

Library Call No. 007.109

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x	Key Words
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**0** - First Column is for the assigned newspaper article numbered in red

**Year** - Articles are all sorted by year

**Title of Newspaper Article** – Name of article

**X** – Separator between columns

**Key Words** – Key words in article

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
123	March 3, 1981	U.S. May Cut Flood Aid to 'Ignorant' County	x Federal Emergency Management Official, Cutting Off, Disaster Aid Funds, Maricopa County, Too Many Variances, Construction, Flood Plain Fringe Areas, Dale Peterson, Yavapai County, Lost Disaster Relief, American Taxpayer, Lowering, Required Building Elevations, Russian Roulette, Board Chairman, Tom Freestone, Federal Government, Over Regulatory, Bill Mathews, Maricopa County Residents
63	March 4, 1981	Cuts and Schedule Delays Won't Affect Flood Projects	x State Department of Transportation, Flood-Control Projects, Avondale Area, I-10, Maricopa County Flood Control District, West Valley, 95th and 115th Avenues, Design, Drainage-Channelization-Plans, Delays, Agua Fria, 115th to 125th Avenues
1	March 11, 1981	County Prepares for Fight Over Flood Aid - Federal Officials will Decide if Assistance Should be Cut	x Federal Officials, Maricopa County, Floodplain Variances, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Disaster-Relief Funds, Construction, Flood-Prone Areas, Supervisors Chairman Tom Freestone, Extreme Hardship, Property Owners, Yavapai County, Flood-Plain Management Regulations, Confluence, Main-Floor, Height-Above-Ground, Gila and Agua Fria Rivers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Proper Height, Supervisor Fred Koory
122	March 11, 1981	Highway Flood Aid Offer to Avondale Received 'Favorably'	x Agua Fria Flood Aid, Avondale City Council, Avondale City Manager, Carlos Palma, Proposed Drainage Channel, Highway Officials, Interstate 10, Flood-Control Projects, Improving, Alternatives, Department of Transportation, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Agua Fria River, Dick Perreault, 115th Avenue to 95th Avenue
139	March 24, 1981	Babbitt Seeks Flood Control	x Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Flood Control Phoenix, President Reagan, Central Arizona Project, House and Senate Appropriations Committee, Washington, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arizona, Disastrous Flooding, 1978, 1979, 1980, Dreamy Draw Dam, Cave Buttes Dam, Adobe Dam, New River Dam, 35th Avenue and Deer Valley Road, 83rd Avenue, CAP, Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation Distribution System Project, Aqueduct to Fields, Rillito Creek, Tucson, Gila River, Arizona-New Mexico Border
121	March 25, 1981	Clearing Near for Salt-Gila	x Clearing Vegetation, Salt-Gila River, 123rd Avenue to Gillespie Dam, Buckeye, William D. Mathews, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Environmental Impact Statement, Game and Fish Commission, Riverbed, 91st Avenue, Phoenix Sewage Treatment, 123rd Avenue, Blocks Flow, Riverbed, Wildlife Habitat, salt Cedar, Clog Rivberbottom, Imported, Stabilize River Banks, Baby Tumbleweeds, Impenetrable Growth, Home, Birds, Bugs, Bunnies, Audubon Society, Cottonwood Trees, Benham, Blair and Affiliates, Inc., Correct or Mitigate, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors
120	April 7, 1981	Avondale Oks Proposal	x Flood Control Improvements, Agua Fria River, Avondale City Council, Interstate 10 from 115th to 95th Avenues, Legal Action, Construction, Drainage Channel, Avondale, Flood Control, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Retention Basin, Flow
62	April 19, 1981	Speedy Work Save \$5 Million	x Adobe Dam, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, North Phoenix, Army Corps of Engineers, Skunk Creek, Construction, Entire Dam, Diversion Levee, Dike, Dam's Foundation, New River and Phoenix City Streams Project, Dreamy Draw Dam, Build 1973, Northern Avenue, Paradise Valley Access Road, Sunnyslope, Cave Buttes Dam, November 1979, Cave Creek, New River Dam, Arizona Canal, Flooding, New and Agua Fria Rivers, Cactus Road, Cave Creek, 40th Street
2	April 21, 1981	Bids Scheduled to be Opened for Harquahala-Project Dam	x U.S. Soil Conservation Service, Construction, Harquahala Valley Watershed Project, Earthen Harquahala Dam, Diverting Water, Centennial Wash, Gila River, Gillespie Dam, I-10 and the Buckeye-Salome Road, Harquahala Plain, Saddleback Dam, Centennial Levee, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Three-Dam Complex
61	April 23, 1981	Fencing of Dam Considered to End Erosion by Vehicles	x Cave Buttes Dam, Three Dikes, Damage, Motorcycles, Four-Wheel Vehicles, Lionel C. Lewis, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Citizens Flood Control Advisory Board, Fencing, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Erosion, William D. Mathews, McMicken Dam, Board of Supervisors, Repair Costs, Built in 1953, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Luke Air Force Base, Trilby Wash Detention Basin, Breached 1977, Structural Crack, 9.4 Mile-Long Dam, Peoria Avenue, Beardsley Canal, Pinnacle Peak and Cotton Lane
3	April 24, 1981	Road Policy Hinders Growth, County Told	x Maricopa County Policy, Building Permits, Development, Lacking Roads, Change Policy, Planning Department, Access versus Owners, Zoning Regulation, Established 1974
60	April 29, 1981	Gila Drain Needs Improvements, Hydrologist Says	x Valley, Gila Drain, Tom LaMarche, Hydrologist, Maricopa County Flood Control District, 100-Year Flood, Western Canal, Street Water, Overflow, Detention Basins, Mesa, Tempe, Gilbert, South Phoenix, Unincorporated Land, Development, Flooding Possibilities, Percolate, Ground, Not Storm Drain, Salt River Project, Gila River, Enlarge Drain, Gila Floodway, Runoff, Gila Indian Reservation, SRP, Chandler, Arizona Department of Transportation

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4	May 5, 1981	Valley Floods in '80 Caused \$63 Million in Damage	x Damage, Floods, Valley, February 1980, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Roads, Bridges, Salt, Gila and Agua Fria Rivers, Phoenix, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Maricopa Gila and Yavapai Counties, President Carter, Federal Aid, Less than 1 Inch to More than 13 Inches, Metro Phoenix 1 1/2 to 2 Inches, Southern Sections 3 to 4 Inches, Heavy Rainfall, February 13 and 22, January 29 and 30, Rainfall and Runoff, 48th Street and 35th Avenue
119	May 5, 1981	1980 Flood Cost Valley \$63.7 Million	x Damages, Near-Record Floods, Valley February 1980, Army Corps of Engineers, Roads, Bridges, Salt, Gila, Agua Fria Rivers, 35th Avenue and 48th Street, 1115th Avenue to 35th Avenue, 48th Street to Country Club Drive, Country Club Dam to Granite Reef Dam, U.S. 80 to Watson Road, Watson Road to Perryville Road, Perryville Road to 115th Avenue, Gila to Indian School Road, Bell Road to Waddell Dam
5	May 6, 1981	Deer Valley Panel Rejects Aquatic-Facility Plan - Proposal Conflicts with Desire to have Low-Intensity Growth	x Aquatic Facility, Recreational Development, Adobe Dam, Deer Valley Village 1 Planning Community, Chairman Art Hallinan, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Board, Big Surf, Tempe, Phoenix, Deer Valley Drive, 35th Avenue, 31st Avenue, Phoenix Planning Commission, Jomax Road, 16th Street, Greenway Road, 51st Avenue, Phoenix Concept Plan 2000
6	May 11, 1981	Phoenix Flood Plain Residents Waiting for Stalemate Waters to Drop	x Hound Dog Acres, Agua Fria Riverbed, Flood Plain, Swamped, Three Major Floods, Maricopa County, Loop Holes in Law, Floodgate, No Hope of Structural Protection, Dam, Dike or Levee, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Arizona Division of Emergency Services, HUD, Relocating, Holly Acres, Muddier Tail, Ravaging Floods, Salt River, Storm of 1978, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Gila River, Cleared Channel, Corps of Engineers, Salt River Project, Releasing Waters, Big Floods, Holly Acres Flood Control Association
7	May 12, 1981	County Oks Study of Cost to Repair West Valley Dam	x McMicken Dam, Protected Luke Air Force Base, West Valley, Flood Control District, Repair Dam, William Matthews, Build 1956, Detention Basin for Trilby Wash, Congress, Army Corps of Engineers, Earthen Structure, Dam Breached in 1977, Settlement and Cracking, 1978, 1979, Maricopa County Water Conservation District, Flood Damage, Breaches
118	May 12, 1981	Damaged Dam Goes Unclaimed	x Dam, Nobody Owns, Flood Control District, Bill Mathews, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, McMicken Dam, Federal Funds, Sen. Carl Hayden, Damaged, 1977, 115th Avenue and Pinnacle Peak Road, Trilby Wash, 1956, Air Force, General Maintenance Funds, Congress, Luke, Korean Conflict, Damage by Flooding, Chairman Tom Freestone, Flooding, 1978, 1979, Irrigation Districts, Farmers, Supervisor Hawley Atkinson, Rep. Bob Stump, Dam Repair
8	May 13, 1981	County Parks Commission Oks Aquatic Facility \$4 Million Complex is Proposed for Adobe Dam Recreation Area	x Maricopa County Parks and Recreation, Aquatic Facility, Wave Pool, Northwest Phoenix, Tempe's Big Surf, Adobe Dam Recreation Area, Leisure and Recreation Concepts, Pinnacle Peak Road and 43rd Avenue, WaveTek Pools, Deer Valley Drive, 35th Avenue, 31st Avenue, Bike, Hiking, Trails, Camping, Picnic, 18-Hole Golf, Deer Valley Planning Community
9	May 15, 1981	Dam's Builder Sues for Added \$1 Million	x Spook Hill Dam, Earthen Flood-Control Structure, Mesa, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Mardian Construction Co., Dan Sagramoso, Suit, Maricopa County Superior Court, Salt River, Granite Reef Dam
148	May 27, 1981	Avondale Wants Project Control	x State Highway Officials, Avondale, Diversion Channel, Flood Danger, W.O. Ford, Avondale City Council, Interstate 10, Flood-Prone, Agua Fria River, Construction, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Landscaping, Wastewater Treatment, Gila River
117	May 30, 1981	2 County Executives Dismissed	x Flood Control District, Dishonesty, Government Property, Personal Use, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, John L. Savicky, Jim A. Roney, Terminated, Dishonesty, Properties, Acquired, Channel Diversion Projects, 40th Street and Camelback, 75th Avenue and Dunlap, Own Use, William Mathews
116	June 19, 1981	Adobe Dam Aquatic Park Plan Opposed	x Construction, Big-Surf Facility, Deer Valley, Maricopa County Planning Commission, Harold McCall, Phoenix, Board of Supervisors, Adobe Dam Recreation Area, Tempe, Crowds, County Parks and Recreation Commission, Bill Milne, County Flood Control Project, Check Drainage, Skunk Creek, Phoenix Deputy Planning Director, Waren Leipprandt, Art Hallinan, Deer Valley Planning Committee, Aquatic Park
256	June 19, 1981	SRP Ready for Canal Crackdown	x Salt River Project, Valley Residents, Cited for Swimming or Waterskiing, Canals, Motor Vehicles, Canal Banks, SRP, Arizona Canal, Arizona Old Cross Cut Canal, Scottsdale, SRP, Bicycling, Jogging, Horseback Riding, Licensed Fishing, 1964, Water Activities, Prohibited, Jeff Wilt, Prevent Serious Injuries, Concrete Slopes, Tangled in Weeds, canal Gates, Undercurrent, Illegal Dumping, Trash

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257	June 19, 1981	Scottsdale Skeptical of Approved Developer	x Pinnacle Peak and Pima Roads, Maricopa County Planning and Zoning Commission, Scottsdale, Homes, Built, McDowell Mountains, City Limits, Don Hadder, Flooding Problems, Scott Buchanan, County Flood Control District, water Runoff, Rains, Drainage, Random and Unpredictable, Natural Land Contours, Access, State Land, maintenance, Historic Equestrian Trail, Board of Supervisors, Large Washes, Tom Anderson, Pinnacle Peak Land Company, Preserve Desert Foliage
10	July 15, 1981	Plan for Rechanneling Agua Fria Could Bring Savings of \$2.7 Million	x Agua Fria River, Indian School Road and Van Buren Street, Arizona Department of Transportation, Maricopa County Highway Department, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Avondale, Deeper, Narrower Channel, Flood Plain, 115th Avenue and Dysart Road, Dan Sagramoso, Less Flood Damage, Water Flows, Proposed Bridge, Channel Realignment, Play Havoc with Landowners, I-10 Bridge, Allied Concrete, Inc., Phoenix Sand and Rock Inc., Thurston Development and the State, Land Owner Jack Rayner
11	August 12, 1981	Avondale Backs Plan to Rechannel Agua Fria	x Avondale, Rechannel Agua Fria River, State Department of Transportation, Maricopa County Highway Department, Maricopa County Flood Control District, William Matthews, Thomas Avenue and Indian School Road, Board of Supervisors, Deeper, Narrower Channel, Flood Plain, Force Floodwaters, Reduce Flood Damage, Indian School Road and Van Buren Street, 115th Avenue and Dysart Road, Proposed Bridge, Aqua Fria and McDowell Road, Create Havoc for Landowners, Interstate 10, Proposed Bridge over McDowell Road, Land Owner Jack Rayner
12	August 24, 1981	Help is Near for Some Flood-Prone Areas, Years Away for Others	x Salt, Gila, Agua Fria Rivers, Rivers Ravaged Communities 1978, 1980, Allenville South of Buckeye, Duncan, Hound Dog Acres North of Sun City, Holly Acres Southwest of Phoenix, 91st Avenue, Broadway Road, Maricopa County Flood Control District, 123rd Avenue, 113th and 119th Avenues, Bill Mathews, Dike, Levee, Relocate, U.S. Farmers Home Administration, Flood Plain, Palo Verde Road, Limbo, Division of Emergency Services, U.S. Housing and Development Administration
115	August 31, 1981	4-Cent Tax Hike Needed to Cover Error	x Maricopa County Raise, Tax Rate, Tom Freestone, Chairman, Board of Supervisors, County Manager, Robert Mauney, Flood Control District Levy
13	September 29, 1981	Phoenix Council Endorses 3 Plans for Building Dams - Grouped Also Urge Orme Dam Alternative	x Three Orme Dam Alternatives, Confluence of Salt and Verde Rivers, Phoenix City Council, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Plan 3, Plans 6 and 7, New Waddell Dam, Lake Pleasant, CAWCS, Arizona-Agri-Business Council, Rio Salado Development District, Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Salt River Project, Yavapai Indians, Fort McDowell Reservation, Mayor Margaret Hance, 100-Year Flood, Sky Harbor Airport, Central Arizona Project, Ground-Water Rights, Cliff Dam, Verde, Roosevelt Dam, Stewart Mountain Dam, Salt River, CAP, Agua Fria, Plans 4 and 5, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Citizens Concerned About the Project, Plan 8, Valley Flood Control, Build Bridges
180	September 29, 1981	Big Groups Announce Orme Dam Preference	x Central Arizona Water Control Study, Orme Dam Alternatives, Plan 3, Salt and Verde Rivers, Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Rio Salado Development District, Agri-Business Council of Arizona, Cliff Dam, Horseshoe Lake, Roosevelt Dam, Stewart Mountain Dam, Saguaro Lake Interior Secretary James Watt, Central Arizona Project, Colorado River, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, CAP Storage Facility, City Council, Mayor Margaret Hance, CAWCS, Flood Control, Sky Harbor, Safety, CAP Water, Flow Levels, Development, Rio Salado Project, Plans 6 and 7, Dave Maurer, Valley, Water Supply, Tim Bray, Rio Salado Development District, Plan 3, Salt River Bed, Industry, Recreation, Environment, Jerry Grady, Casa Grande, Arizona, Pinal, Pima and Yuma Counties, Ground Water, Painted Rock Dam, Floods Yuma Farmers, Arizona Game and Fish Department, John Carr, Fish and Wildlife Protection, Fort McDowell Indian Reservation, Yavapais, Tony Muller, Dames and Moore, Clinton Pattea
14	October 1, 1981	Problems Feared if Floods are Phoenix Council into Ground Water	x Floodwaters, Injected, Ground-Water Table, Augment Water Supply, William Mathews, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Ground-Water Recharging, 25th Annual Arizona Water Symposium, Painted Rock,
15	October 1, 1981	Hearing on Orme Alternatives Draws 35 Opponents of Plan - Senator Supports Dam at Confluence of Salt, Verde	x Salt and Verde Rivers, 35 People, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Plan 3, CAWCS, Cliff Dam, Reconstructed Stewart Mountain Dam, New or Enlarged Roosevelt Dam, Yavapai Indians, McDowell Indian Reservation, Army Corps of Engineers, Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Cliff Structure, Sky Harbor Airport, Reduce 100-Year Flood, CAP Water, Arizona State University, Audubon Society, Sierra Club, East Mesa Chapter of Senior Citizens, Gray Panthers, Citizens Concerned About the Project, Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Interior

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15	October 1, 1981	County Supervisors Fail to Agree on an Orme Alternative	x Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Orme Alternatives, Tom Freestone Board's Chairman, Dan Sagramoso, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Plan 3, Central Arizona Project, Supervisor Ed Pastor, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Reservation, Confluence of Salt and Verde Rivers, Cliff Dam, Stewart Mountain Dam, Roosevelt Dam, Plan 6, Plan 7, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Supervisor George Campbell, Atkinson, Supervisor Fred Koory, Jr.
114	October 1, 1981	Reverses Position - State Water Czar Opposing Orme	x Wes Steiner, Construction, Orme Dam, Confluence, Salt and Verde Rivers, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Flood Control, Water Issues, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Roosevelt Dam, Stewart Mountain Dam, A Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Arizona Small Business Council, Legal, Environmental, Political Problems, Salt River Valley, Congress, Reagan, Horseshoe Lake, Phoenix City Council, Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Salt River Project, Environmentalists, Fort McDowell Indians, Reservation, Flooded, Flood Storage Facility, Plan 3, Department of Water Resources, Governors Advisory Committee, CAWCS, Stan Turley, Central Arizona Project, Ellie Garcia, Socialist Workers Party, Due Away With Tubing, Salt River, 72 Persons Died, Accidents
16	October 3, 1981	Decision on Orme	x Flood Control, Water Storage, Phoenix Metropolitan Area, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Plan 3, Orme Dam, Confluence of Salt and Verde Rivers, Cliff Dam, Enlarge Roosevelt, Stewart Mountain Dam, Plan 6, Plan 7, New Waddell, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant, Phoenix City Council, Board of Supervisors, Reauthorized by Congress, Larger Water Supply, Yavapai Indians, Fort McDowell, William D. Mathews, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Sky Harbor Airport, Rio Salado Project, Environmental Groups
17	October 6, 1981	District Supports Agua Fria Dam	x Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Endorse, Orme Dam, Agua Fria River, Confluence of Salt and Verde Rivers, Plan 6, Former Governor Howard Pyle and Jack Williams, Plan 3, Cliff Dam, Enlarged Roosevelt Dam, Waddell Dam, Central Arizona Project Water, Stewart Mountain Dam, Lake Pleasant, CAP Water, Water-Conservation District, Formed 1971, Financing Agent for CAP Water, Phoenix Area, Tucson, Sorry Tribute, Carl Hayden, Sky Harbor Airport, Army Corps of Engineers, Salt River Project, Phoenix City Council, Gov. Bruce Babbitt's Advisory Committee, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Bureau of Reclamation
147	October 29, 1981	Answer Line - Flood Answers	x Flooded, North Eight Place, Grand Canal, 1980, Runoff, Canal Banks Back Up, Drainage Pipe, Floodplain, Diversion Channel, Storm Drain, Arizona Canal, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Phoenix Mountains, Major Flooding, David Johnson, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Construction, 12th Street Storm Drain, Reginald Schwarts, City of Phoenix Engineering Department, Salt River Bed, Van Buren Street, Culverts, Drain Pipe, Joe Gacioc, Salt River Project, Robert Underdown, David Burris
113	November 26, 1981	Agua Fria Flood Options Given	x Agua Fria River, Richard Perreault, Study, Willdan and Associates, Flood Plain Alternatives, Avondale, El Mirage, Rosegarden Development, Mini-Farms, Beardsley Road, Flood Prone Area, Flood Plain Management, Prohibit, Building
58	December 2, 1981	County Buys 110 Dwellings in Project Area - 17.3-mile Path Being Cleared for Canal-Diversion Channel	x Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, North Phoenix, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Buy 110 Homes, Robert L. Boyd, Property-Acquisition Manager, District's Land Management Division, Flood-Control Channel, Arizona Canal, Cudia City Wash, 40th Street and Camelback Road, Skunk Creek, 83rd Avenue, Greenway Road, New River and Phoenix City Streams Project, Giant Drainage Ditch, Protect, Phoenix, Glendale, Peoria, Flooding, Dreamy Draw, Cave Creek, Agua Fria River, Cave Buttes, Adobe Dam, Yet-to-be-Built New River Dam, Reduce Flow of Water, Army Corps of Engineers, Flood Control District, Dan Sagramoso, 39th and 33rd Avenue, Carol Avenue, Dunlap Avenue, Central Avenue, Seventh Street, Las Palmaritas, Northern, 12th and 16th Streets, Orangewood Avenue, 15th Avenue and Hatcher Road, Metrocenter Area, Cactus Road
112	December 4, 1981	"New Waddell' Flood Control Still Possible	x New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Central Arizona Project, Flood Protection, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, CAP Water Storage, Phoenix, Dams on Salt and Verde Rivers, Bill Mathews, El Mirage, Youngtown, Sun City, Litchfield Park, Avondale, Flood Damage, Lake Pleasant, Colorado River Water, Tucson, Study, Willdan and Associates, State Water Resources, Wes Steiner, 1968 CAP Authorization, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Calderwood Butte, Orme Dam, CAWCS, Salt and Verde Rivers, Recent Studies, No Historical Information of Flooding Problems, Calderwood Butte Dam, EIS
270	August 29, 1986	Low-Cost Water Could Aid Recharge Effort	x Central Arizona Project, Valley Groundwater Recharge Projects, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, CAP, Mesa, Carl Kohlhoff, Colorado River, Valley, CAWCD, Jay Franson, Ungerman Engineering Inc., Dual Pricing, CAP Aqueduct, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, LeGrand Nilson, John R. McCain, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association

