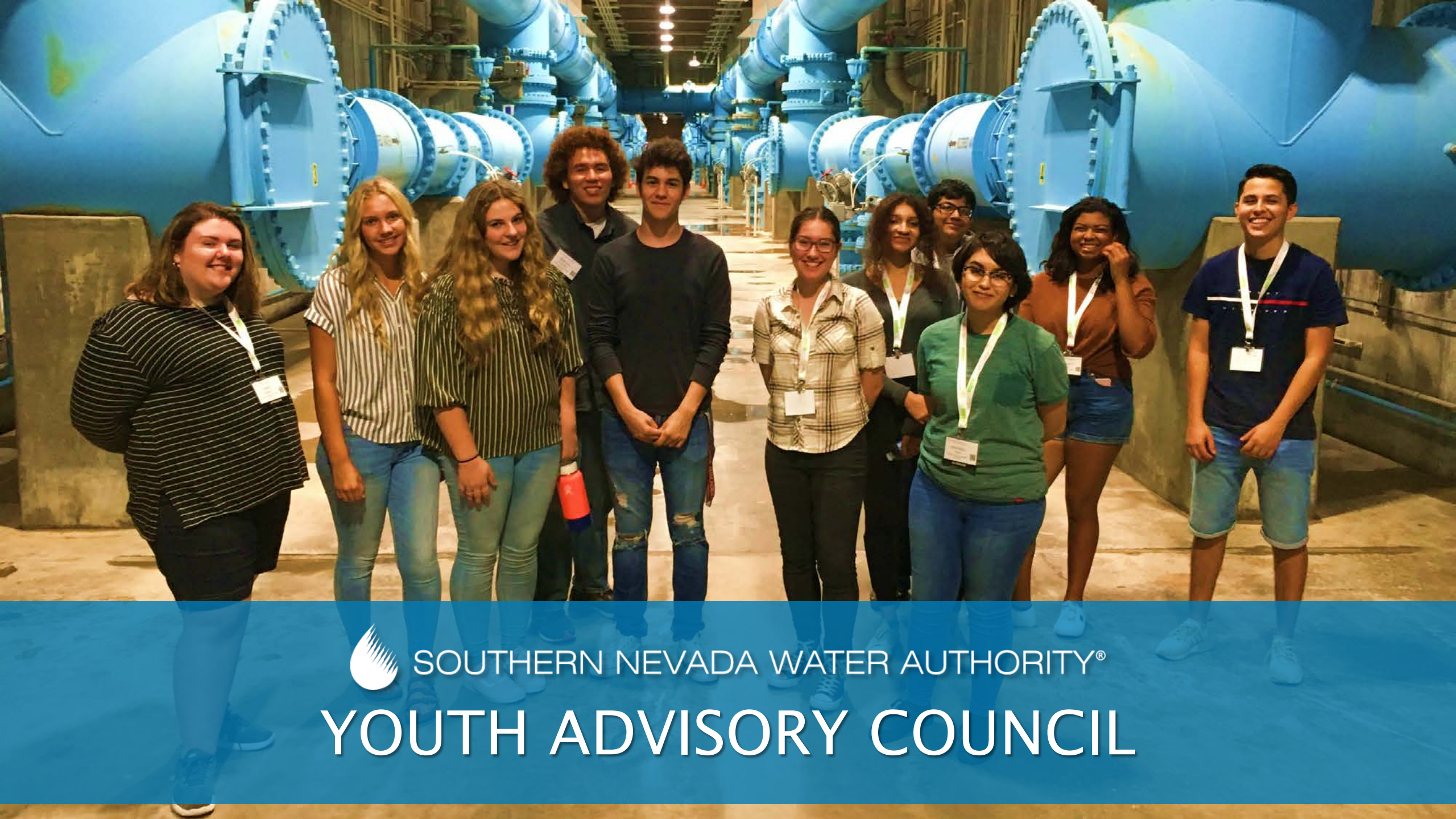
# REPORT RESULTS



# SUMMARY

- Explore partnerships
- Recruitment can be a challenge
- Facilitation instead of only instruction
- Unlock value within organization
- Plan for the sustainability of the program





 SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY®  
**YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**



SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY

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