Water Conservation
Toilet Replacement Program

Quality of Life Committee
September 12, 2005
Briefing Objectives

- Provide status of Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
  - Background
  - Program Concept
  - Vendor Recommendation for Price Agreement
- Seek Committee support for Sept 28 agenda items
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Background

- April 13, 2005, Council adopted Five-year Strategic Plan for Water Conservation
  - Three major elements
    - City leadership and commitment
    - Education and outreach initiatives
    - Rebate and incentive programs
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Background Continued

- Five-year Strategic Plan (continued)
  - Year-1 Work Plan in process
    - Continue current level of public awareness campaign and grassroots outreach
    - Audit City facilities for potential water conservation upgrades
      - Consultant auditing variety of City facilities
      - Indoor and outdoor auditing
      - Results of audit will be used to develop 10 year retrofit plan
      - See appendix for list of facilities
  - Develop K-12 Education Program
  - Implement a Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Rationale

- Plumbing Code changes in 1992 requiring low flow fixtures on new construction
- High percentage of Dallas homes built prior to 1992 (approximately 95%)*
- Potential water savings 10.5 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) per ultra low flow (ULF) toilet installed
- Further demonstrates City leadership and commitment to conservation
- Program will assist underserved residents who do not typically participate in rebate programs for the general public

*Based on U.S Census Bureau Data
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Concept

- Target low-income and senior citizen customers
- Partner with non-profit and faith-based community partners that serve this population to help:
  - Identify applicants
  - Qualify based on established criteria
  - Help with disposal of old toilets to ensure integrity of program
  - Provide plumber referrals
- Program not promoted in mass media
  - Limited number for pilot program
  - Program focuses on low-income and senior citizen groups
- Old toilets will be crushed and used by Sanitation Dept. for fill material at McCommas Bluff Landfill
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Nonprofit Partners

- Have held discussions and two meetings with Community Nonprofits that serve English and Spanish speaking clients
  - Introduced program concept
  - Received input/feedback from nonprofits
- Program will be promoted to low-income underserved sectors of the community
- Discussions with following agencies:
  - Alameda Heights Community Center
  - Jewish Family Services of Dallas
  - La Voz del Anciano
  - The Senior Source
  - Shared Housing Program
  - Urban League of Greater Dallas
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Concept Continued

- Qualifying Criteria
  - Household income 50% of area median income
  - Current DWU customer
  - Applicant must own property
  - Current on property taxes
  - Current on water bill

- Criteria consistent with other City housing and home repair programs
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Concept Continued

- Coordination with other City Programs
  - Housing Department Home Repair Programs
  - Water Utilities Volunteers in Plumbing Program (VIP)
    - Coordinate database to prevent duplication
  - Coordinate referrals to maximize service delivery
    - Refer clients to other programs that might be better suited for them
    - Forward referrals received from other programs for toilet replacement needs to nonprofit partners
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Components

- Free Toilets
- Free Low flow showerheads and faucet aerators
- Installation Rebate
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Components Continued

- Free Toilets
  - Qualified applicants will receive up to two ULF toilets per household
  - Toilets will be delivered directly to the applicant’s home

- Applicant has two installation options
  - Self-install
  - Hire licensed plumber to install and apply for rebate
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Components Continued

- Low flow showerheads and faucet aerators
  - DWU has provided these fixtures in the past at various events
  - Program provides an opportunity to replace existing fixtures with low-flow fixtures through a structured approach that will allow for tracking of water savings
  - Each home would receive up to two faucet aerators and showerheads (if home has showers)
  - Potential water savings for fixture retrofits are 5.5 gpcd for showerheads and 2.0 gpcd for faucet aerators
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Components Continued

- Toilet Installation Rebate
  - Installation must be done by a licensed plumber as required by City Code to qualify for the rebate
  - Rebate amount up to $75 per toilet (two toilet maximum per household)
  - Rebate will be offered during pilot phase only
  - An analysis will be performed at the end of the project to determine feasibility of continuing financial rebates
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program
Vendor Selection

- Request for bid solicited through Business Development and Procurement Services on-line system from July 21, 2005 through August 5, 2005
- 3 bids received
  - Apex Supply Company
  - Goodman Plumbing Supply
  - Niagara Conservation, Inc. submitted the winning bid
    - Founded 1977
    - Specialize in water and energy conservation products and programs
    - Have participated in numerous municipal and water district toilet replacement programs throughout the U.S to include: San Antonio, Austin, Los Angeles, El Paso, and others
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Proposed Budget

- Pilot Program (520 retrofits)
  - Toilet purchase and delivery $70,200
  - Installation Rebates $39,000
  - Administration Fees (nonprofits) $20,800
  - Showerheads & Aerators $1,170

Total Program Budget $131,170
Toilet Replacement Pilot Program

Summary

- City will partner with community nonprofits to offer low flow toilet, showerhead and aerator replacements to qualifying low income and senior citizens.
- Pilot program will run from October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006 or until funds are expended.
- Per Strategic Plan, toilet replacement program recommended to continue in subsequent years subject to Council appropriation.
- Program will be available to all qualifying customers of DWU throughout the city.
- Program will assist underserved segment of the community.
Toilet Replacement Program
Agenda Items (September 28th)

- DWU seeking Committee support to award price agreement to Niagara Conservation (Cost consideration: $71,370)
- DWU seeking Committee support to proceed with installation rebate component of program (Cost consideration: $39,200)
Next Steps

- Follow-up briefing to Quality of Life Committee to update on program accomplishments (March 2006)