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289	October 14, 1986	Orme is Just a Four Letter Word	<p>x Orme Dam, Salt and Verde Rivers, Indians, Environmentalists, Arizona, Orme, Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Tribe, Nesting, Bald Eagles, Phoenix, Valley of the Sun, David-and-Goliath, Biblical Comparison, Congressional Delegation, Orme Dam, U.S. Interior Department Attorney's, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, Secretary of Interior James Watt, Central Arizona Water Control Study, CAWCS, Rep John Rhodes, Joel T. Schlactenhafen, Arizona Indian Ministry, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Roosevelt Dam, Stewart Mountain Dam, Cliff Dam, The Arizona Republic, Carle Hodge, Arizona Daily Star, Tucson, Rio Salado Project, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Paradise Valley Country Club, Bill Schultz, Maxwell, National Environmental Policy Act, 1969, Central Arizona Project, Colorado River, Grand Canyon Drained, President Jimmy Carter, Study of Alternatives, Teton Dam, Collapsed, Idaho, Reaganomics, Salt River Project, Jack Pfister, Rubik's Cube, Western Water Proposal, CAP, Valley, "I'm Mad as Hell" Coupons, Mo Udall, Flood Mania, Phoenix City Council, Wes Steiner, Department of Water Resources, Environmental Factors, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Governors Jack Williams, and Howard Pyle, Carl Hayden, Lula Smith, Lola Dickson</p>
289	October 14, 1986	The People Who Stopped Orme Dam	<p>x Loyal Opposition, Orme Dam, Yavapai Indians, Fort McDowell, Salt and Verde Rivers, President Carter, The Arizona Republic, Waddell Dam, Frank Welsh, Arizona State University, Phoenix Young Republicans, Citizens Concerned About Project, City of Tempe, CAP, New York City, Civil Air Patrol, Maricopa Audubon Society, Dr. Robert Witzeman, Rich Environment, Vegetation, Animals, Fish, Carolina Butler, Paradise Valley, Committee to Save the McDowell Reservation, Environmental Issues, Chinese, The Arizona Daily Star, Dave Campbell, Phoenician, Paradise Valley Planning Committee, Cook Christian Training Center School, Gil Venable, Phoenix, College of Law, Arizona State University, John Williams, Fort McDowell Tribe, Washington, Minnie, Oppose, Flooding of Lands, Ancestor's Graves, Clint Pattea, Norman Austin</p>
202	January 8, 1987	Settlement of Cliff Dam Suite Discussed	<p>x Government, Water Officials, Environmentalists, Phoenix, Lawsuit, Construction, Breeding Ground, Bald Eagles, Verde River, U.S. District Court, Valley, Gil Venable, Cliff Dam, Central Arizona Project, Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Roosevelt Dam, Salt River, Bureau of Reclamation, Roger Manning, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Salt River Project, Jack Pfister, SRP, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Tom Clark, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Dan Sagramoso, U.S. Department of Interior, Gov. Evan Mecham, Bill Swan, Secretary Donald Hodel, Ed Osann, National Wildlife Federation, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Salt River Channel, Worse Flood, Rod McMullin, Las Vegas, Plan 6, Stan Turley, Mesa, Orme Dam, Stan Feinstein, General Accounting Office, Washington, D.C., Safety of Dams Act</p>
54	January 9, 1987	Lack of Demand Forces Price Cut for CAP Water	<p>x Central Arizona Project, Colorado River Water, Central Arizona, CAP Supply, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Lake Havasu, Phoenix, Mesa, Water Treatment Plants, Pump Water, Farmers, Maricopa, Pinal and Pima Counties, Tucson, Sam Goddard, Former Arizona Governor</p>
138	January 13, 1987	CAP Backers Inundate Washington to Lobby for Cliff Dam	<p>x Supporters, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Arizona Delegation, Salt River Project, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Phoenix, Glendale, Tucson, Cliff Dam, George Britton, Phoenix Water Resources Officer, Bureau of Reclamation, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Verde, Theodore Roosevelt Dam, Salt River, CAP, Valley, Environmental Impact Statement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Bald Eagle, Bartlett and Horseshoe Dams, Michael Rappoport, Water Rights Negotiations, Salt River Pima</p>
179	January 13, 1987	Salt River Beautification to Start With 3 Regional Parks	<p>x Regional Parks, Rio Salado Project, 25-Year Plan, Beautify, Salt River, South Bank, 12th Street, Tempe, McKellips Road, Indian Bend Wash, Mesa, Riverview Park, Aaron Kizer, Rio Salado Development District, Phoenix, Golf Course, Landfill, Tempe, Scottsdale-Tempe Area, Salt River Pima Indian Community, Tribal President Gerald Anton, Dobson Road, Country Club Drive, Cliff Dam, U.S. District Court, Environmentalists, Eagles, Wildlife, 1985 Rio Salado Master Plan, 43rd Avenue, Seventh Street to Seventh Avenue, New Lakes, Riverbed, Boats, South Phoenix Shore, Waterways, Lath-Roofed Arcades, Southwest Cultural Center, Museum, Computer Shops, Bookstores, Ethnic Market, Crafts, Technical High School, A Sheet of Water, Mile and a Half Wide, Swimming, Fishing, Boating, Artificial Elevation, Big-Time Attractions, Rick Counts, Gruen Associates, South Mountain Park, Urban Recreation Comprehensive Plan, 40 Miles, Granite Reef Dam, Gila and Agua Fria Rivers, 107th Avenue, Maricopa County Voters, Cleanup Landfills, Construct Parks</p>

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18	January 14, 1987	Flood Victims Fail to Win Damages	X Agua Fria River, Flood Damage, Heavy Storms, December 1978, February 1980, Arizona Court of Appeals, Maricopa County Water Conservation District No. 1, Waddell Dam, Lake Pleasant, Flooding, Hound Dog Acres, Rose Garden Lane, 107th Avenue and Happy Valley Road, Live in a Riverbed, Release of Water from Reservoir, Del E. Webb Development Co., Sun Valley Crushing Co., Aggravating Flood Damage, Excavating in River Channel, Building Dikes, Diverted Water
191	January 20, 1987	Mesa Seeks Permits for Water Storage	X Mesa, Store water, Ground, Permits, Water Resources and Health Services Department, Chandler, Tempe, Scottsdale, Phoenix, Karl Kohlhoff, Central Arizona Project, CAP, Colorado River, Arizona Farmers, Bed of Salt River, Gilbert Road, Val Vista Drive, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Groundwater Levels, Indian Farmers, Pump Water, Wells, Glendora, Calif., Southern California Cities
19	January 21, 1987	Flood Project Dams up Traffic on Main Street - Stores Lose Customers, but Officials have Alibi	X Snowbird Season, East Mesa, East Main Street, Flood-Control Project, Roosevelt Water Conservation District Canal, Bridge, Pipe Work, Higley Road, Main Street, Gila River, Brown Road, Sue Mutschler, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Floodwater, Runoff, RWCD, Construction, Earl Kirby, Chief of Construction and Operations for Flood Control District, 72-Inch Reinforced-Concrete Pipe, Floodway
25	January 25, 1987	Revamping of County Government Merits Study, Valley Officials Agree	X Maricopa Association of Governments, Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, 21 valley Cities, Restructuring, Town Hall Recommendation, Maricopa County Supervisor Carole Carpenter
213	February 8, 1987	CAP Water Won't Sour Go Sour in Lake, Officials Maintain	X Valley Cities, Central Arizona Project, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Tom Burbey, Lake Pleasant, Phoenix, CAP, Colorado River Water, Pumped, Canal, Stored, Algae, Roger Manning, Mesa, Water Users Association, Chandler, Tempe, Scottsdale, Glendale, Lake Pleasant, Leonard Dueker, California, Reservoir, New Waddell Dam, Karl Kohlhoff
53	February 20, 1987	Cities Worried Water From Dam Would Stink; CAP to Study Issue	X Central Arizona Project, New Waddell Dam, CAP Water Stored in Dam, Not Smell or Taste Bad, Concerns, Eight Valley Cities, Taste 'Like Dirt and Smell Like Rotten Eggs', Colorado River Water, Phoenix, Agua Fria River, Stagnate, Foul-Smelling, Musty-Tasting Algae, Grow, Lake's Upper Portions, Bacteria, Thermocline, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Congress, Plan 6, Multioutlet System, Aeration System, Taste and Odor, Reservoir, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Multi-Level-Intake System, Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa, Glendale, Scottsdale, Chandler, Peoria, Goodyear, Chemical or Filtering Processes, New Waddell Dam
246	February 23, 1987	Rio Salado Hype	X Rio Salado, Salt River Bed, Phoenix City Limits, River Banks, Tempe, Flood-plain, Real Estate, Cliff Dam, Property Tax, Mayor Goddard, Bermuda Grass, Ornamental Lakes
259	February 24, 1987	Cliff dam Dumped	X Cliff Dam, Flood Control Plans, Arizona, Congressional Delegation, Orme Dam, Verde and Salt Rivers, Flooded, Indian Lands, Environmental Groups, Endangered Bald Eagles, Plan 6, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant, Congress, Kill, Project
201	February 27, 1987	Surplus Cropland	X Cliff Dam, Desert-Nesting, Bald Eagle, Habitat, Arizona, Phoenix, Cotton, Surplus Crop, Farmers, Taxpayer, Central Arizona Project, CAP
245	February 28, 1987	Bell Assailed for Donation to Study on Rio Salado	X Maricopa Audubon Society, Mountain Bell, Valley Residents, Rio Salado Project, Gus Miller, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Recreational Oasis, Lakes, Parks, Gold Courses, Shops, Cliff Dam, Behavioral Research Center of Phoenix, Citizens for Rio Salado, Rio Salado Development District, Aaron Kizer, Bob Witzeman, Floodplain, Real Estate, Scheme, Central Phoenix
244	March 2, 1987	Are Taxes Worth It?	X Terry Goddard, Cliff Dam-Rio Salado Riverbottom Scam, Marvin Andrews, George Britton, Bill Chase, Increased Tax Base, Love Canal
243	March 4, 1987	Rio Salado Promotion Firm Picked	X Washington, D.C., Rio Salado Development District, Dennis Mitchem, Citizens for Rio Salado, Smith and Harroff Inc., Nelson-Padberg Communications, WFC Public Relations, Congressman John Rhodes, Sen. John McCain, Jay Smith, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Oasis, Public Parks, Recreation Areas, Maricopa County Voters, Increase Property Taxes, Chandler, Peoria, Cliff Dam, Salt River's Floodplain
242	March 6, 1987	No Rio Salado	X Valley, Property Taxpayers, Flood Plain, Major River, Land-Use Planning, Army Corps of Engineers, Phoenix City Council, Rio Salado Development District, Cliff Dam, Urban Watercourses, Unexpectedly Large Flood, Levees Fail, Dam, Inadequate, Operated Incorrectly, Silted-in, Cliff Dam-Rio Salado Project, Catastrophic Damages, Loss, Bureau of Reclamation, Real Estate, Environmental Impact Statement
190	March 7, 1987	Dam - A Faulty Proposal	X Flood Control, Water Supply, Storage, Reworking Existing Dams, Raise, Roosevelt Dam, 70 Feet, Ross Dam, Washington, Canadians, Apache Trail, 1926 Visit

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
111	March 12, 1987	Groundwater Bill Sent to Senate - Measure Cracks Down on Private Artificial Lakes	x Groundwater, Artificial Lakes, Natural Resources Committee, John F. Long, Artificial Lakes Ban, Limits Size of Artificial Lakes, Type of Water, Effluent, Storm Runoff, Other Non-Potable Water, Exemptions, Publically Owned Lakes, Gold Course Lakes, Arizona Department of Water Resources, Water Conservation, Ownership of Effluent, City of Phoenix, Arizona Public Service Co., Effluent Cool Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, Lawsuit, Arizona Supreme Court
241	March 13, 1987	Bell and Rio Salado	x Maricopa Audubon Society, Mountain Bell Telephone Company, Rio Salado District, Maricopa Taxpayers, Countywide Property Tax, Rio Salado Project
212	March 14, 1987	CAP Cost Limit Hike is Disputed	x Central Arizona Project, U.S. General Accounting Office, Interior Department, CAP Spending, Environmental Laws, GAO, Larry Dozier, Salt River Project, Mike Rappoport, Bureau of Reclamation, Colorado River Water, Arizona, Phoenix, Sen. Dennis DeConcini, Bob Maynes, Tucson, Canal System, East Valley, Congress, Orme Dam, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Roosevelt Dam, Salt and Agua Fria Rivers, Frank Welch, Federal Safety of Dams, Money, Hoover Dam, Plan 6, Sen. Howard Metzenbaum
110	March 17, 1987	Dam, Larger Lake Bring Flood of Questions	x Enlarge Lake Pleasant, State Owns Land, Federal Money, County Parks , Operating , Doubt, Bureau of Reclamation, Hydroelectric Power, Fred Koory Jr., Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Carol Carpenter, County Attorney Joe Duke, Washington, New Waddell Dam, Second Larges Lake in Arizona, Roosevelt Lake, Bill Richwine, Old Dam, Built 1927, Maricopa County Municipal Water Conservation District, Irrigation, Water Rights, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Salt River Project, Arizona Public Service
178	March 17, 1987	Rio Salado Election Cost Worries Officials	x Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County Officials, Legislature, Jim Riggs, County Elections Director, County Manager Bob Mauney, Jim Shumway, State Elections Director, Secretary of State's Office, Dry Salt River Bed, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Country Club Drive, 51st Avenue, Countywide Property Tax, Aaron Kizer, Dennis Mitchem, Citizens for Rio Salado, Critics, Arthur Andersen and Co., Indian Bend Wash, Cleanup Landfills, Dangerous Chemicals, Leaching, Ground Water
269	March 17, 1987	CAP Slips by Senate Committee Hearing	x Central Arizona Project, Congress, Authorized, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Bureau of Reclamation, CAP, Donald Hodel, North Dakota's Garrison Diversion Project, Reagan Administration, Construction, Central Utah Project, Safety of Dam Program, Dale Duvall, CUP, General Accounting Office, Plan 6, Cliff, Dam, Verde River, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt River, GAO
200	March 21, 1987	Lawsuit Claims Cost Cap Prohibits Cliff Construction	x Environmental Groups, Cliff Dam, Phoenix, Prohibit Construction, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Orme Dam, Congress, CAP, Frank Welsh, Citizens Concerned About the Project, Confluence Salt and Verde Rivers, Alternative, U.S. Accounting Office, Roosevelt and Waddell Dams, Salt and Agua Fria Rivers, GAO, Interior Department Spending Limit, High, Bureau of Reclamation, Bob Walsh
52	March 26, 1987	Colorado River - Water for Dry Years	x Desert Environment, Phoenix, Tucson, Drought Insurance, Water-Short Years, Farmland, Subsurface Water Rights, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Central Arizona Project, CAP, Colorado River, LaPaz County, Water Underground, Butler Valley, CAP Aqueduct, Storage, Maricopa, Pinal, Pima Counties, Arizona Public Service Co., Rio Salado Project, HB 2401
98	April 1, 1987	Rio Salado Backed by 63% in Survey	x Maricopa County Residents, Salt River Bed, Rio Salado Project, Arizona Poll, Tax Money, Public Recreational Areas, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Carol Carpenter, Rio Salado Development District, Tax Increase
97	April 6, 1987	Rio Salado, Opportunity,,, Pitfalls	x Maricopa County, Rio Salado Project, Arizona, Cultural, Recreational, Oasis, Phoenix, Environmental Objections, Scottsdale, Indian Bend Wash Construction, Tax-and-Dam, Tempe, Cliff Dam, Property Tax, Phoenix, Salt River Beautification, Riverbed, Greenbelt, Waterconserving Desert Vegetation, Water-Wasting Bermuda Grass, Ornamental Lakes, Private Development, Valley Cities, River Bank, Sonoran Desert Greenery
96	April 15, 1987	Rio Salado Project Would Benefit Entire Area, E. Valley Group Says	x Valley, Rio Salado Project, East Valley Partnership, Jim Patterson, Apache Junction, Mesa, Chandler, Tempe Guadalupe, Maricopa County Voters, Rio Salado Development District, Property Owners, Taxed, Rio Salado Project, Parks, Recreational Areas, Open Space, Water Features, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Developed, Industrial, Residential, Commercial, Office Uses, Chris Coover

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
177	April 15, 1987	Rio Salado Dealt Blow by Phoenix 40 Decision	X Rio Salado, Greenbelt, Valley, Phoenix 40, Maricopa County Voters, East Valley Partnership, Chuck Wahleim, Dennis Mitchem, Arthur Andersen and Co., Citizens for Rio Salado, Special Taxation District, Richard Snell, Ramada Inc., Rio Salado Committee, Financial Support, Arizona Public Service Co., Keith Turley, Tanner Cos, Maurice Tanner, APS, Gov. Evan Mecham, Chris Coover, Salt River Land
51	April 16, 1987	Canal for Marana Farms Partially Collapses	X Canal, Diverts Water, Marana, Collapsed, Tunnel, Central Arizona Project, CAP, Interstate 10, West Tangerine Road, Enserach Alaska Construction Inc., Cortaro Water Users Association
94	April 16, 1987	Phoenix 40 Rejects Rio Salado Fund Bid	X Rio Salado Project, Financial Blow, Dennis Mitchem, Phoenix 40, Citizens for Rio Salado, Keith Turley, Arizona Public Service Co., Maurice Tanner, Tanner Co., Richard Snell, Ramada Inc., Arthur Andersen and Co., Maricopa County Voters, Special Election, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Rio Salado Development District, Mark DeMichele, APS, Opposed to Project, East Valley Partnership
95	April 16, 1987	Rosy Picture of Rio Salado Misleading	X Rio Salado Project, Scottsdale's Indian Bend
20	April 17, 1987	Lakes Bill is Passed by Senate - Drinking-Water Ban Faces Foe in House	X Restrict Drinking Water in Artificial Lakes, John F. Long, 1980 Groundwater Management Act, Phoenix, Litchfield Park, Limit Size of Artificial Lakes, Effluent, Storm-Water Runoff, Poor-Quality Water, Waterlogging, Contamination Problems, Public Recreation Areas, Ground-Water Recharge Projects, Golf Courses, Retire Farmland, Drinking-Water Lakes, Loophole
21	April 17, 1987	Legislature - Don't Water Down Lakes Bill	X Senate Passage, Drinking Water, Artificial Lakes, Arizona, Limit Decorative Lakes, Effluent, Storm-Water Runoff, Poor-Quality Water, Waterlogging, Contamination Problems, Public Recreation Areas, Ground-Water Recharge, Golf Courses, 1980 Groundwater Management Act, Retire Farmland, John F. Long
92	April 17, 1987	Rio Salado - Phoenix 40: Business as Usual	X Phoenix 40, Valley, Rio Salado Project, Ugly Scar, Salt River, Parks, Commercial Residential, Developments, Rejection, Citizens for Rio Salado, Dennis Mitchem, Arizona Public Service Co., Keith Turley, Maurice Tanner, Tanner Co., APS, Supports, Principal, Opposes, Financing Plan, Voters, Maricopa County, Corporate Commission, Property Tax, Sand-and-Gravel Quarry, River Bed, East Valley Partnership, Phoenix
93	April 17, 1987	APS Chief Backs Rio Salado Plan Despite Fighting Fund-Raising Bid	X Arizona Public Service Co., Keith Turley, Rio Salado Project, Phoenix 40, Property Tax, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County Voters, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Dennis Mitchem, Citizens for Rio Salado, Richard Snell, Ramada Inc., Arthur Andersen and Co., East Valley Partnership
146	April 20, 1987	Costs Soaring on Canal Options - Up to \$9.3 Million Needed, Corps Reports	X Water-Detention Basins, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Phoenix, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alternatives, Stan Lutz, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Phoenix City Council, Reaches 3 and 4, Wide, Adequate Flood Protection, ACDC, 17-Mile, Arizona Canal, Skunk Creek, Phoenix, 40th Street, 3.6 Miles, Cave Creek to Dreamy Draw, 4.2 Miles, Dreamy Draw, Biltmore Neighborhood, Cudia City Wash, ACDC, Citizens Against Reach Three, Citizens Against Reach Four, Rostland Arizona Inc., Arizona Biltmore Hotel, Town of Paradise Valley, 100-Year Flood
176	April 20, 1987	Group Finds Common Ground in Rio Salado	X Salt River Bed, Phoenix 40, Concerned Citizens on Rio Salado Project, South Phoenix, Residents, Parks, Business Centers, Maricopa County Voters, Byron Ward, Frank Welsh, East Valley Group, Mel Morris, Arizona Tax Research Association, Citizens for Rio Salado, Aaron Kizer
189	May 3, 1987	Water Resources Need Improving	X Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Southern California, Underground Water Recharge, Water Treatment Projects, Metropolitan Water District, Groundwater Quality, MWD, Arizona, Tucson, Mesa, Phoenix, CAWCD, Butler Valley, Underground Basins
91	May 5, 1987	SRP Votes to Deny Rio Salado Funding	X Rio Salado Project, Salt River Project, Funding, SRP, Jack Pfister, Citizens for Rio Salado, Property-Tax Increase, Parks, Waterways, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Maricopa County, Special Election, SRP, Valley, Phoenix 40, Against, Political Problems, Rio Salado Development District, Dennis Mitchem, Arthur Andersen and Co.
175	May 5, 1987	Rio Salado Campaign Under Way	X Maricopa County Voters, Rio Salado Project, Citizens for Rio Salado, First Interstate Bank of Arizona, Valley National bank, Dennis Mitchem, Salt River Bed, Mesa, Phoenix, Recreational, Business Oasis, Property Tax, Chuck Hermann, Tax Implications, Rio Salado Association, Valley Foreword Organization, Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, East Valley Partnership, Herman Channel, Salt River Project
240	May 5, 1987	Rio Salado Backers Kick Off Support Campaign	X Citizens for Rio Salado, Salt River Bottom, Green Cornucopia, Development, Recreation, Property Tax, Issue Bonds, Salt River Bed, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, John DeWitt, Clean Up, Phase II, Construction, Rio Salado Plans, Without, Upstream Flood Control, Dam System, Dennis Mecham, First Interstate, Valley National banks, Arthur Andersen Accounting Company, Rio Salado Association, Valley Foreword, Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, East Valley Partnership

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173	May 6, 1987	Where is Vision?	X Salt River Project, Rio Salado Development, Phoenix 40, Balked, Countywide Property Tax, SRP, Maricopa County Residents, Convert 40-Mile, Dry, Scarred and Ugly Salt River Bed, Attractive, Water-Based, Recreational Development, Residential, Retail, Industrial
174	May 6, 1987	Rio Salado Might Gain from Phoenix 40's Non-Support	X Phoenix 40, Rio Salado Project, Have-More Two Score, Tax Levy, Commercial Development, Salt River, Maricopa County Voters, Morris Tanner, Owns, Riverbed Land, Keith Turley, Utility, Salt River Project, East Valley Partnership
90	May 7, 1987	Rejections - Salt in Rio Salado's Wound	X Salt River Project, Rio Salado Project, Phoenix 40, Salt River, Valley, Parks, Commercial Residential, Developments, Countywide Property Tax, SRP, Keith Turley, Arizona Public Service Co., Maurice Tanner, Tanner Co., APS, Maricopa County, Sand-and-Gravel Quarry, Riverbed, Citizens for Rio Salado, Countywide Election, Valley, Economic Opportunities, Social and Recreational Benefits, Valley of the Sun, Maricopa County
22	May 8, 1987	U.S. Bids to Obtain Lake Land - Plan Would Keep County in Control	X Maricopa County Parks Department, Lake Pleasant Regional Park, Frees County From Annual Lease Payment, Arizona Land Department, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, parks Director Bill Richwine, BLM, New Waddell Dam, Central Arizona Project
50	May 14, 1987	Wasting Water	X Central Arizona Project, CAP System, Farmers, Cities, Store the Water, Mesa, East Valley, Pumping, Underground, Recharging, Groundwater System, Pinal County, Norton's Bill, Extra CAP Water
89	May 18, 1987	Backers Adrift as Rio Salado Stirs Opposition - Split Over Putting \$3 Billion Plan to Vote, May Downsize Project	X Arizona Rock Products Association Opposition, Public Parks, Waterways, Private Development, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax, Fund, Land Acquisition, 17-Mile, Salt River, Jim Pederson, Rio Salado Development District, Phoenix 40, Rejection, Keith Turley, Arizona Public Service Co., Keith Turley, Tanner Cos., Rio Salado Development Operation, Dennis Mitchem, Citizens for Rio Salado Committee, Environmental, Develop, Condemn, Swap State-Owned-Land, Jack Pfister, SRP, Arizona Rock Products Association, Election
145	May 18, 1987	City Staff Urges OK on Canal	X Phoenix City Council, Reach 4, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Drop, Water-Detention Basin Alternative, Flood Control Channel, Citizens Task Force, Jim Attebery, Maricopa County Flood Control District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Citizens Against Reach 4, 4.2-Mile Canal, Dreamy Draw, 12th Street and Glendale Avenue, Biltmore Neighborhood, Cudia City Wash, 40th Street and Camelback, Down-Sized Channel, Water-Detention Basins, Town of Paradise Valley, 17-Mile, Arizona Canal, Skunk Creek, W.S. Gookin and Associates, Reaches 3 and 4, Faulty Information, George Sabol
59	May 19, 1987	Flood-Channel Reports to go Before Council	X Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Arizona Canal, Army Corps of Engineers, 12th and 40th Streets, Central Phoenix, Flooding, Skunk Creek, 75th Avenue, Bell Road, Arizona Biltmore, Paradise Valley
88	May 19, 1987	Rio Salado Levy Vote Scheduled	X Rio Salado Project, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Supervisors Fred Koory, Ed Pastor, Tom Freestone, George Campbell, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Carol Carpenter, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax, Land Acquisition, 17-Miles, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix
211	May 19, 1987	House OK's Underground Storage for CAP	X House of Representatives, Gov. Evan Mecham, Central Arizona Project, Colorado River Water, Underground, Jenny North, Gulf of California, Arizona, CAP, Into Law, East Valley Cities, Mesa, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, AMWUA, Bob McCain, Pinal County, Future, Drinking Water, James Sossaman
239	May 19, 1987	Rio Salado Supporters Divided Over Whether to Seek Nov. 3 Vote	X Rio Salado Project, Nov. 3, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Public Parks, Waterways, Private Development, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Jim Perderson, Rio Salado Development District, William J. Ream, Vic-Mayor Tempe, Sand-and-Gravel Companies, , Lobby Against, Aaron Kizer, Environmentalists, Taxpayer Groups, Phoenix 40
57	May 20, 1987	Foes Win Further Study on Final Leg of Channel	X Phoenix City Council, Eastern Leg of Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Study Storm Waters that Drain, Town of Paradise Valley, 40th Street and Camelback Road, Army Corps of Engineers, 12th and 40th Streets, Arizona Biltmore, 24th Street and Missouri Avenue, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Major Storm, Arizona Canal, 40th Street to Skunk Creek, 75th Avenue, Bell Road, Channel Opponents, W.S. Gookin and Associates of Scottsdale, Less Storm Water, 59th Avenue to Cave Creek near Black Canyon Freeway
87	May 20, 1987	Lack of Legislation Leaves Rio Salado in Bind	X Supporters, Rio Salado Project, Stumbling Block, Rio Salado Development District, Arizona Rock Products Association, Sand-and-Gravel Companies, Condemnation, Gov. Evan Mecham, Gov. Evan Mecham, 17-Miles, Salt River Bottom, Banks, Parks, Private Development, Opposition

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144	May 20, 1987	Controversial Flood Project Put Off Again	X U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Phoenix City Council, Controversial, Flood-Control Project, Reach 4, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Phoenix, Opponents, George Sabol, Drop, Water-Detention Basin Alternative, Citizens Against Reach 4, Mariner Cardon, W.S. Gookin and Associates, Maricopa County Flood Control District, 4.2 Mile Canal, Dreamy Draw, 12th Street and Glendale Avenue, Biltmore Neighborhood, Cudia City Wash, 40th Street and Camelback Road, 17-Mile, Arizona Canal, Reaches 1 and 2
109	May 22, 1987	Charges Fly Over 'Computer Waste'	X Slanted Bid, Policy Violations, Wasted Taxes, Computer Companies, Maricopa County, Joseph Martina, County Department of Technology and Information Systems, 1985 Policy, Coordinate Computer Needs, Patchwork System, Main Computers, Fragmented System, County Treasurer, Glenn Stapley, Fred Koory Jr., Chairman, Board of Supervisors, Needs, Differ, Sensitive Data, Update 1985 Policy, Adolfo Echeveste, County Health Services, Favors Technology, One Maker, IBM, Joseph Warnas, Materials Management Director, Dennis Hogan
238	May 22, 1987	Blame it on Rio	X Rio Salado Project, Wasteful Boondoggle, County Taxpayers, 17-Mile Recreational Park, Salt River Flood Plain, 100-Year Flood, Developers, Maricopa County
23	May 28, 1987	Blight Postponed	X Phoenix City Council, 43rd Avenue and Peoria, Corps of Engineers, Flood-Control Projects
237	May 28, 1987	Salt River Advisors Seek Input - Public has Voice in Land-Use Plan	X Rio Salado Project, Red Mountain Freeway, Mesa Rio Advisory Board, Salt River, Greenbelt, Waterway, Recreational Sports Facilities, Fishing, Boating, County Voters, Property Tax, Developers, Sverdrup Corp., BRW Inc., Hammer, Siler, George Associates, Publicorp Inc., Planning and Zoning Commission, Dale Lare, Rockne Arnett, North Mesa
86	June 1, 1987	Rio Salado Project	X Rio Salado Election, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Gov. Evan Mecham, Valley, East Valley Partnership Brethren, Phoenix 40, Recreational, Environmental, Economic Benefits
137	June 1, 1987	CAP Water Quality Praised by Officials - Purity, Taste Unexpected	X Central Arizona Project, Arizona, Swamp Water, Exotic Treatment Techniques, Fit to Drink, Valley, Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale, CAP Water, Jim Kaylor, Clorox to Disinfect, Colorado River Water, Lake Havasu, United States, Chemists' Reports, Water Treatment Plant, Phoenix Water Department, Arizona Canal, Salt and Verde Rivers, California, Cave Creek Road, Beardsley Road, Union Hills Drive, Pima Road, Brown Road, Bush Highway
236	June 1, 1987	At Last	X Rio Salado Election, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Maricopa County Voters, Valley, East Valley Partnership, Phoenix 40
172	June 2, 1987	Phoenix Chamber Urged to Back Rio Salado - Panel Recommends Fund Study	X Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Rio Salado Project, Special Tax Fund, Rio Salado Task Force, Maricopa County Voters, Riverbed Beautification Plan, Dennis Mitchem, Citizens for Rio Salado, David Goldman, Rio Salado Development District, Impact, Revised Floodplain Delineations, Legal Challenges, Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Litigation, Environmental Concerns, Upstream Flood Control
268	June 2, 1987	City Officials Pleased with CAP Water	X Central Arizona Project, CAP, Pumped, Lake Havasu, Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale, CAP Canal, Swamp Water, Chlorination, Jim Kaylor, Naturally Cleansed, Phoenix Metropolitan, Phoenix Water Treatment Plant, Phoenix Water Department, Arizona Canal, Well Water, Salt and Verde Rivers, Cave Creek Road, Beardsley Road, Union Hills Drive, Pima Road, Brown Road, Bush Highway
210	June 3, 1987	CAP Water Tastier Than Expected	X Central Arizona Project Water, Lake Havasu, Cleaner, Sweeter, Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Drinking, CAP Canal, Chlorination, Jim Kaylor, Naturally Cleansed, Phoenix Water Treatment Plant, Charles White, Phoenix Water Department, Arizona Canal, Salt and Verde Rivers, Cave Creek Road, Beardsley Road, Valley, Raw CAP Water, Plant, Union Hills Drive, Pima Road, Brown Road, Bush Highway
288	June 3, 1987	Drinkwater Supports Rio Salado	X Developing, Salt River Channel, 17-mile System of Parks, Blighted River Bed, Maricopa County, Mayor Herb Drinkwater, Rio Salado Project, Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash Project, Transformed, Blighted Wash, Seven-mile System of Parks, Lakes, Jogging, Biking Trails, Maricopa County Voters, Indian Bend Wash Visitor Center, Shea Boulevard, Valley
235	June 4, 1987	Drinkwater Calls on Valley to Back Rio Salado Plan	X Mayor Herb Drinkwater, Valley, Support, Rio Salado Development Project, Indian Bend Wash, Salt River, 7 1/2-Mile Park System, Blighted, Flood Prone Area, Littered, Junk Cars, Trash, Beatification, Flood Control Project, Tax Revenue, Parks, Golf Courses, Ballfields, Storms, Floods
209	June 5, 1987	CAP Board Delays Request for Funds to Lobbyist Group	X Central Arizona Project, CAP, Central Arizona Project Association, Eldon Rudd, Washington, Clyde Bowden, John Rhodes, Gov. Sam Goddard, Proposed Contribution, Illegal, George Barr, Rod McMullin
234	June 6, 1987	The Rio Truth	X Rio Salado, Indian Bend Wash, Salt River, River Bed, Flood Risk, Toxic Landfills, Emitting Carcinogens, Explosive Methane Gas, Evacuated, 22nd Avenue, Salt River Landfill, Dump

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
76	June 8, 1987	Fuzzy Thinking - Editor	X Fuzzy Thinking, Oppose Rio Salado, Who, How, 17-Mile Long String, Parks, Trails, Picnic Areas, Recreational Areas, Public Facilities, Job Opportunities, Arizona
255	June 11, 1987	MAG Panel Approves 1-Mile Hohokam Extension	X Hohokam Expressway, Thomas Road, Maricopa County Association of Governments Management Committee, Old Cross Cut Canal, 28th Street, Susan Goldsmith, Hohokam Parkway Citizen's Advisory Committee, MAG, Thomas Road, 48th Street, 44th Street, Severo Esquivel, Sales Tax Increase, MAG Regional Council, Phoenix City Council, Washington Street, McDowell Road
24	June 12, 1987	Gravel Firms Want Break on Rio Salado	X Sand-and-Gravel Companies, Oppose, Rio Salado Project, Arizona Rock Products Association, Rio Salado Development District, Salt River Bed, Public Parks, Recreation, Citizens for Rio Salado
49	June 12, 1987	CAP Not Overdraft Cure, State Water Chief Says - Strict Conservation Measures Needed	X Central Arizona Project, Ground-Water Overdraft, Floodwater, Storm Runoff, Irrigation Water, Sewage Water, Surplus CAP Water, Colorado River, Alan Kleinman, State Department of Water Resources, More-Restrictive Water-Conservation Rules, Cities, Farmers, Industrial Water Users, Water Management Plan, Groundwater Management Act of 1980, Underground Aquifers, Pumped, Water Replaced, Recharging, Arizona, Less than 10-Inches of Rain, CAP, Colorado River, Phoenix, Tucson, Prescott, Pinal County, Water Management Areas
85	June 12, 1987	Salt's Dangers	X Rio Salado Boosters, Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash, Tax, Private Developers, Floodprone, Landfill-Polluted Land, Riverbed, 40 Percent Flood Risk, Toxic Landfills, Carcinogens, Explosive Methane Gas, Salt River, Unknown Dumps
108	June 12, 1987	Water Recharge Plan Not Likely Until 1990s	X Ground-Water Recharge, Alan Kleinman, Arizona Water Resources Department, Save Arizona's Future Economy, 1980 Groundwater Management Act, Valley, Agricultural, Opposed, Pump Tax, Least Benefits, Sam Steiger, Gov. Evan Mecham
157	June 12, 1987	Rio Salado Favored by Residents - Foes Opposition Discussed	X Rio Salado Project, Maricopa County Residents, Divided, River Bottom Beautification, Salt River Bed, Special Tax, Aaron Kizer, Rio Salado Development District, Citizens for Rio Salado
171	June 12, 1987	Rio Salado Project Condemnation Rule Concerns Landowners	X Rio Salado Project, Voters, Salt River Landowners, Arizona Legislature, Rio Salado Development District, Arizona Rock Products Association, Legislation, Condemnation, Ed Belt, Phoenix Redi-Mix Co., ARPA, Eminent Domain, Salt River, Property, Banked, Resold, Profit, John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Sen. Alan Stephes, Robert Robb, Phoenix Lobbyist
233	June 13, 1987	Poll Finds County Resident Split Over Taxes for Rio Salado Plan	X Maricopa County Residents, Rio Salado Project, Taxes, Newspaper Poll, salt River Beautification Plan, Tax Increase
267	June 13, 1987	City to Conduct Hearing on Water Resources Fees	X Water Resources Development Fees, Charter Review Advisory Commission, Scottsdale City Council, Central Arizona Project
203	June 15, 1987	State Officials Worried About Bill That May Reduce CAP Water Supply - Measure Would Validate Claims by Ute Indians	X Arizona Water Officials, Congress, Central Arizona Project, Valley, Farms, Water Right Agreement, Southern Ute, Mountain Ute Indian Reservation, Southwestern Colorado, New Mexico, Colorado, Colorado River, CAP, Animas and La Plata Rivers, Ridges Basin Reservoir, Durango, Apache Lake, Salt River, Utah, Wyoming, Southern California's Metropolitan Water District, Navajo's House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee
254	June 15, 1987	Water Bill in Congress Worries Arizona	X Arizona, Congress, Central Arizona Project, Arizona Farms, Rep. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Southern Ute and Mountain Ute Indian Reservations, Southwestern Colorado, New Mexico, Colorado, Indians, Senior Rights, Water, Carol Knight, Animas and La Plata Rivers, Ridges Basin Reservoir, Utah, Wyoming, Doug Cole, Rep. Jay Rhodes, CAP, Southern California Metropolitan Water District, Last Crack, Colorado River Water, Navajos, House and insular Affairs Committee
170	June 16, 1987	Rio Salado Problems	X Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater, Indian Bend Wash, Rio Salado Project, Salt River, Property Tax, Rio Salado District, Floodprone, Landfill-Polluted Land, Scenic Frontage, Riverbed, Flood Risk, Toxic Landfills, Carcinogens, Explosive Methane Gas, Salt River Landfill, Unknown Dumps
232	June 16, 1987	Letters - Rio Salado Partnership Could Reduce Risks to Taxpayers	X Rio salvo, Dry Riverbed, Recreational, Economic Greenbelt, Valley of the Sun, Arizona Rock Products Association, Taxpayer Dollars, Rio Salado Land Acquisition, Commercial Development, Parks, Waterways, Equestrian and Bike Trails, Landowners, Land, Condemned
48	June 17, 1987	House Panel Preparing to Cut CAP Budge Proposal by 14%	X House Money, Slash, President Reagan's Record Request, Central Arizona Project, House Appropriations Committee, Repair Arizona Dams, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Bald Eagles, CAP, Senate, Money Bill, Congress, Western Water Projects, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Colorado River, Bureau of Reclamation, Se. Dennis DeConcini, Tucson Aqueduct, Roosevelt Dam, Stewart Mount Dam

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107	June 17, 1987	Proposed Demise of Cliff Dam Criticized	x Central Arizona Project Association, Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Valley Cities, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Salt River Project, U.S. Department of Interior, CAP, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Verde River, Stewart Mountain Dam, Roosevelt Dam, Salt, Reagan Administration, Tucson, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Frank Welsh, Citizens Against the Project, Roger Manning, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Earthen Structure, Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams, Waste, Taxpayer Money, Maricopa Audubon Society, Bureau of Reclamation, Endangered Bald Eagles, Rio Salado Project, Maricopa County Voters, Citizens for Rio Salado
124	June 17, 1987	Plug May be Pulled on Cliff Dam	x Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Mounting Opposition, Congress, Cliff Dam, Bartlett and Horseshoe Dams, Verde River, Phoenix, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Environmental Groups, Bureau of Reclamation, Plan 6, Delete Dam, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill, Morris Udall, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Gramm-Redman Deficit Reduction, Rep. Bob Stump, Valley Communities, Sen. John McCain, Central Arizona Project, CAP, President Reagan
38	June 18, 1987	Outlook for Cliff Dam is Gloomy - State Delegation Near Accord to Kill Project	x Opposition, Congress, Cliff Dam, Verde River, East of Phoenix, Environmentalists, Washington, National Audubon Society, Cliff Dam, National Wildlife Federation, Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Salt and Verde Rivers, Fort McDowell Indian Reservation, General Accounting Office, Bureau of Reclamation, CAP, Opposed by Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler, Glendale, Rio Salado Project, Capture Floodwaters
131	June 18, 1987	Cliff Dam Sacrificed to Trade-Off	x Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Cliff Dam, Environmental Groups, Arizona's Water Interests, Central Arizona Project Association, Bill Wheeler, Rep. Bob Stump, Central Arizona Project, Desert-Nesting Bald Eagle, Plan 6, CAP, Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams, Phoenix, Valley Cities, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, Verde River, Flood Control Structures, Appropriations Committee, Jim Kolbe, Morris Udall, Jon Kyl, Aqueducts, Pumping Plants, Colorado River Water, Tucson, Orme Dam, Salt and Verde Rivers, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, National Audubon Society
136	June 18, 1987	Arizonans Fight to Salvage CAP Components - Analysis	x Arizona's Cliff Dam, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Plan 6, Salt, Verde, Agua Fria Rivers, Central Arizona Project, Water Storage, Arizona's Delegation, Dam-Safety Bill, Morris Udall, House Interior Committee, National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Sierra Club, Friends of Earth, Bureau of Reclamation, National Environmental Policy Act, CAP, Rep. Vic Fazio, Appropriations Energy and Water Development Subcommittee, Interior Department, Congress, Orme Dam, New Waddell Dam, Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Federal Emergency Management Agency, General Accounting Office, Occupational Safety and Health Act, National Environmental Policy Act, Rep. Jon Kyl, Salt River Project, Sen. Barry Goldwater, Rep. Eldon Rudd
198	June 18, 1987	Lawmakers May Pull Cliff Dam Proposal - Move Could Save Other Plan 6 Projects	x Central Arizona Project, Opponents, Cliff Dam, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Environmental Groups, Rep. Bob Stump, Plan 6, Verde River, Roosevelt Dam, Salt River, Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Bob Witzemen, Maricopa County Audubon Society, CAP, Tom Clark, Tucson, Roger Manning, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Cost-Sharing Agreement, Valley Cities, Bill Wheeler, Central Arizona Project Association
199	June 18, 1987	Cliff Dam Problems (Also, see article no. 285)	x Sonoran Desert, Verde River, Mayor Goddard, Bureau of Reclamation, Phoenix, Cliff Dam, County Flood Control, CAP, SRP, Salt-Verde, New Roosevelt Dams, Tony Anthony
199	June 18, 1987	Water Scare Tactics	x Cliff Dam, Water Budget, Valley Mayors, Plan 6, CAP Aqueduct, Arizona, Arizona Water Commission, Phase II, State Water Plan, Maricopa County, Valley, Verde River
262	June 18, 1987	Deal Would Kill Cliff Dam	x Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Water-Storage Project, Washington, D.C., National Audubon Society, Valley Cities, Dr. Robert Witzman, Maricopa Audubon Society, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Jon Kyl, Flood Control, Water Supply, Mayor Herd Drinkwater, Central Arizona Project, Scottsdale, Verde River, Horseshoe Lake, Sen., John McCain, National Wildlife Federation and Friends of Earth, salt and Verde Rivers, Construction, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant, Dam-Safety, Orme dam
39	June 19, 1987	Lawmakers OK Demise of Cliff Dam - Arizona Delegation Yields to Opponents	x Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Environmentalists, Cliff Dam Dead, Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Flood-Control, Water Storage, CAP, Verde River, Mayor Terry Goddard, Roosevelt Dam, Salt River, Rep. Morris Udall, Mounting Political Opposition, National Audubon Society, Friends of Earth, National Wildlife Federation, Sierra Club, Rep. Bob Stump, Sen. Dennis DeConcini, Orme Dam, General Accounting Office, House Appropriations Committee, New Waddell Dam, Stewart and Roosevelt Dams, Verde River, Water Storage Dam, Horseshoe and Bartlett, Army Corps of Engineers, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, New Waddell and Agua Fria

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106	June 19, 1987	Reach Four Flood-Control Canal Supported in 'Final' Study	X Phoenix Officials, Reach Four, Flood-Control Canal, SEA, Inc., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Floodworks, Construction, Neighborhood Opposition, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, 17-Mile Ditch, Arizona Canal, Catch Storm Water, Divert, Skunk Creek, Dreamy Draw, Biltmore, Cudia City Wash, 40th Street and Camelback Road, Citizen Opposition, Rostland Arizona Inc., Arizona Biltmore Hotel, 100-Year Storm, Smaller Canal, Detention Basins, W.S. Gookin and Associates, George Sabol, Verne Schweigert
129	June 19, 1987	Cliff Dam Crumbles	X Cliff Dam, Verde River, Collapsed, Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, House Interior Committee, Rep. Morris K. Udall, Flood Control, Phoenix, Area, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt River, CAP, Arizona, Carl Hayden, Barry Goldwater, John Rhodes, Udall Brothers, Eldon Rudd, House Appropriation Committee, Rep. John Kyl, Jim Kolbe, Old Horsetrading Tradition, Congress, Pork Barrel, Congress
130	June 19, 1987	Agreement Lays Cliff Dam to Rest	X Cliff Dam, Valley Communities, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Opposed, Verde River, Storage Dam, Coalition to Stop Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams, Mile-Wide Earth Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CAP, Confluence of Salt and Verde Rivers, Indians, Environmental Interests, Orme Dam, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Major Modifications, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt River, National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Appropriations Committee, Rep. Jon Kyl, Rep. Bob Stump, Rep. Jay Rhoads, Central Arizona Project, Colorado River, Central Arizona, House Interior Committee, Morris Udall, Phoenix, Fort McDowell and Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Reservations, Sen. John McCain, Sen. Barry Goldwater, Energy and Water Appropriations Bill
193	June 19, 1987	Congress Bursts Cliff Dam Project - Environmentalist Win Battle	X Cliff Dam, Controversial, Flood Control, Water Storage Project, Plan 6, Environmentalists, Central Arizona Project, CAP, Valley, Tucson, Verde River, Theodore Roosevelt Dam, Salt River, Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Endangered, Bald Eagles, Arizona, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Salt River Project, Scottsdale, Carolina Butler, Mesa, Karl Kohlhoff, Congress, Orme Dam, Fort McDowell Reservation, Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, Rep. Morris K. Udall, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Rep. Bob Stump, Sen. Dennis DeConcini, Sen. John McCain, Rodger Mannin, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Mitch Snow, Interior Department, Washington, Maricopa Audubon Society, Herb Fibel, Jack Pfister, SRP, Phoenix Area, Mayor Terry Goddard, Army Corps of Engineers, Bill Pederson, Tempe, Karen O'Regan, Chandler, Pat Manion, Bureau of Reclamation, Approved, CAP 1968
193	June 19, 1987	Rio Salado Stays Afloat Despite Cliff Dam Action	X Cliff Dam, Rio Salado Project, 17 Miles, Barren, Salt River Bed, Lush Ribbon, John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Nesting, Bald Eagles, Citizens for Rio Salado, Arizona State University, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Upstream Flood Control, Valley, Steve Neilson, Orme Dam, Salt and Verde Rivers, Environmentalists, Salt River Pima-Maricopa and Fort McDowell Indian Reservations, Interagency Task Force on Orme Dam, Gov. Raul Castro, Brent W. Brown, Arizona Office of Economic Planning and Development, Flood Control, Water Storage, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Agua Fria River, Central Arizona Water Control Study, 1978-80 Major Floods, Central Arizona Water Control Study, Plan 6, Roosevelt Dam, Waddell Dam, Eugene Hinds, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Lower Colorado Region, Secretary James Watt, Interior Secretary, William Clark, Bald Eagle, Nest, Final Environmental Impact Statement, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Lawsuit, U.S. District Court, Interior Secretary Don Hodel, CAP, Salt River Project, U.S. General Accounting Office, Environmental Groups, Illegal
261	June 19, 1987	Cliff Dam Dies in Compromise	X Cliff Dam, Controversial Component, Central Arizona Project, Lawsuit, Verde River, CAP, Plan 6, Colorado River Water, Arizona, Sen. Dennis DeConcini, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Rep. Bob Stump, Rep. Morris Udall, National Coalition to Stop Cliff Dam, Congress, Sen. John McCain, Rep. Jon Kyl, Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, Roger Manning, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Funding Agreement, Reclamation Safety of Dams Act, Horseshoe, Bartlett, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams
197	June 20, 1987	River Can be Harnessed Without Cliff, Officials Say	X Flooding, Salt River, Cliff Dam, Joe Dixon, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Arizona, Central Arizona Project, Pumping Plant, Dam System, CAP, Bureau of Reclamation, Bob Walsh, Environmentalists, Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams, Verde River, Valley Floods, 1978-80, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Salt River Bed, Tow-Dam Alternative, Theodore Roosevelt Dam, Alan Kleinman, State Department of Water Resources, Mesa, Salt River Project General Manage Jack Pfister, Frank Welsh, Citizens Concerned About the Project

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260	June 20, 1987	Dam Alternative Needed, Says Kyl	X Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Flood-Control, Rep. Jon Kyl, Congress, Legal Tangles, Congressional Delegation, Environmental Groups, Controversial Dam, Verde River, Central Arizona Project, Water-Storage Alternatives, Underground Wells, Water Allotments, Horseshoe Lake, National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation and Friends of Earth, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant, Federal Lawsuit, Environmental Hazards, Dam Safety Appropriations, Block
231	June 21, 1987	Make Rio Salado Pay-as-you-go	X Mayor Herb Drinkwater, Indian Bend Wash, Park and Golf Courses, Blighted Area, Rio Salado Proposal, Erroneously Based, Salt River Flood Plain, Flow Rates, Velocities, Vast Watershed Area, Taxing, Maricopa County, Mother Nature, Pay-as-you-go
40	June 22, 1987	Plan 6 - Life After Cliff Dam	X Demise, Cliff Dam, Rep. Morris Udall, Sen. John McCain, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Valley Cities, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Stewart and Roosevelt Dams, Salt River, Environmentalists, CAP, Congress, Earthen Dam, U.S. Department of Interior, Rio Salado Project, Maricopa County
41	June 22, 1987	Water Projects' Faded Popularity is Blamed for Death of Cliff Dam	X Cliff Dam, Massive Central Arizona Project, Flood-Control, Water-Storage, Congress, "Pork Barrel", Environmentally Damaging, Wetlands and Forests, Central Arizona Project, Colorado River Water, Arizona, President Reagan, House Appropriations Committee, CAP, National Audubon Society, Environmentalists, Plan 6, Verde River, Phoenix, Arizona Cities, Salt River, Agua Fria, Orme Dam, Fort McDowell Indian Reservation, Sonoran Desert, Lawsuit, Federal Court, General Accounting Office, Interior Department, Rep. Jim Kolbe, Morris Udall, Sen. Dennis DeConcini, Mayor Terry Goddard, Gov. Evan Mecham, Ex-Gov. Bruce Babbitt
287	June 22, 1987	Rio Salado 'Viable' Without Dam	X Rio Salado, Cliff Dam, Property Tax Increase, Salt River Greenbelt, Plan 6, John DeWitt, Rio Salado Development District, Private Developers, Improvements, River Bed, Rio Salado District, Salt and Verde Rivers, New Waddell Dam, Lake Pleasant, Agua Fria River, Nesting Ground, Bald Eagle, Robert Witzeman, Maricopa Audubon Society, Cost, Opposed, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 1979, 1980, Deeper Channel, Valley
188	June 23, 1987	Falcon Ridge Plat Proposals Gain Approval	X Planning and Zoning Commission, City Council, Falcon Ridge, Bellamah Community Development, Vern Swabach, Councilwoman Peggy Rubach, Preserve the Desert, Reduce Density, Increase Open Space, Spook Hill Homeowners Committee, Desert Upland Area, Desert Uplands Development Concept Plan, Tonto National Forest, McKellips Road, Utery Mountain Regional Park, Central Arizona Project Canal
196	June 23, 1987	Cliff Dam's Demise Changes Cloud-Seeding Project	X Cliff Dam, Boost, Valley, Water Supply, Mountain Snowfall, Injecting Clouds, Iodide Particles, Verde River, Department of Water Resources, Alan Kleinman, East Valley, Bill Wheeler, Central Arizona Project Association, Verde and Salt, Bartlett and Horseshoe, Salt River Reservoirs, Roosevelt Lake's Capacity, Apache Indians, Suing, White Mountains, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Mismanagement, Bureau of Reclamation, Mogollon Rim, Cloud-Seeding, Colorado River Basin, John Lease, Bureaus' Engineering and Research Center, Denver
229	June 23, 1987	Companies Seek Rio Salado Restriction	X Sand and Gravel Companies, State Law, Restricting, Rio Salado, Condemning, Gov. Evan Mecham, Phoenix Redi-Mix Corp., Ed Belt, Robert Robb, 17-Mile Barren Stretch of Salt River, Phoenix, Parks, lakes, Ball Fields, Commercial, Residential, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County Voters
230	June 23, 1987	Rio Salado's Benefits	X Marilyn Deprest, Mesa, Rio Salado, Toxic Waste Dumps, Salt River Bed, 17-Mile Long Park System, Development, 1890, Salt and Verde Rivers, Uncontrollable, Six Major Flood Control Dams, Noah's Flood Floodplain, Phoenix Metro Chamber of Commerce
56	June 24, 1987	Phoenix Oks Eastern Leg of Channel - Camelback Road Area to Get Flood Protection	X Phoenix City Council, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Reach Four, 12th and 40th Streets, Arizona Canal, Salt River, SEA, Inc., 40th Street and Camelback, Runoff, Unusual Storm, Army Corps of Engineers, Maricopa County Flood Control District, major Storm, Retention Basins, Paradise Valley, Arizona Biltmore, Planned, Flood-Control District, 1965, Skunk Creek at 75th Avenue and Bell Road, Citizens Against Reach Four, Vern Schweigert, Rostland Arizona, Inc., Biltmore, Congress, Filing Suit, 24th Street and Missouri Avenue
105	June 24, 1987	Site South of Buckeye Suggested for Landfill	X Landfill, Moved, Buckeye, Route 85, Gila River, Public Discussion, Avondale, Buying 64 Mining Claims, A. Wayne Collins, Hauling Distance, Buckeye Hills Regional Park, Disturbing Environment, Protected Wildlife Species, Gila Monster, Desert Tortoise, Buckeye Military Reservation, Oglesby Road and Interstate 10, 27th Avenue and Lower Buckeye Road, Full, 1990, Glendale Avenue at 115th Avenue, Glendale Residents, Hassayampa Landfill, Intersection of Salome Highway and Baseline Road

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128	June 24, 1987	Dam Fund Cuts Get Tentative OK	X House, Cliff Dam, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Environmental Groups, Opposed, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Endangered Fish Species, Bald Eagles Nesting, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Flood Control, Phoenix, Valley Communities, Salt River Flood Plain, Tucson Aqueduct, New Waddell Dam, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Water Distribution, Reagan Administration, CAP
135	June 24, 1987	Phoenix Links CAP Payments to Cliff Dam - \$800,000 Held Due to Change	X Phoenix, Refusing, Payment, Central Arizona Project, Congress, Cliff Dam, Plan 6, Bill Chase, Verde River, U.S. District Court, Lawsuit, CAP, Valley Cities, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Roger Manning, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Reagan Administration, Michael Jackson, Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams, Stewart Mountain and Roosevelt Dams, Salt River, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Tom Clark, SRP, Bob Mason, CAWCD, Rod Mullin
143	June 24, 1987	Flood Control Canal Wins Council's OK	X Phoenix, City Council, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Reach 4, Flood Control Project, 4.2 Mile Ditch, Opposition, Washington, D.C., Councilman Paul Johnson, Aesthetics, Landscaping, Stan Lutz, Arizona Biltmore Hotel, Project Ugly, Costly, Overkill, Dreamy Draw Cudia City Wash, 40th Street and Camelback Road, Councilman Ed Korick, Design, 1972 Storm, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Ugly Designs, Councilman Duane Pell, Severo Esquivel, SEA, Inc., Vern Schweigert, Opponents, Alternative Design, Down-Sized Channel, Flood-Detention Basins, Congress, Kill Funding, Construction, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, ACDC, Arizona Canal, Skunk Creek
187	June 24, 1987	Cities Look at Price Road Compromise - Chandler, Tempe Weigh Route Impact	X Chandler City Council, Price Road Expressway, ASU Research Park, Destroy Homes, Tempe, Chandler, Circle G Subdivision, Arizona State University Research Park, Motorola Plant, Mayor Jerry Brooks, Mayor Harry Mitchell, Alignment "B", Alignment "3", Alignment "A"
264	June 24, 1987	Scottsdale Pumps 7 Million Gallons of CAP Water a Day	X Central Arizona Project, Scottsdale, CAP, Bell and Doubletree Ranch Roads, Rick Gregoire, Colorado River Water, Underground Aquifers, Arizona Groundwater Management Act, Scottsdale Water Service Co., Union Hills Drive and Pima Road, SWSC, Pumps, North of Bell, South of Doubletree, Tucson
265	June 24, 1987	House Approves Cliff Dam-CAP Deal	X Arizona's Delegation, Cliff Dam, Environmentalists, Central Arizona Project, Cost-sharing Agreement, Phoenix-area Cities, Ken Burton, House Interior Committee, Rep. Morris K. Udall, Verde River, Bald Eagles Nest
266	June 24, 1987	CAP Officials Seek 3-Cent Tax Hike	X Central Arizona Project Board, 42 Percent Increase, Property Tax, Maricopa, Pinal and Pima Counties, Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Tax Rate, CAP, Tom Clark, Colorado River Water, Central Arizona, Navajo Generating Station, Page, Pump CAP Water, Colorado River, Phoenix, Tucson, Water-sales Revenue, Agricultural Customers, Distribution Systems, Full Allocations
274	June 24, 1987	Phoenix Gives Blessing to ACDC Design	X Phoenix City Council, Reach Four, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Ed Korrick, Arizona Canal, 12th Street to Cudia City Wash, 40th Street and Stanford Drive, Army Corps of Engineers, Maricopa County Flood Control District, ACDC, Arizona Biltmore Resort, Mayor Terry Goddard, Phoenix, Salt River
42	June 25, 1987	Cliff Dam Loser	X Mayor Terry Goddard, Cliff Dam, Phoenix
47	June 25, 1987	Record CAP Budget Approved by House; Cliff Dam Funds End	X Water-Development, Energy Package, Central Arizona Project, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Phoenix, Senate, Reagan Administration, Bureau of Reclamation, CAP, Colorado River Water, Plan 6, Flood-Control, Water-Storage, Desert Bald Eagle, Salt and Verde Rivers, Fort McDowell Indian Reservation, Agua Fria River, Salt River, Rep. Morris Udall, Mayor Terry Goddard, Mayor George Renner, Glendale, Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler, Headgate Rock Diversion Dam, Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Santa Rosa Wash, Santa Rosa Valley, Casa Grande, Office of Management and Budget, Energy Department, Nuclear Spending
195	June 25, 1987	Panel Files Cliff Dam Complaint - Water-Users Group Writes to Lawmakers	X Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Complain, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Cancellation, Cliff Dam, Mayor Terry Goddard, Washington D.C., AMWUA, Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Flood Control, Water Storage, CAP, Verde River, Phoenix, Bald Eagles Nest, Salt River, Valley, Court Fight, Congress, U.S. House, Reagan Administration, Roger Manning, Withholding Payments, Rep. Morris K. Udall, Cost-Sharing Agreement, Colorado River Water, Southern Arizona, Tempe City Manager Jim Alexander, Karl Kohlhoff, Mesa Water Resource Manager, Karen O-Regan, Chandler Water Resource Advisor, Bill Chase
134	June 26, 1987	Water District Raises Property Tax to Legal Limit	X Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Property Tax, Maricopa, Pinal Pima, Central Arizona Project, Aqueducts, Pumping Plants, Dams, Valley, Tucson, CAP, Navajo Generating Station, Page, Bureau of Reclamation, New Waddell Dam, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Environmental Groups, Federal Lawsuit, Rep. Jay Rhoads, CAWCD, Department of Interior

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208	June 26, 1987	CAP Board OK's 3-Cent Property Tax Hike for 3 Counties	x Central Arizona Project, Raise, Property Tax, Maricopa, Pinal, Pima Counties, CAP Water, Tom Clark, Pay, Federal Government, Plan 6, Cliff Dam, Canals, Farmers, CAP Aqueduct, Colorado River Water, Tucson, Valley Farmers, Since 1973
273	June 26, 1987	PV Opposes Flood Channel OK'd by Phoenix	x Town of Paradise Valley, Reach Four, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Joan Lincoln, Flood-Control Channel, Aesthetically Pleasing, Town Council, Phoenix City Council, Arizona Canal, 12th Street to Cudia City Wash, 40th Street, Stanford Court, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Agua Fria River, Opposed, Two 12-Acre Detention Basins, Maricopa County, Congress, Bethany Home and Palo Christi Roads, Planning and Zoning Commission
207	June 28, 1987	Remainder of Cap Must be Finished	x Central Arizona Project, Orme Dam, Additional Flood Control, Water Storage, President Carter, Secretary of Interior, Cecil Andrus, CAP, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Reservation, Habitat, Desert Bald Eagle, Plan 6, Verde River, Cliff Dam, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Congressional Authorization, Washington, Approval, Funding, Sen. Carl Hayden, Barry Goldwater, John Rhodes, Eldon Rudd, Underground Water Resources, Maricopa, Pinal, Pima Counties
46	June 30, 1987	Opinion on CAP Project Called 'Moot'	x Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Congress, General Accounting Office, GAO, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Phoenix, CAP, Rep. Morris Udall, Environmentalists, Halt All Legal and Political Opposition, Enlargement of Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt River, Construction, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Department of Interior, Orme Dam, Flooded, Fort McDowell Indian Reservation, Desert Bald Eagle
104	June 30, 1987	Funds Will Improve Flood Control - County Commits \$20 Million for Bell Road	x Maricopa County, Flood Control Projects, Bell Road, Surprise to Scottsdale Road, Flood Control District, Retention Basins Flood-Control Facilities, Widen Road, Phoenix, Peoria, Glendale, Parsons, Brinkerhoff, Quade, and Douglas, Dan Sagramoso, Sun City, Grand Avenue, Outer Loop, Beardsley Road Alignment, Bell at 83rd Avenue
169	June 30, 1987	Barr, Audubon Chief Discuss Salado Development Pact	x Rio Salado Proponents, Cliff Dam, Burton Barr, Citizens for Rio Salado, Dr. Robert Witzeman, Maricopa Audubon Society, Salt River Bed, Flood Losses, Environmentalists, Salt or Verde Rivers, Maricopa County Voters, Mesa, West Valley, Rio Salado Development District, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Desert Landscaping, Accommodate Great Flows, Development, River's Fringe, Roosevelt Dam
55	July 1, 1987	Campaign to Stop Phoenix Channel Shifts to Congress	x Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Phoenix City Council, Congress, Paradise Valley, Construction, 4.2 Mile Section, 12th Street and 40th Streets, Reach 4, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Phoenix, Concrete Structure, Parklike Area, Reach One, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Buying Land, Valley, Arizona Canal, Salt River, Camelback Road, 40th Street to Skunk Creek, 75th Avenue, Bell Road, Salt River Project, Dan Sagramoso, Corps, Washington, 19th, Dunlap and Northern Avenues, 23rd Avenue, Utility Relocations, 19th and Seventh Avenues, Seventh Street, Congress, Vern Schweigert, Citizens Against Reach Four, Rostland Arizona, Inc., Arizona Biltmore Resort Hotel, Paradise valley, Biltmore, Retention-Basin, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale
184	July 1, 1987	Gila Drain Needs OK of Indians - Flood-Control Project Would Protect Housing	x South Tempe, North Chandler, Construction, Proposed Flood-Control Project, Gila Drain, Western Canal, William D. Mathews, Flood Control District of Maricopa County, Floodwater Outlet, Maricopa County, Gila River Indian Community, Bill Jolly, Water-Conservation Capabilities, Capital Improvements Program, Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, Gilbert, Salt River Water Users Association, Grover Serenbetz, Public Works, Study, April 1979, Coe and Van Loo Consulting Engineers Inc., Phoenix, Final Design, Cost-Sharing, Salt River Project, Cross I-10, Gila River, Rural Road, Curbs, Gutters, Water, South Mountain, Guadalupe Road, Warner Road, Borrow Pit, Elliott Road, Nine or 10 Bridges, Box Culverts, Knox Road, Ray Road, Superstition Freeway, Mesa Drains, Price Road, SRP
186	July 1, 1987	Public Hearing on Price Expressway Slated	x Public Hearing, East Valley, Price Expressway, Chandler, Tempe, Dames and Moore, Arizona Department of Transportation, ADOT, James L. Smith, Price Road, Superstition Freeway, Right-of-Way, Environmental Assessment, Mesa, Phoenix
192	July 1, 1987	Put Plan 6 Checks in the Mail	x Cliff Dam, Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Valley, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Environmental Groups, Salt, Verde and Agua Fria Rivers, Lawsuits, Rep. Morris K. Udall, Flood Control Potential, Alternatives, Sen. John McCain, CAP, Larry Morton, Bureau of Reclamation, Water Supply, Surplus Water, Underground Recharge, New Waddell Dam, Roosevelt Dam, Horseshoe Dam, Modifications, Levees, Channels, Salt River Greenbelt. Arizona, Federal Office of Management and Budget
192	July 1, 1987	Flood Plain Facts	x Marilyn Deprest, Salt River, Flood, 1890, Before Seven Dams, Salt-Verde Watershed, Buying Land, Banking, Resold Later, Rio Salado, Dumps, Rio Salado Development District, Voters, 100-Year Flood Plain, Illegal to Build
272	July 1, 1987	PV Really Does Want Reach 4	x Paradise Valley, Reach Four Extension, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Arizona Canal, Phoenix City Council, Joan Lincoln

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286	July 1, 1987	Plan 6 Dams	x Tracey Pappas, Six Flood Control Dams, Salt and Verde Rivers, Incorrect, SRP Dams, Water Storage Dams, 1891, Rio Salado, Bureau of Reclamation, Plan 6, Environmental Impact Statement, 1891-sized Flood, 200-year Flood, Marilyn Deprest, Voters, Beth Neiman
206	July 3, 1987	Lawmakers Push CAP Support - Proposal Offered to Put Cliff Funds in Escrow	x Cliff Dam, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Central Arizona Project, Phoenix, CAP, Environmentalists, Valley Cities, Rep. Eldon Rudd, Rep. Morris Udall, Valley Mayors, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Gov. Evan Mecham, Mesa Mayor Al Brooks, Chandler, Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell, Scottsdale, Glendale, Salt River Project, Maricopa County, Colorado River, Tucson, Plan 6, Verde River, Roosevelt Dam, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Congress, Maricopa County, Orme Dam, Bald Eagles, Indians, Objected, Fort McDowell Reservation
285	July 3, 1987	Mailbag - Misguided Advice (Also, see article no. 199)	x Sonoran Desert, Verde River, Mayor Goddard, Bureau of Reclamation, Phoenix, Cliff Dam, County Flood Control, CAP, SRP, Salt-Verde, New Roosevelt Dams, Tony Anthony
285	July 3, 1987	Mailbag - Language Problem (Also, see article no. 214)	x Rio Salado District, Flood-Prone, 1891, 200-Year Flood, Plan 6, Floodplain, Wording, Legislation, Riverbed, Upstream Dams, Financial Burden, FEMA, Corps, 50-Year Occupancy, 100-Year Floodplain Frontage, Salt River, Taxpayer Funded, Charles Babbitt, Maricopa Audubon Society
228	July 4, 1987	Hance Group Backing Rio Salado Tax	x Mayor Margaret Hance, Tax Increase, Rio Salado Project, Sen. Barry Goldwater, Rep. John Rhoades, Govs. Paul Fannin, Bruce Babbitt, Raul Castro, Unsightly Salt River, Park, Economic Growth, Valley, Maricopa County Voters
44	July 6, 1987	CAP Canals May be Useful in Future	x Central Arizona Project, Phoenix, Boat Canals, Little Venice
45	July 6, 1987	Scottsdale Delays CAP Payment After Dam is Cut	x Scottsdale, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Cliff Dam, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt River, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria, Lake Pleasant, Verde, Department of Interior, Phoenix, Glendale, Tempe, Mesa, Chandler, CAP, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Valley Bridges
75	July 7, 1987	Critic Picked for Board of Rio Salado	x Gov. Evan Mecham, Arizona Rock Products Association, Rio Salado Project, Salt River, Former Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Sand-and Gravel Industry, Phoenix Redi-Mix Co., Maricopa County Voters
185	July 8, 1987	100-Foot Roadblock Divides Cities Over Price Expressway Alignment	x Tempe, Chandler, 6.5 Mile, Price Road Expressway, Chandler City Council, Alignment B-3, Tempe City Council B-2, Calle del Norte, Warner Road, Eric Keen, Dames and Moore, Study, Arizona Department of Transportation, ADOT, James L. Smith, Superstition Freeway, Santan Freeway, Tempe-Chandler Boarder, Guadalupe, Elliott, Warner, Ray Roads, Chandler Boulevard, Western Canal, Baseline, Conference Drive
227	July 8, 1987	Mecham to Name Sand-Gravel Man to Rio Salado Post	x Gov. Evan Mecham, Sand-and-Gravel Industry, Salt River Bottom, Rio Salado Board of Directors, Phil Gagle, Arizona Rock Products Association, Mesa United Way, Milt Lee, Sam Udall, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax Assessment, 17-Miles of Barren Salt River Bed, Verdant Ribbon, Development, Recreation, Rio Salado Development District, Aaron Kizer, Ed Belt, Phoenix Redi-Mix Corp., Ron Bellus, Jim Ratliff, Sun City, Opposes
74	July 9, 1987	Rio Salado - Neutralizing The Opposition	x Maricopa County Voters, Rio Salado Project, 17 Miles, Dry and Ugly Bed, Salt River, Oasis, Development, Recreational, Arizona Public Service, Co., Phoenix 40, Rio Salado Development District, Cliff Dam, Demise, Sand and Gravel Companies, Arizona Rock Products Association, Riverbed Development, ARPA, Rio Salado's Master Plan, Gov. Evan Mecham
127	July 9, 1987	One Factual Error	x Cliff Dam, Crumbles, Central Arizona Project, Arizona GOP, Water Policy, Morris K. Udall
284	July 9, 1987	Rock Group Executive on Rio Salado Board	x Gov. Evan Mecham, Rio Salado Development District, Salt River, Phil Gagle, ARPA, Sam Stieger, Milt Lee, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Ed Belt, Phoenix Redi-Mix Co., 17-Mile Stretch, Mesa, Phoenix, Maricopa County Voters
26	July 10, 1987	State Denies Request for Salt-Cedar Control	x Herbicides, Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture, Salt-Cedar, Gila Bend Natural Resource Conservation District, Noxious Weeds, Profusion of Trees, Rivers and Waterways, Gulps Water, Cracks Concrete Ditches, Crowds Vegetation, Tamarisk, Environmentalists, Protest, Shelter for Birds, and Wildlife, Beekeepers, Nectar Source
84	July 10, 1987	Panel's Offer May Trim Rio Salado Opposition	x Rio Salado Project, Opposition, Rio Salado Development District, Parks, Recreation Areas, Sand-and-Gravel Companies, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Condemning, Land, Selling Private Developers, Arizona Rock Products Association, 14 Miles, Gov. Evan Mecham
167	July 10, 1987	Plan Would Raise \$472 Million	x Rio Salado Development District, Tax Plan, Proposed Development, Rio Salado Parks, Replace, Land Banking, John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Aaron Kizer

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
168	July 10, 1987	Mecham Rips Rio Salado Tax Proposal	X Gov. Evan Mecham, Rio Salado Proposal, Tax Scam, Confiscate Land, Own Profit, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County, Salt River Land, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Residential Development, John DeWitt, Rio Salado Campaign, No Confiscation, Phil Gagle, Arizona Rock Products Association, Sand-and-Gravel Industry, Taxpayer Dollars, Former Gov. Jack Williams, Rep. Burton Barr
226	July 11, 1987	Mecham Says Rio Salado Tax is 'Scam'	X Rio Salado Development District, 17-Mile Greenbelt, Salt River, Rio Salado Parks, Gov. Evan Mecham, Buy, Land Banking, Sell, John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Aaron Kizer, Property Owner, Tax
258	July 13, 1987	Cliff is No Loss	X Cliff Dam, Valley Cities, Valley Mayors, CAP Aqueduct, Arizona, Baja Arizona, Arizona Water Commission, Phase II, State Water Plan, Maricopa County, Verde River
166	July 14, 1987	Salado Benefits Praised by Barr	X Rio Salado Development, Burton Barr, Citizens for Rio Salado, Gov. Evan Mecham, Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash, Recreational Oasis, Maricopa County Voters, Salt River Bed, Mesa, West Valley, Hazardous Wastes
205	July 18, 1987	Gephardt Supports CAP, Western Water Projects	X Richard Gephardt, Central Arizona Project, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Water Projects
225	July 19, 1987	Rio Salado Project Called Scheme, Asset - Benefits Weighed at Breakfast Debate	X Democrats, Mesa, Rio Salado Project, Salt River, Scott Burge, Hazardous Waster Specialist, Maricopa County, Bryan Schnell, East Valley Democratic Breakfast Club, Salt River Bed, 17-Mile Stretch, Parks, Bike Paths, Jogging Trails, Landscaping, Development, Flood Plain, Phoenix, Property Tax, 25 Years, Rio Salado Development District
252	July 20, 1987	City May Continue Plan 6 Payments	X Scottsdale, Plan 6, Cliff Dam, Leonard Dueker, Department of Interior, Valley, Congress, Flood-Control, Water-Storage, Salt, Verde and Agua Fria Rivers, City Council, Horseshoe Lake, Environmental Group, Protest, Congress, Bill Farrell
165	July 22, 1987	Jumping to Conclusions	X Dennis Wagner, Rio Salado Development District, Deputy Director Dennis Davis, Cliff Dam, Rio Salado
251	July 22, 1987	City Oks Continuing Plan 6 Contributions	X Scottsdale, Plan 6, Cliff Dam, Councilman Myron Deibel, Valley Cities, Verde River, Horseshoe Lake, Salt, Verde and Agua Fria Rivers, Payment Due, Bill Farrell, Hold Payment, Interior Department, Congress
126	July 23, 1987	Valley Cities to Resume Payments Toward Dam Construction	X Valley Cities, Central Arizona Project, Cliff Dam, George Britton, Phoenix Water and Energy Resources Manager, Tempe, Mesa, Chandler, Scottsdale, Glendale, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Plan 6, Verde River, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt, U.S. Department of Interior, Phoenix City Council, Quarterly Payment, Gov. Evan Mecham, Congress, Alternatives, Water Supply, U.S. Senate, Alan Kleinman, Arizona Department of Water Resources, President Reagan, CAP, Colorado River Water, Since 1985
43	July 24, 1987	Valley Cities to Continue Funding CAP After Refund Vow is Made	X Central Arizona Project, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Phoenix, Chandler, Tempe, Mesa, Scottsdale, Glendale, U.S. Department of Interior, Cliff Dam, Verde River, CAP, Plan 6, Colorado River Water, Gov. Evan Mecham, Arizona
194	July 25, 1987	Four Valley Cities to Resume Their CAP Payments	X Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Central Arizona Project, Cliff dam, Verde River, Valley, Plan 6, Roosevelt Dam, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, CAP, Tucson, Congressional Delegation, Environmentalists, Secretary Donald Hodel
253	July 25, 1987	Scottsdale Advised to Hold Plan 6 Payment for July	X Scottsdale, Payment, Suspended, Cliff Dam, Leonard Dueker, City Council, Plan 6, Salt, Verde and Agua Fria Rivers, Horseshoe Lake, Arizona Congressional Delegation, Block Implementation, Destruction of Wildlife, Rep. Jon Kyle, Alternative Water Supplies, Reallocations, Central Arizona Project, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams, Salt River, Construction, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant, CAP, Office of Management and Budget, President Reagan
283	July 28, 1987	Rio Salado Pact May Eliminate Organized Opposition to Project	X Rio Salado Project, Critics, Opposition, Property Tax, Environmentalists, Salt River, Existing 100-year Flood Plain, Heavy Flooding, Reap Profits, Condemnation, Negotiations, Maricopa County Voters, 17-Mile Stretch, Homes, Businesses, Industry, Sand-and gravel Companies, Flood-plain Agreement, No Building, 100-Year, 50-Year, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Maricopa Audubon Society, Damaged by Flooding, Dam, Verde River, Desert Nesting Bald Eagles, Bob Witzeman
82	July 29, 1987	Rio Salado Backers, Key Foes Reach Accord	X Rio Salado Project, Salt River, 100-Year Flood Plain, Maricopa County Voters, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Environmentalists, Sand-and-Gravel Companies, Buildings, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Maricopa Audubon Society, Build Dam, Verde River, Wild River, Desert-Nesting Bald Eagles, Roosevelt Dam, Arizona Rock Products Association, Rio Salado Development District, Reap, Resale, Condemned Land, Developers, Valley Cities, Rio Salado Tax
83	July 29, 1987	Rio Salado Vision	X Germany, Trip, Rio Salado
132	July 29, 1987	Slick Marketing in Tucson	X Tucsonans, CAP

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133	July 29, 1987	CAP Hits New Hurdle	X Central Arizona Project, Cliff Dam, General Accounting Office, Interior Department, Plan 6, GAO, CAP, New Waddell Dam, Stewart Mountain and Theodore Roosevelt Dams, Orme Dam, Congress, Indian Concerns, Comptroller General, Milton Socolar, Department of Interior, Arizona's Congressional Delegation, Environmental Foes, Energy and Water Appropriations Bill, Modifications, Colorado River Basin Project Act, Sen. John McCain, Bill Wheeler, Central Arizona Project Association, Salt River Project
164	July 29, 1987	Spat Erupts on Rio Salado Vote Language	X Jim Ratliff, Rio Salado Project, Project Rewritten, 'Little More than Propaganda in Favor of Tax Referendum', Board of Supervisors, Rio Salado Development District, Fred Koory, Aaron Kizer, Maricopa County, Election, District Master Plan, Development, River Courses, Roads, Bridges, Regional parks, Lakes, Recreational Facilities, Flood Control, Environmental Design, Economic Benefits, County, State, Unprecedented, Arizona
282	July 29, 1987	House Leader Attacks Rio Salado Wording	X Wording, Ballot, Rio Salado, Propaganda, Arizona House Majority Leader, Jim Ratliff, Fred Koory, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Tax Referendum, Development, Roads, Bridges, Regional parks, Lakes, Outdoor Facilities, Flood Control, Environmental Design, Economic Benefits, Property Tax Rate
80	July 30, 1987	Proposed Rio Salado Ballot Wording Challenged	X Jim Ratliff, Opponent, Rio Salado Project, Fred Koory, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Elections Director, James, A. Riggs, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County Voters, Proposed Tax Increase, 17-Mile Stretch, Dry Salt River Bed, Citizens for Rio Salado, Flood Control Problems, Riverbeds, District Master Plan, River Courses, Development, Roads, Bridges, Regional Parks, Lakes, Outdoor Recreational Facilities, Environmental Design Benefits, Secondary Property Tax
81	July 30, 1987	Compromise - Milestone for Rio Salado	X Rio Salado Project, Special Election, Opposition, Environmentalists, Dangers of Flooding, Development, Land, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa Audubon Society, Salt River, 100-Year Floodplain, Cliff Dam, 13 Sand-and-Gravel Companies, Arizona Rock Products Association
163	July 30, 1987	Backer of Rio Salado Plan Irked by Ratliff's Criticism of Wording	X Jim Ratliff, Rio Salado, Rio Salado Development District, Dennis Mitchem, Arthur Andersen and Co., Lies, Half-Truths, Distortions, Opposition, 'A Cheap Shot', Fred Koory, Board of Supervisors
162	July 31, 1987	Board Orders Up New Language for Rio Election	X Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Rio Salado Referendum, Rio Salado Development District, Salt River, Fred Koory, Jim Ratliff, Rio Salado District Board, Supervisor Ed Pastor, Supervisor George Campbell, Jim Riggs, Tom Freestone, Citizens for Rio Salado, Dennis Mitchem
79	August 1, 1987	Language of Rio Salado Ballot Voided	X Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Rio Salado, Countywide Property Tax and Bonds, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Chairman Fred Koory, Rio Salado Development District, Jim Ratliff, Opponent, Citizens for Rio Salado
158	August 1, 1987	Lawmaker Says Residents Misled	X Rio Salado Development District, Citizens for Rio Salado, South Phoenix, Sun City Taxpayers Association, Salt River Floodplain, Condemn Property, John DeWitt, 17 Miles, Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, Private Money
250	August 1, 1987	Storm Halts Traffic, Cuts Power - Some Areas Receive Two Inches of Rain	X Storm, Two Inches of Rain, Scottsdale, Storm Winds, Heavy Rains, National Weather Service, Wind Gusts, 57 mph, Rural/Metro Fire Department, Lightning Strikes, Fire, Floodwaters, Indian Bend Wash, Roosevelt Street, Sgt. Frank Hylton, Scottsdale Police Department, 68th Street and Thomas Road, Pima Road and McDonald Drive, Heaviest Flooding, Scottsdale and McCormick Ranch, Salt River Project, Civic Center Plaza, Osborn Road, Indian Bend Road, Hayden McKellips, McDowell, SRP, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Fountain Hills, East Phoenix, Wayne Kaplan, Arizona Public Service Co., Paradise Valley, APS
214	August 1, 1987	Rio Salado's Tricks (Also, see article no. 285)	X Rio Salado District, Flood-Prone, 1891, 200-Year Flood, Plan 6, Floodplain, Wording, Legislation, Riverbed, Upstream Dams, Financial Burden, FEMA, Corps, 50-Year Occupancy, 100-Year Floodplain Frontage, Salt River, Taxpayer Funded, Charles Babbitt, Maricopa Audubon Society
222	August 2, 1987	Valley Pride, Escalating Land Values Make if a Bargain	X Dennis Mitchem, Arthur Andersen and Co., Phoenix 40, Valley, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Vote, Rio Salado, Central Park, New York, Golden gate Park, San Francisco, Emerald Necklace, Cleveland, Metroparks System, River Walk, San Antonio, Balboa Park, San Diego, Contributions, Property Owners, Construction, Maintenance, Operation, Park System, Recreational Facilities, Property Tax, Rio Salado Master Plan, Toxic Waste Dumps
222	August 2, 1987	Private Sector is the Best Tool for Developing Salt River Bed	X Scott Burge, Tempe, Tempe Rio Salado Advisory Commission, Land Development, Rio Salado, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Property Taxes, Rio Salado District, Rio Salado Project, Salt River, Tempe, Removing, Toxic Landfills, Riverbed, Cleanup, Sun City, Glendale, Scottsdale, Chandler

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223	August 2, 1987	Rio Salado - Development Realities Test Park Dream	X Salt River, Phoenix, Barren Waste, Lush Oasis, Maricopa County Voters, Gila Bend, Rio Salado Development District, Rio Salado Park System, Aaron Kinzer, 17-Mile Long Park, Bob Witzman, Maricopa Audubon Society, Country Club Drive, Mesa, 43rd Avenue, 1966, Arizona State University, Indian Bend Wash, Scottsdale, Roosevelt Dam, Lakes, Waterways, Mecca, Rio Salado Master Plan, Carr-Lynch Associates, Environmental Design Firm, Elliott Pollack, Valley National Bank, Mesa Mayor Al Brooks, Mayor Jerry Brooks, Chandler, '30's, Cottonwood Trees, River Bed, Greenery, Barren Rocks, Weeds, Litter, Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell, Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport
223	August 2, 1987	Editorials - Riverbed Imbrogio	X Riverbed, Land Titles, Ownership Red Tape, Riverbed Land, State Land Department, Salt, Verde, Gila Rivers, State Right, Arizona Rivers, Except Colorado, Lawsuit, Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, Protection, Wildlife, Wildlife Habitat, Recreational, Navigational Values, Rio Salado Project, Voters, Public Tax
224	August 2, 1987	Change in Law Won't Cut Costs for Rio Salado	X Constitutional Challenge, Law, Arizona Rivers, Rio Salado Projects, John DeWitt, Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, Maricopa County Superior Court, Rep. Bob Denny, Gov. Evan Mecham, Relinquishes, Riverbeds, Except Colorado, Salt, Verde, Gila River Beds, David Baron, 17-Mile Park System, Rio Salado Master Plan, Rio Salado Development District, Navigable Rivers, Boundaries, 1912, Water to Float a Boat, Judge Ruth Hillard, Preliminary Injunction, Richard Oxford, Land Department, Valley Concrete and Materials Co. of Cottonwood
78	August 3, 1987	No Gain for Public - Editor	X Rio Salado Project, Voters, Salt River, Bureaucrats
103	August 3, 1987	Riverbed Law May Flood Courts - Titles to 80,000 Acres in Doubt	X Arizona, Dry Streams, Meandering, Flood of Litigation, Verde, Gila and Salt, Environmentalists, Gov. Evan Mecham, Purchase Quitclaim Deeds, Riverbeds, 1985 Lawsuit, Verde Valley, Sand-and-Gravel Company, Streams, Navigable, Statehood, 1912, Arizona Center for Law, State Land Department, Property Ownership, Farmers, Ranchers, Arizona Rock Products Association
204	August 7, 1987	Butler Valley Loses Appeal as Storage Site for CAP Water	X Butler Valley, Western Arizona, Underground Storage, Colorado River Water, Larry Dozier, Central Arizona Project, Permits, CAP, Sam Goddard, George Barr, Feasibility Study, Enterprises of Norman, Okla., Darrell Krull, Hard Ground Material, New Waddell Dam, Agua Fria River, Lake Pleasant, Turn Sour, Summer Heat, Water Intakes, Southern California, Blue-Green Algae, Taste and Odor Problems, Greg Crossman, Bureau of Reclamation
249	August 7, 1987	Scottsdale Joins Mesa Groundwater Recharge Project	X Scottsdale, Valley Cities, Salt River Bed, East Mesa, Salt River Project, Floyd March, Groundwater Recharging, Gary Small, SRP, Geohydrology, Pump, Granite Reef Storage and Recovery Project, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, Susanne Tso, Salt River Bed, Greenfield and Gilbert Roads, Surplus, and Verde River Water, Central Arizona Project, Earthen Dikes, River Bed, Water Flow, Seep, Recharging Project, Cliff Dam, Pima and Bell Roads, Tournament Players Club, Scottsdale Desert Course
77	August 8, 1987	Ratliff, Backers of Rio Salado Agree on Ballot	X Rio Salado Project, Maricopa County Elections Department, County Board of Supervisors, Salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Public Parks, Waterways, Private Development, Citizens for Rio Salado, Rewrite Ballot Language, Rio Salado Development District
221	August 9, 1987	Supervisors Hope to Settle Rio Salado Ballot Dispute	X Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Dispute, Ballot Language, Rio Salado Project, Tax Increase, Jim Ratliff, Agreement, Maricopa County Elections Department, Countywide Property Tax, 17-Mile Stretch, salt River, Metropolitan Phoenix, Public Parks, Waterways, Private Development
160	August 10, 1987	Group Supports Project - Rio Salado Phoenix 40 Join	X Rio Salado Referendum, Phoenix 40, Rio Salado Development District, Richard Snell, Ramada Inc., John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Maricopa County Voters, Beautify, 17-Miles, Salt River Bottom, Tax, Arizona Rock Products Association
161	August 11, 1987	Supervisors Add Explanations to Original Rio Salado Ballot Text	X Rio Salado, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Elections Director Jim Riggs, Jim Ratliff, Develop, 17-Mile Stretch, Dry Salt River Bed, Mesa, Phoenix, Supervisor Ed Pastor
73	August 12, 1987	100 Join Rio Salado Committee - Valley Leaders Vow to Help Run Project	X Valley Residents, Rio Salado Project, Citizens for Rio Salado, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax, 17-Miles of Artificially Dry Salt River Bed, Parks, Recreation Facilities, Residential, Industrial, Developments, Phoenix 40, City Mayors
216	August 12, 1987	Leaders Say Audubon Agreement With Rio Salado Backers is Dying	X Rio Salado Backers, Maricopa Audubon Society, Environmental Opposition, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County Voters, Taxed, Rio Salado Project, 100-Year Flood Level, 200-Year Flood Level, Roosevelt Dam, Salt River, Aaron Kizer, Bob Witzman, Taxpayer Expense, New Dam Projects, Scott Burge, Park Land, Golf Courses

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217	August 12, 1987	Rio Salado Supporters Plan to Raise \$650,000	X East Valley, Rio Salado Development Campaign, Maricopa County Voters, Rio Salado Project, Bryan Schnell, Eddie Basha, Milt Lee, Polluted, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Public Recreation Areas, Phoenix 40
71	August 13, 1987	Nature Group May Oppose Rio Salado Tax	X Maricopa Audubon Society, Rio Salado Project, Buildings, Salt River, Maricopa County Voters, 17-Mile Stretch of Salt River, Rio Salado Development District, Existing 100-Year Flood Plain, Verde River, Bald Eagles, Roosevelt Dam, Floodwaters
72	August 13, 1987	Real Benefits for Public in Rio Salado	X Rio Salado, Cost, Parklands, Public Facilities, Rio Salado Development District, Construction, Benefits, Taxpayers of Maricopa County, Salt River, Maricopa County, Clean-up, Toxic Wastes, Stabilized Riverbed
125	August 13, 1987	Demise of Cliff Dam Lowers Rio Salado Price Tag	X Rio Salado Project, Cliff Dam, Demise, Rio Salado Development District, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River, Country Club Drive, Mesa, 35th Avenue, Phoenix, Flood Control Structures, Salt and Verde Rivers, Plan 6, Central Arizona Project, Congress, Settlement, Environmentalists, Sued, Dennis Davis, More Flood Plain Land, Localized Channeling, River Bottom Features
281	August 13, 1987	Rio Salado Accord Stalls Over Flood Plain Dispute	X Negotiations, Rio Salado, Agreement, Opposition, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County Voters, Salt River, Maricopa Audubon Society, Arizona Rock Products Association, Rio Salado Project, Sand-and gravel, Reap Profits, 100-Year Flood Plain, Scott Burge
218	August 14, 1987	Title Objection	X Rio Salado, Dumb Development
218	August 14, 1987	Flood Vote	X Salt River, Dangerous Floods, Planning and Zoning, Salt, County Voters, Rio Salado Development Tax
218	August 14, 1987	Private Welfare	X Rio Salado Project, Property Tax
218	August 14, 1987	Salty Thinking	X Rio Salado Scheme, Taxpayer, Voting, Salt River, Palo Verde
219	August 14, 1987	Revised Rio Salado Plan Trims Project's Price	X Rio Salado Officials, Salt River, Parks Project, Cliff Dam's Demise, Dennis Davis, Rio Salado Development District, Mesa, Country Club Drive, Higley Road, Mesa City Council, Environmentalists, Maricopa County Voters, Phoenix 40 Business, Verde River, Maricopa Audubon Society, Bob Witzman, Flood Protection, Dan Sagramoso, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Verde River Dam, Federal Government, 100-Year Flood Level, Roosevelt Dam
220	August 14, 1987	Rio Salado Agreement With Sand, Gravel Companies	X Rock Companies, Rio Salado Project, Salt River, Sand and Gravel Company Operators, Rio Salado Development District, Aaron Kizer, Phoenix 40, Protect, Condemnation, Pact, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Maricopa County, Bill Hicks, Snell and Wilmer, Robert Robb, Rio Salado Development District, ARPA, Phil Gagle, Bill Ream, Environmental Groups, Maricopa Audubon Society, Bob Witzman, 100-Year Flood Level, 200-Year Flood Level, Roosevelt Dam, Verde River
159	August 17, 1987	Panel of 100 to Aid Rio Salado Campaign	X Citizens for Rio Salado, John DeWitt, Rio Salado Project, Salt River Bed, Parks, Recreation, Commercial, Residential, Industrial, Tax Election, A List of Representatives for the Following Cities: Apache Junction, Chandler, Gilbert, Glendale, Goodyear, Avondale, Litchfield Park, Mesa, Paradise Valley, Peoria, Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Sun City, Sun City West
280	August 20, 1987	Critics Charge Rio Salado Jobs-for-votes Scam	X Rio Salado Development District, Misdemeanor, Approval, Guarantee, South Phoenix, Rio Salado Project, Ken Van Doren, Maricopa County Libertarian Party, 17-Mile Long Par, Salt River, Creation, Jobs, Survey, John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Tax Dollars, Development, River Bed, Roseann Hughes, valley, Spanish, English, Alfredo Gutierrez, Concerned Citizens Against Rio Salado
215	August 22, 1987	Editorials - Backing Rio Salado	X Rio Salado Backers, Salt River Bottom, Phoenix 40, Citizens for Rio Salado, Property Tax Hikes, Dennis Mitchem, Ugly, Dry Wash, Rock and Gravel, Valley, Roads, Traffic, Pools of Dirty Backwater, Arizona
276	August 22, 1987	Limits on Development Please Rio Salado Foes	X Rio Salado Project, Sand and Gravel Quarry Operators, Maricopa Audubon Society, salt River 200-Year Floodplain, Metropolitan Phoenix, 100-Year Floodplain, Robert Robb, Arizona Rock Products Association, Rio Salado Development District Board, Maricopa County Voters, Herb Fidel, Scott Burge, Bald Eagles, Verde River, Bob Witzeman, Public Parks, Recreation Areas, Tax and Bonds, Flood Control
70	August 24, 1987	Forum Will Focus on Rio Salado Project	X Rio Salado, Public Forum, Valley Leadership Alumni Association, Rio Salado Project
248	August 24, 1987	Campbell Comes Out Last in Supervisor Popularity	X Maricopa County Residents, Scottsdale, George Campbell, Board of Supervisors, Behavioral Research Center, Valley, Sun City, Carol Carpenter, Building Products Co., Tom Freestone, Fred Koory, Ed Pastor
66	August 29, 1987	Rio Salado Backers 'Need Therapy'	X Rio Salado Project, Nucleas Club
67	August 29, 1987	Legislature - Remove Rio Salado Obstacle	X Gov. Evan Mecham, Arizona Legislature, Maricopa County, Rio Salado Project, Ugly Bed, Salt River, Development, San-and Gravel Companies, Rio Salado's Master Plan, Condemnation, Rio Salado Development District, Arizona Rock Products Association, ARPA

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68	August 29, 1987	Phoenix 40 Reverses Stance on Rio Salado - Backs Tax Boost, Will Help Finance Election Campaign	X Phoenix 40, Rio Salado Project, Phoenix Business, Rio Salado Development District, Salt River Bed, 17-Mile-Long Public Recreation Area, Citizens for Rio Salado, Maricopa County, Countywide Vote, Opponents of Tax Hike, Arizona Public Service Co., Salt River Project
69	August 29, 1987	Backers Defiant as Rio Salado Deal Unravels	X Rio Salado Development District., Rio Salado Development District, More Parkland, Demise of Dam, Sand-and-Gravel Operators, Reap Profits, Arizona Rock Products Association, Maricopa Audubon Society, Building, Flood Plain, Renewed Efforts, Dam, Verde River, Desert-Nesting Bald Eagles, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax, Salt River Bottom, Cliff Dam, East of Phoenix, Central Arizona Project, CAP, Land Downstream, Prone to Flooding
66	September 1, 1987	Two-Fisted Picket	X Rio Salado Project, Central Avenue, Property-Tax Vote, Maricopa County
154	September 1, 1987	Protest Photo	X Opposing, Rio Salado Project, Pickets
155	September 1, 1987	Rio Salado Opponents Facing and Uphill Fight	X Rio Salado Project Voters, Maricopa County Elections Department, Barry Goldwater, Sen. John McCain, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Mayor Terry Goddard, Property Tax, 17 Miles of Salt River, List of Supporters, List of Opponents
156	September 1, 1987	Rio Salado - For - Against	X Rio Salado Project, Maricopa County, Mayor Terry Goddard, Former Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Sen. John McCain, Barry Goldwater
279	September 10, 1987	Chamber Puts Rio Salado on Hold	X Toxic Wastes, Water Conservation, Inadequate Representation, Rio Salado Project, Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce, Visionary Plan, Salt River Channel, Maricopa County Voters, Arizona State University Architect Students, 1960s, Transform Riverbed, Commercial Development, Cliff Dam, Verde River, County Property Tax, Scottsdale, Cleanup, Rio Salado Development District, Maricopa County, Actual Cost, Bob Solem, John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado, Dennis Mitchem, Aaron Kizer, Dennis Davis
65	September 17, 1987	Rio Salado Backers Lack Funds - Supporters Seeking \$300,000 for Effort	X Rio Salado Project, Smith and Haroff Public-Relations Firm, Citizens for Rio Salado, Citizens Against Rio Salado, Lack of Financial Contributions, Maricopa County Voters, 17-Miles, Salt River, Phoenix, Public-Recreation Area, Tempe, Mesa, Rio Salado Development District, Master Plan, Removal. 60 Landfills, Phoenix 40
65	September 17, 1987	Chamber to Sponsor Forum on Rio Salado	X Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce, Rio Salado Project, 17-Mile Stretch, Salt River Channel, Maricopa County
278	September 18, 1987	Backers Say Rio Salado Would Increase Tourism	X Growth, Valley, Recreational Resources, Rio Salado Project, Salt River Bed, Blighted River Channel, Grand Canyon, Aaron Kizer, Rio Salado Development District, Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce Forum, Toxic Waste Dumps, \$3 Billion Boondoggle, Washed Away, Frequent Floods, Concerned Citizens Against Rio Salado, Feasibility, Maricopa County Voters, Property Tax, Cleanup, Development, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Dennis Davis, Bob Huber, Engineering Studies, Cliff Dam, Verde River, Volumes, Water, Passing, Roosevelt, Bartlett and Horseshoe Dams, Kurt Brueckner, 19th Avenue Landfill, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Toxic Wastes at 63 Sites, Salt River, Scottsdale, Indian Bend Wash Project, Flood Control, Palo Verde Nuclear Power Plant
247	September 26, 1987	Rio Verde Road Extension Studied	X Valley, Beeline Highway, Rio Verde Drive, Tonto National Forest, JHK and Associates, Scottsdale, Rio Verde, Tempe, Maricopa County Highway Department, Shea Boulevard, Joyce Hassell, Fort McDowell Road, Bartlett Reservoir, Utery Pass Road, Higley Road, Eastern Valley, Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Environmental Studies
247	September 26, 1987	Palo Verde Allows Reduced Fuel Costs	X Arizona Public Service, Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, William Post, APS
275	September 28, 1987	Rio Salado Supporter Accuses Media of 'Inaccurate' Stories	X Citizens for Rio Salado, Rio Salado Development, Bryan Schnell, Inaccurate Reporting, Information, Wrong, No Correction, Water Issues, Toxic Landfills, Relocation, Flood Control, No Rio Salado Opponents, Salt River Bed, 17-Mile Greenbelt, Bill Greenslades, Dames and Moore, Rio Salado Development District
153	September 29, 1987	Ratliff Group Joins Foes of Rio Salado - Proponents Say Plan in Danger	X Jim Ratliff, Foe Rio Salado, Committee for the Project but Against Taxation, Maricopa County Voters, Salt River Bed, Mesa, Phoenix, Arizona Rock Products Association, Rio Salado Development District
275	September 29, 1987	Group to Fight Rio Salado	X New Group, Oppose, Maricopa County, Rio Salado Project, Jim Ratliff, Committee for the Project but Against the Taxation, Salt River Bed, Taxpayer Money, Property Taxes
152	September 30, 1987	Vote Scheduled on Rio Salado Taxing Authority	X Phoenix City Council, Rio Salado Project, Countywide Vote, Mayor Terry Goddard, Councilman Bill Parks
64	October 1, 1987	Scottsdale Group Withholds Blessing on Rio Salado Plan	X Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce, Rio Salado Reclamation Project, Vote, 26 Miles of Shoreline, Salt River Bed, Scottsdale, Pro-Project Citizens for Rio Salado, Flood Control, Dam, Verde River, Mesa, Property Tax, Cleanup of Toxic Wastes and Dumps, Water Conservation, Eminent Domain, Stream-bed Ownership Problems, Indian Bend Wash, Representation, Cliff Dam

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271	October 6, 1987	SRP Canals Set for Repair	X Salt River Project, SRP canals, Salt River, Greenfield to Higley Roads, South Canal from 7th to 16th Streets, Western Canal, Maricopa County Highway Department, Eastern and Consolidated Canals, Widen Bridge, 40th Street, Lateral Headgates, State Department of Transportation, Grand Canal
27	October 8, 1987	El Mirage Dump Sued by Arizona - Public Health is Threatened Officials Say; Charges Denied	X El Mirage Industrial Landfill, Illegally Operates, Threatens Public Health, Debris, Downstream, Grand Avenue, Agua Fria River, Flooding, Suit, Washout, Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976, Disposal of Solid Waste, Refuse Research Corp. of Arizona, Mucho Dinero Inc. of Nevada, MRC Land and Development Co. of Arizona, Riprap Installed, Prevent Erosion, U.S. Clean Water Act, Discharged Rocks, Dirt, Sand and other Pollutants, Federal Permit, El Mirage City Council, Closure of Landfill
27	October 8, 1987	River-Land Law Signed by Mecham - Aimed at Settling Issue of Ownership	X Gov. Evan Mecham, State's Riverbeds, Claim Ownership, land along "Navigable" Rivers, Salt River, Pay Taxes on Properties, Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest, Colorado, Verde and Gila Rivers, Verde, Sand and Gravel Operators, Rio Salado Development
151	October 8, 1987	Rio Salado Called Crucial, Backed by Council, Mayor	X Councilman Bill Parks, Phoenix City Council, Rio Salado Development District, Tax Property Owners, Phoenix, Mayor Terry Goddard, Clean-up, Salt River Bed, 28-Mile Park, Councilman Ed Korrick, Toxic Wastes, Dumped, Maricopa County Voters
150	October 13, 1987	Rio Salado Deal Won't End Support	X Phoenix 40, Rio Salado Project, Richard Snell, Ramada Corp., Rio Salado Development District, Arizona Rock Products Association, Dennis Mitchem, Arthur Andersen and Co., Citizens for Rio Salado, Maricopa County Voters, 28 Miles, Salt River, Mesa, Phoenix, Condemn Land, Sand-and-Gravel Operators
149	October 19, 1987	Rio Salado - Hike Suggests Importance of Clean-up	X Superstition Mountains, Salt River, Mesa, South Phoenix, Rio Salado Project, Country Club Drive, Sand, Rocks, Weeds, Mesa, Garbage, Floodplain, Gravel Quarries, Dump, Sand-and-Gravel Companies, Alma School Road, No Vegetation, River Rocks, Gravel Pits, Cement Dump, Salt River Indian Reservation, Dobson Road, Slimy Pools, Tires, Oil Cans, Black Crude, Hayden Road, Sky Harbor, Arizona State University, Mill Avenue, Phoenix, Tempe, Street Sewers, Hobo Hangout, Stagnant Pond, Riverbed, Hohokam Expressway, Maricopa Freeway Bridge, Gray Herons, Wildlife, Scuzzy Brook, Seventh Street, Pervasive Stench, Marshy, Sewer Stream, Snot-Green Water, Central Avenue, Fish Corpses, Seventh Avenue, 19th Avenue, Serpentine Cesspool
277	October 19, 1987	Mailbag - Fight Rio Salado	X Libertarian Party, Rio Salado Development, John DeWitt
277	October 19, 1987	Mailbag - Vote No on Rio Salado	X Rio Salado Development Project, Sky Harbor Airport, Salt River, High Tide Flooding, February 1941, 1978, 1979
263	October 24, 1987	CAP Cost-Sharing Plan Signed Over Objection	X Central Arizona Project, Plan 6, Gov. Evan Mecham, Rose Mofford, James Ziglar, Rep. Jon Kyl and Jay Rhodes, Cliff Dam, CAP, Colorado River Water, Central Arizona, Tucson, Gov. Bruce Babbitt, Funds, Escrow, Cost-Sharing Plan, National Wildlife Federation, National Audubon Society, Congress, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Bill, Phoenix, Bill Chase
28	October 30, 1987	Storms Wallop Valley with Winds, Hail, Blackouts, Chaotic Rush Hour	X Scottsdale Road, McCormick parkway, Arizona Public Service, Thunderstorms, 80-mph Gusts, Blinding Rain, Half-Inch Hail, valley, Buckeye, Toppling Mobil Homes, Downed Powerlines, 56th Street, Shea Boulevard, Pima and Indian Bend Roads, Flagstaff, Prescott, Peoria, 75th and Orangewood, Tonopah, Interstate 10, 339th and 350th Avenues, House Fell, 359th Avenue South of McDowell Road, Glendale, North-Central Phoenix, Scottsdale, Cave Creek, Carefree, Eastern Maricopa County, Golf-Ball-Size Hail, 51st and Olive Avenues, Pea-Size, Winds as High as 47 mph, Sky Harbor International Airport, 86 mph, Glendale Airport, Funnel-Cloud Sightings, 1.18 Inches of Rain, Trees Uprooted, Colter Street and Central Avenue, Zero Visibility, Litchfield Park, Arizona State Fairgrounds, Flying Debris, Veterans Memorial Coliseum, Traffic Lights, Powerlines Down, Buckeye Road, 85th Avenue, Fountain Hills, Extensive Flooding, Wickenburg, Roofs Blown Off Homes, U.S. 89, Fist-Sized Hail, Hassayampa River, Cottonwood, Bullhead City, Flagstaff, Prescott, Sedona
101	October 30, 1987	Nice, Sunny Day Set Stage for Evening of Destruction	X Wind, Rain, Destruction Valley, Storm, Warm Air, Mix, Cool Air, Low-Pressure Front, Moisture, Arizona, Thunderstorm, Ground-Level-Air, Cold Air Aloft
102	October 30, 1987	2,000 Lack Electricity After Evening Storm	X High Winds, Brutal Storm, Overturning Mobil Homes, Rooting Trees, Power Poles, Damage, Arizona Public Service Co., Salt River Project, APS, SRP, Winds, Gusted, 86 mph, Rain, Hail, Sky Harbor International Airport, 1.18 Inches in Scottsdale, Power Poles Snapped, McCormick Ranch, Rural/Metro Fire Department, Scottsdale Road, McCormick Parkway, 75th Avenue, Orangewood and Northern Avenues, Wickenburg, Luke Air Force Base, West Valley, Tonopah, Interstate 10, Tractor-Trailer Rigs on Sides, Phoenix Fire Department, Arizona State Fair, Downpour,

0	Year	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
183	October 30, 1987	Storm Pummels Valley With Strong Winds, Rain	x Major Storm, Valley, Trees, Power Poles, Overturning Mobil Homes, Phoenix, Wind Gusts, 81 mph, Luke Air Force Base, 86 mph, Glendale Airport, 41 mph, Sky Harbor International Airport, 1.8 Inches Rain, North Phoenix, National Weather Service, High Winds, Mesa, Tempe, Chandler, Jerry Lauchner, California, 339th and 359th Avenues, Interstate 10, Rural Metro Fire Department, Frank Hodges, Tractor-Trailer Rig, I-10, Power Knocked Out, North Scottsdale, McCormick Parkway, Jean Nelson, Utility Workers, Dust, Scottsdale Road, Matt Farley, Arizona Public Service, Brad Parker, APS Crews, Salt River Project, SRP, Heather Cliffby, 75th and Northern Avenues, Phoenix, Fairgoers, High Winds, Fairgrounds, Flying Debris,
29	November 2, 1987	Storms Lash State Again, Spur Flooding, Outages and Slides	x Rain, Hail, Arizona, Flash Floods, Power Outages, Rock-Slides, Yuma, Kingman, Phoenix, Thunderstorms, Inch of Rain, Flooding Washes, Skunk Creek, 86-mph Winds, Seventh Avenue at Salt River, River-Bottom Crossing, Dangerous, Priest Drive, Tempe, Rio Salado Parkway, 56th Street, Sky Harbor International Airport, Unofficial Reports, 2.3 Inches Rain, Scottsdale, Unconfirmed Tornado Sightings, Northeast Phoenix, 51st Street and McDowell Road, Twister, 71st Street and Cactus Roads, Wickenburg, Half Inch, 15 Minute Period, Record Rainfall, Flagstaff, 1.49 Inches, Breaking 1906 Record, 1.09 Inches, 1957, Hannigan Meadow, Winslow, Tucson, Douglas, Yavapai, Desert Washes Full, Mohave County, Flooded Washes, Rock-slides, Gila Bend, Wind Gusts 98 mph, Roof Blown Off, Rain Flooded Structures, Glendale, 35th Avenue, Pinnacle Peak Road, 3800 Block of West Beardsley Road, Power Disrupted, 2900 Block of 14th Street, 16th Avenue and Buckeye Road, East Valley, Sun City Area, Salt River Project, Strong Winds, Queen Creek Area
30	November 16, 1987	Tempe, Ex-ASU Star to Negotiate Golf-Course Pact	x Tempe City Council, Golf Course, Indian Bend Wash, McKellips and Curry Roads, Salt River Bed, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Rio Salado Plan, Rio Salado Project
182	November 17, 1987	Pro Golfer's Proposal Could Drive in Tempe's Third Public Course	x Tempe, Golfers, City Council, Indian Bend Wash, Curry and McKellips Roads, Salt River, Ken McDonald Golf Course, Rolling Hills Golf Course, Papago park, Public Works Committee, Mike Morley, Professional Golfers Association, Ron Pies, Watering Course, Buy Water Rights, Drill a Well, Salt River Bed, Groundwater, City's Water Supply, Jim Jones, Farmers, State law, Tempe's Water Allotment, Brian Whitecomb, paradise Valley, Buster Quist, Scottsdale Lakes Golf Club, Marno McDermott, Two Pesos, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Owns Land, Rio Salado Project, Arizona State University, Sports Hall of Fame
100	December 11, 1987	Paper Work Crowding Office Space	x Maricopa County, Store Unneeded Documents, Managing Records, LaDonna Fields, Fred Koory, Jr. Chairman County Board of Supervisors, Destroy Documents, Microfilmed, Supervisor Tom Freestone
31	December 17, 1987	Peoria Believed Tied to Hazardous Waste Dumping	x Hazardous Waste, Town of Peoria, Oozing Drums, Pesticides, Paint, Pain Thinner, Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Buried in Soil, for Flood Control Project, Skunk Creek, 83rd Avenue and Bell Road, Outer Loop Freeway, Hydrochloric Acid, Arizona Department of Transportation, Chemical Waste Management Corp., State Emergency Services Division, Peoria Sports Complex
181	December 17, 1987	Hazardous Waster Found in Peoria	x Barney Brown, Chemical Waste Management, Toxic Waste, Peoria, Anonymous Tip, 20 Containers, Arizona Department of Transportation, Outer Loop Freeway, Paul McGonigle, ADOT, Skunk Creek, 83rd Avenue, Greenway Road, Hydrochloric Acid, Residues, Dirt, Dan Sagramoso, Rio Salado Development District, Fertilizer Dump, State's Excavation Plan, J. Rudy Komenda, Department of Environmental Quality, Odors, Paint, Paint Thinner, Pesticides, Pamela Swift, Toxic Waste Investigative Group, Illegal Dumping, Widespread
32	December 18, 1987	Drums of Toxic Waste Found Buried in Peoria - Anonymous Call Sends Officials to Site	x Drums of Hazardous Waste, Peoria, Paint, Pain Thinner, Pesticides, Hydrochloric Acid Residue, Skunk Creek, Peoria Sports Complex, 83rd Avenue, Greenway Road, State Emergency Services Division, Chemical Waste Management Corp., Hazardous Waste Management Act, State Department of Transportation, Outer Loop Freeway, Department of Environmental Quality
33	February 1, 1988	Plan for Freeway Faces Opposition	x Red Mountain Freeway, Spook Hill Regional Park, Arizona Department of Transportation, Construction, Spook Hill Dam, Maricopa County Flood Control District, 100-Year Flood, Parks Board, Master Plan for Park, Sverdrop Corp.
142	February 1, 1988	Peoria Will Ask County to Build Channel to Handle Flooding, Strengthen Bridge	x Peoria, City Council, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Skunk Creek, Bell Road, New River, River Washes, Northern Avenue, John Rodriguez, Bill Parks, Establishment, Flood Plain, Improve Bridge, 83rd Avenue, 50-Year Flood, 100-Year Flood, 75th Avenue
140	February 16, 1988	Deck Developments Proposed Along Canal	x Arizona Canal, Phoenix, Garden-Style Offices, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, ACDC, 19th Avenue, Seventh Avenue, Central Avenue, Seventh Street, 24th Street, Severo Esquivel, Salt River Project, 17-Mile, Concrete-Lined, Flood Control Ditch, Skunk Creek to 40th Street, Reach 4, Biltmore Area, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Maricopa County Flood Control District, SRP

0	Ye	Title of Newspaper Article	x Key Words
34	February 17, 1988	Council Supports Plan to Allow Construction Above Flood Channel	X Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Phoenix City Council, Huge Concrete Floodwater-Diversion Ditch, 75th Avenue and Bell Road, 40th Street and Camelback, Road, Eyesore, Arizona Canal, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Salt River Project, 24th and 7th Streets, Central and 19th Avenue
141	February 17, 1988	Council Supports Plan to Allow Construction Above Flood Channel	X Office, Apartments, Resort, Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, Phoenix City Council, Concrete Floodwater-Diversion Ditch, 75th Avenue and Bell Road to 40th Street and Camelback, Arizona Canal, Phoenix, Beautification, Commercial Development, Outdoor Cafes, City Manager, Marvin Andrews, Maricopa County Flood Control District, Salt River Project, Reinforce, 24th and Seventh Streets, Central and 19th Avenues, Phoenix Planning Director, Ron Short, SRP, Valley, Dennis Siewert, James Vivian, Citizens Opposed to Senseless Transportation Schemes, Alternative, Paradise Freeway, Sen., Tony West, Councilwoman Linda Nadolski, Councilman Duane Pell
35	October 7, 1988	CAP Water Storage Too Costly, Study Says	X Phoenix, Central Arizona Project, Surplus Colorado River Water, Western Arizona Valley, CAP, Butler Valley, Parker, Natural Underground Tub, Rock Formations, Salt River Bed, Agua Fria River Bed, West Valley, Mesa, East Valley
36	December 28, 1988	New Group Pushes Incorporation	X Fountain Hills, Fountain Hills Citizens for Self Government, Scottsdale City Council, Scottsdale, Mesa, Palisades Boulevard, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community
37	January 4, 1989	incorporation Once Again Before FH Residents	X Fountain Hills, Scottsdale, Fountain Hills Citizens for Self Government, Mayor Herd Drinkwater, Scottsdale City Council, Fountain Hills/Scottsdale Annexation Committee
99	April 19, 1990	Water	X Pumping by SRP, Water Withdrawn, 1981, 1982, 1984, Pollutants, Drinking Water, Ground Water, Salts, Nitrates, Contaminants, Organic Compounds, SRP Environmental Management Services, Blend Purer Water, Dilute Salts, Water Safe, Ground-Water Wells, 1988
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# Incorporation once again before FH residents

By Lois McFarland  
Progress Staff Writer

Proponents of both annexation and incorporation of the 21-square-mile community of Fountain Hills east of Scottsdale are gearing up to make something happen in 1989.

John Cutillo, leader of a newly formed Fountain Hills Citizens for Self Government Committee, said he hand-delivered seven letters to Mayor Herb Drinkwater and the Scottsdale City Council Dec. 23, requesting that they "conclude their discussions concerning any attempt to annex Fountain Hills by Scottsdale on Feb. 15, 1989."

"I don't think it's a good idea for any new organization to present the mayor and City Council of Scottsdale with any type of ultimatum or deadline," said John Jarzynka, chairman of the Fountain Hills/Scottsdale Annexation Committee.

"It took approximately three years to get an incorporation election in the area. How can this group expect us to achieve annexation in six months?"

Cutillo's letter, however, apparently has not yet been looked at by Scottsdale officials. Assistant city manager Dick Bowers said Friday he could not find the letter after searching through Drinkwater's mail.

Bowers did, however, comment on city policy. "The council's position has been in the past to support self-determination," Bowers said. "If a community wants to incorporate and needs our permission to do that, the council would grant them the right to pursue that."

On the other hand, Bowers pointed out that if the residents of Fountain Hills want to become part of Scottsdale, that too, should be considered.

"If they want to become part of our community and can demonstrate a strong interest, then the council has always been willing to consider annexation: based on a combination of best interests of our own community and the notion we support self-determination for the other community," Bowers said.

The Feb. 15 cutoff date, Cutillo said, is very realistic since the annexation committee has had since last July 26 to mount a campaign but only recently approached Scottsdale.

"We lost the (incorporation) election and we said we'll give the annexation people time to do what they need to do," Cutillo added. "And now we've figured after a six-month wait, it appears that (Scottsdale) has no intention of expanding its border in any direction and if that's

the case we need to get on with local government. So that's why we're pushing it."

If annexation were not an issue, Cutillo said, "we could win fairly easily."

In order for an incorporation election to take place next summer, Cutillo said, his group needs to get started right away.

"We just can't sit here and wait because we lose \$60,000 a month for not being incorporated," Cutillo said. "This is the approximate amount we would receive in revenue sharing from the county and federal and state highway taxes that we don't receive now."

Jarzynka was critical of Cutillo's committee. "This is a highly disorganized group of individuals," Jarzynka said. "John Cutillo was very active in the (incorporation) movement last year. It looks like a new organization with the same untruth and lies. They keep trying to perpetuate this myth of shared state revenues."

"There are shared revenues,"

Jarzynka continued, "but there has never been a community in Arizona that has been able to exist on shared revenues. They all have to resort to some other type of tax whether it be a sales tax, property tax, business privilege tax or other types.

"These revenues now go to the county, and from them, we receive police protection, library services, road maintenance and the community college system. They already are being used very efficiently."

Fountain Hills residents, Jarzynka added, already are the highest taxed in the state. "They (the incorporation group) fail to inform the populace of this," he said. "There are road district assessments, sanitary district assessments and school district taxes. These would not change. In addition, we would be saddled with a very expensive, inefficient form of government which simply would be another power base for the political hacks and cronies that have been manipulating Fountain Hills for the past 15 years."

The annexation committee has been in contact with the City Council and Drinkwater. "We are continuing to make progress along the lines of annexation," Jarzynka said. "We sat patiently and waited three years for the incorporation election. Now that the incorporation issue has been defeated for the second time, we feel we must have a sufficient opportunity to present the benefits of annexation of Fountain Hills to the city of Scottsdale."

The annexation group is in the process of "compiling all the facts and figures which will illustrate to Scottsdale how financially beneficial it will be to annex Fountain Hills," Jarzynka said.

"We do not have a deadline," he said. "I've been assured by the mayor we will be given a similar opportunity to present our side to the (Scottsdale) Council."

Cutillo has called a meeting of incorporation committee members only for tonight at his office.

# CAP water storage too costly, study says

Mesa  
Tribune  
10-7-88

By Dave Downey

Tribune writer

PHOENIX — The Central Arizona Project has determined it is too expensive to store surplus Colorado River water in a western Arizona valley, according to the conclusion of an \$809,000 study.

The Colorado River has been running higher than usual for seven years in a row, and CAP officials had eyed Butler Valley in the desert east of Parker as a possible holding place for some of the excess.

Arizona cities are clamoring to save some of the extra water for a day when there is not as much available.

As a result, the CAP hired Engineering Enterprises Inc. of Norman, Okla., two years ago to take a look at the natural underground tub created by rock formations beneath Butler Valley.

The final results were surprising,

and a little disconcerting.

"It's really a great spot; it's just darn expensive," said CAP Assistant General Manager Larry Dozier.

Dozier said it will cost \$30 an acre-foot to pump the water out of the river and into the CAP canal and \$65 an acre-foot to put it into the ground.

Whoever uses the water would have to pay twice as much as they would for regular CAP water, Dozier said.

An acre-foot is 326,000 gallons, roughly what a family of five uses in a year.

Costs also are much higher than for storing surplus CAP water beneath the Salt River bed north of Mesa and in the Agua Fria River bed in the west Valley, Dozier said.

Mesa is heading up an East Valley effort to store 200,000 acre-feet, enough to supply 1 million people for a year, beneath the Salt River.

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## Scottsdale Progress

Wednesday  
December 28, 1988

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# S New group pushes incorporation

By Cynthia Flash  
Progress Staff Writer

A Fountain Hills citizens group is seeking another election — which would be the third in six years — over whether the city should incorporate.

A new group called Fountain Hills Citizens for Self Government plans to ask the Scottsdale City Council next month to allow Fountain Hills residents to once again vote on incorporation.

John Cutillo, chairman of the new incorporation committee, said Tuesday the group was formed because the Fountain Hills Committee for Incorporation, formerly the committee seeking incorporation, did not do enough to push for the change in status.

For five years residents of Fountain Hills have tried to incorporate or be annexed by Scottsdale.

The issue came to a head between the two groups last January, when the Scottsdale council decided to allow the community to hold an incorporation election instead of an election on whether to be annexed.

State law requires communities surrounding the unincorporated area — in this case Scottsdale and Mesa — to approve incorporation or annexation elections. Mesa has shown little opposition, Cutillo said.

While the Fountain Hills Incorporation Committee favored incorporating, annexation was favored by the Fountain Hills/Scottsdale Annexation Committee. In February 1987 it presented the City Council with 1,200 signatures supporting annexation. The council instead approved an incorporation election, which set off the battle between the two committees.

Residents of the community of 10,000 in July defeated by 65 votes a proposal to incorporate. That was five years after a measure to incorporate the area east of Scottsdale lost by 117 votes.

It is believed that Fountain Hills voters in July split into three separate factions, those seeking incorporation, those seeking annexation and those who like things the way they are.

Cutillo said the issues in that election were too complicated. He wants the next election to center simply on whether Fountain Hills should incorporate and leave the annexation issue off the ballot.

"The last election there was a very clouded issue," Cutillo said. "People in favor of annexation were pushing a cause they didn't know . . . was available because the Scottsdale council wouldn't say whether it would allow annexation.

We feel if we eliminate the possibility of annexation — which should have been done the first time — there's no other issue."

John Jarzynka, chairman of the Fountain Hills/Scottsdale Annexation Committee, was unavailable for comment Tuesday.

When the incorporation measure was defeated in July, some Scottsdale council members said they would not support a Fountain Hills annexation unless the majority of residents there supported the move. Before annexation could take place, state law requires approval by owners of a majority of the property within the proposed area and a majority of the residents of an area.

Cutillo said he does not believe the city of Scottsdale wants to annex Fountain Hills because of the

economic burden it would put on the city.

Opponents, including some city officials, said annexing Fountain Hills would increase the financial burden of extending municipal services into the area. Opponents of incorporation said it would landlock the community because of the limited boundaries of the 10,718-acre development, located east of Palisades Boulevard and north of the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

Annexation proponents, however, say the move would keep property taxes down, provide better municipal services and increase real estate values.

Jarzynka in the past also cited a 1985 city of Scottsdale survey that concluded that Fountain Hills would actually generate revenues for the city treasury.

# Peoria believed tied to hazardous waste dumping

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

Following an "anonymous" tip, state officials have dug up 30 containers of hazardous waste apparently buried by the town of Peoria.

"It was something that transpired back to a previous parks and recreation director," town clerk Richard Gomez said Wednesday. "It was mostly empty containers, and basically fertilizer."

The oozing drums contained "everything from pesticides to paint and paint thinner," said Phil King, emergency and remedial manager for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. "The materials are potentially hazardous."

The waste was buried in soil scheduled to be removed for a flood-control project in Skunk

Creek at 83rd Avenue and Bell Road. The soil was to be used in construction of the nearby Outer Loop freeway.

"One of the barrels was marked 'hydrochloric acid,'" said Paul McGonigle, spokesman for the Arizona Department of Transportation. "We could have uncovered this accidentally."

The waste was removed without incident after a tipster telephoned Peoria officials Monday. Chemical Waste Management Corp. was hired by the State Emergency Services Division to remove the containers and contaminated soil to a hazardous-waste site in California at a cost of several thousand dollars.

"The indications are that the drums were buried there at least five years ago," King said. "You could make an argument that it was not an authorized activity."

The Arizona Attorney General's Office is determining who is responsible and whether to bring criminal charges for illegal dumping.

Someone dug a hole and buried the containers "very neatly and orderly" along Skunk Creek, adjacent to the Peoria Sports Complex at 83rd Avenue and Bell Road, King said.

Gomez said Peoria officials were aware of the dumping several years ago.

"I think it came up two or three years ago," he said. "They (town parks and recreation department) had done it and wanted to dig it out again, but it was determined that it wasn't dangerous."

Peoria Fire Chief Mike Fusco noted that his department has a hazardous-materials squad that specializes in proper handling and disposal.

PHX. GAZ. 12-17-87

Az. Republic  
12-18-87

## Drums of toxic waste found buried in Peoria

A.R. 12-18-87

### Anonymous call sends officials to site

By M.E. SAAVEDRA  
The Arizona Republic

Officials have found 25 to 30 drums of hazardous waste buried in Peoria, and investigations are under way to determine how the waste got there and whether a crime has been committed.

Julie Journey, a spokeswoman for the state attorney general, said Thursday that her office is trying to find out "who is responsible for the dumping."

Peoria Fire Chief Mike Fusco said the drums contain paint, paint thinner, pesticides and hydrochloric-acid residue.

Fusco said an anonymous call to the city's Engineering Department on Monday afternoon led city officials to the drums, buried near Skunk Creek near the city-operated Peoria Sports Complex, on 83rd Avenue north of Greenway Road.

For safety, the dump site has been covered and a guard posted until tests determine what chemicals are in the soil, he said.

The state Emergency Services Division has hired the Chemical Waste Management Corp. to dig up the drums, which will be reburied in a California hazardous-waste dump, Fusco said.

Journey said that the dumping was not illegal if it occurred before 1984, when the state's Hazardous Waste Management Act was amended. She said the act was changed in that year to make it a crime to dispose of hazardous waste improperly.

If it occurred before 1984, it is a civil matter, Journey said.

Peoria officials said they are attempting to find out where the waste came from.

"Sometime back in the 1979 to 1982 range of years, we understand

that the city buried some drums of material," City Manager Dennis Tinberg said.

"We're interviewing staff members to find out when it was buried, what it might have been and where it came from, to obtain some background."

Paul McGonigle, a spokesman for the state Department of Transportation, said the responsible party probably is liable only for removal costs.

"Indications were that it's been about six years since the stuff was there," McGonigle said.

He said the Transportation Department has obtained a permit to excavate fill dirt from the creek bed adjacent to the dump site for use on the Outer Loop Freeway, being built about a mile to the west.

"Frankly, this anonymous tipster obviously saved us from what could have been a very dangerous situation during the excavation," he said.

Phil King, emergency manager for the state Department of Environmental Quality, which is overseeing the waste removal, said the anonymous tipster indicated that the drums had been buried at least five years.

Some of the drums, which were buried 5 to 15 feet below the surface, ruptured during the excavation, King said.

"However, we don't believe that any of the spilled material from the rupturing escaped into the environment," he said.

Removal of the drums was delayed Thursday when trucks en route to Arizona were caught in a California snow storm, King said. It was unclear when removal would take place, he said.

AZ Republic  
2-17-88

AZ Republic 2/17/88

## Council supports plan to allow construction above flood channel

By DEE MICHAELIS  
The Arizona Republic

Offices, apartments or even a resort could be built over portions of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel under a proposal given preliminary approval Tuesday by the Phoenix City Council.

The proposal would allow developers to build on the channel in at least four locations and use some land nearby for their projects.

Officials say the idea is to cover up the channel, a huge concrete floodwater-diversion ditch under construction that is to run from 75th Avenue and Bell Road to 40th Street and Camelback Road and considered by many to be an eyesore.

The channel, which will extend

along the northern edge of the Arizona Canal, will be up to 20 feet deep and 36 feet wide as it runs through Phoenix.

Officials hope to encourage beautification projects and commercial development, such as outdoor cafes, along the canal.

"You could have direct access to water," City Manager Marvin Andrews said. "You would have really an attractive development."

Under the proposal, Phoenix, the Maricopa County Flood Control District and the Salt River Project would be responsible for picking up the \$266,000 cost of reinforcing the channel at 24th and Seventh streets and Central and 19th avenues.

—Channel, B2

# FREEWAY

Continued from Extra A

## Plan for freeway faces opposition

Ariz Rep  
Southeast  
Monday  
Feb 1, 1984

By JIM WALSH  
The Arizona Republic

A proposal to elevate the planned Red Mountain freeway through Spook Hill Regional Park probably will face stiff opposition Feb. 3 at an Arizona Department of Transportation hearing.

The plan, billed as saving \$10 million in construction costs, calls for the freeway to be built between the top of 20-foot-tall Spook Hill Dam and the dam's 100-year flood level.

The freeway would be built on an extension of the dam that would make it above ground level but below the dam's peak.

Previous plans called for the freeway to be in the same location but for it to be screened from public view by a second dam.

The screening is vital for maintaining the 900- to 1,000-acre park's natural environment by curbing noise and visual pollution, said Carolyn Baecker, a Mesa Parks Board member.

"The impact of the freeway would be incalculable" without the second dam, Baecker said, because nearby park areas are planned for hiking and horse trails through a natural desert environment.

"An elevated freeway would not make that desirable," she said.

But Howard Pilkington, a highway design consultant, told the Mesa City Council at a Jan. 29 study session that it would be better to not build the second dam.

In addition to saving money, the proposal without the second dam would have the effect of reinforcing the current dam and is supported by the Maricopa County Flood Control District, he said.

The extension on which the freeway is planned would add mass, and thus strength, to the dam, Pilkington said.

"In many, many areas, freeways are built just above the 100-year flood-storage level," Pilkington said.

However, placing the highway on the dam extension would mean that it would be under water during a flood larger than 100-year flood, he said.

A 100-year flood is defined as the maximum flood that can be anticipated during any given 100-year period.

Dean Sloan, Mesa's public-works manager, said that by not adding the second dam, more space would

— Freeway, Extra C

remain for recreational use.

"It really saves some of the parkland," Sloan said. "It's a more efficient use of the property."

Baecker said she could not respond to Sloan's comments directly, because she hasn't seen diagrams showing how much space would be required for the second dam.

However, she said her first impression is that saving additional land for recreational use is not as important as screening the park from noise that would disturb those who would use the presently undeveloped facility.

The Parks Board has been steering development of a master plan for the park, which also includes such proposed facilities as a golf course, camping areas and softball diamonds and is under development by Sverdrop Corp., a planning consultant.

Vice Mayor Dave Guthrie, after hearing Pilkington's proposal for the freeway's location near the dam, said, "We're going to get some pretty strenuous objections from the people in that area."

As a compromise, Guthrie proposed construction of a berm that would screen traffic from public view and help reduce noise.

"At least you wouldn't be looking right at traffic," he said.

Pilkington said the berm could be built, but holes would have to be built through it to avoid construction of a second dam.

In a letter to Sloan dated Jan. 25, the plan that would drop the second dam was recommended for approval by Arnold Harring, the city's transportation director.

However, City Manager Charles Luster told the council that the memorandum does not amount to a staff endorsement, and that the council will receive a full staff report before its asked to take a position on the issue by about the middle of February.

The council's position on the Red Mountain's design then would be forwarded to the state Transportation Department before the agency's board makes a final decision on the freeway's appearance and location between Lindsay and Baseline roads in east Mesa, Luster said.

The transportation department's public hearing has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Fremont Junior High School Auditorium, 1001 N. Bush Highway.

An open house, during which maps will be displayed of the 20.6-mile section of freeway, will begin at 5 p.m.



Michael Meister/The Arizona Republic

Mark Simpson of Phoenix helps motorists their pickup truck became waterlogged and its stranded in a nearly bumper-deep puddle after engine died at 19th Avenue and Beardsley Road.

## Storms lash state again, spur flooding, outages and slides

By RANDY COLLIER  
and MIKE PATTEN  
The Arizona Republic

More rain and hail fell over Arizona on Sunday, causing flash floods, power outages and rock-slides from Yuma to Kingman.

In Phoenix, an early-morning thunderstorm dumped nearly an inch of rain and hail, flooding several washes. At least two vehicles were swept into Skunk Creek in the city's north. No injuries were reported.

It was the second violent storm to move across the Valley in four days. On Thursday, a storm with 86-mph winds snapped power poles and knocked out electricity to an

estimated 50,000 homes and businesses.

On Sunday, Phoenix police closed Seventh Avenue at the Salt River when water levels made navigating the river-bottom crossing dangerous. Additionally, Priest Drive in Tempe was closed to traffic near the river. Tempe police said the street was closed from the Rio Salado Parkway to 56th Street.

The National Weather Service reported 0.95 inch of rain at Sky Harbor International Airport. The year-to-date total for the airport. There were unofficial reports of 2.36 inches of rain in Scottsdale.

The weather service said that some clearing is expected today but

that more rain could fall during the rest of the week.

The service also reported two unconfirmed tornado sightings in northeast Phoenix: at 2 a.m. near 51st Street and McDowell Road and at 2:12 a.m. from a PSA pilot making his final approach to Sky Harbor. The pilot reported the twister on the ground near 71st Street and Cactus Road.

No damage was reported in the areas.

The rain forced postponement of the *New Times* Phoenix 10k run Sunday. A race spokesman said officials feared for the safety of the runners. There was no word on

— Storms, A6

# STORMS

Continued from A1

whether the race will be rescheduled.

The rain also forced postponement of an air show at Scottsdale Municipal Airport.

Wickenburg, battered during a heavy storm Thursday, received 1.01 inches of rain Sunday, including a half inch in a 15-minute period at about 2:30 p.m.

Record rainfall was reported in Flagstaff for the second straight day.

On Sunday, 1.49 inches had fallen by afternoon, breaking the record of 0.53 inch for the date set in 1906. On Saturday, 1.79 inches fell, breaking the record of 1.09 inches for the date set in 1957.

The storms dumped 3 inches of snow on Hannagan Meadow.

Other rainfall totals included Winslow, 1.33 inches, Tucson 0.42 inches, and 0.31 inch in Douglas.

Yavapai County Sheriff's Deputy Ken Morelan said that desert washes were full and that deputies were urging people to stay on main roads.

The same was true in Mohave County, where sheriff's officials said desert driving had become dangerous because of flooded washes and rockslides in mountainous areas.

In Gila Bend, some businesses and homes were damaged by high winds and rain. Wind gusts of 98 mph were reported by the weather service.

The town's substation of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office was damaged extensively when a portion of a metal roof was blown off, two communications antennas were lost and rain flooded the

structure. No damage estimate was available.

In the Valley, firefighters from Glendale and Phoenix were called Sunday morning to rescue five people trapped in two vehicles that had been swept into the flooding Skunk Creek.

Phoenix Fire Department spokesman Steve Jensen said the first incident occurred at about 4 a.m. when a car carrying three Phoenix teen-agers was swept off 35th Avenue into the wash around Pinnacle Peak Road.

The car became stuck in about 3 feet of water, Jensen said, and initial efforts by firefighters to rescue the teens failed when the firefighters' ladder couldn't reach them.

A Glendale fire truck with a longer ladder was called, and the

teens were rescued at about 7:30 a.m.

Jensen identified the teens as James Brotherton, 19, of the 7600 block of North 33rd Avenue; Dan Dillon, 16, of the 3500 block of West Dunlap Avenue; and Charles Zweiger, of the 8100 block of North 35th Avenue. Authorities did not know Zweiger's age.

The second incident occurred at about 6 a.m. in the 3800 block of West Beardsley Road. In that incident, Jensen said, a Phoenix couple apparently drove their pickup truck into the wash and could not get out.

The couple, identified as Ralph and Cindy Archibeque of the 400 block of West Whalla Street, were rescued when a fire truck drove through the wash to pick them up.

The storm, although not as violent as one that struck Thurs-

day, again knocked out power in some Valley areas.

Arizona Public Service spokeswoman Maria Arellano said power was disrupted around the 2900 block of 14th Street, and around 16th Avenue and Buckeye Road when power lines were blown down.

Arellano said the storm also caused scattered power outages in the east Valley and a small outage in the Sun City area.

She said APS crews still were trying to restore service to about 700 people who had lost power during Thursday's storm.

Salt River Project spokesman Howard Alexander said the utility was releasing water from rain-swollen canals into Phoenix storm drains. He said strong winds had toppled some power poles in the Queen Creek area.

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC / SOUTHEAST

# EXTRA

**INSIDE:**  
WANT ADS AND COLUMNS

**Ahwatukee  
Guadalupe  
Tempe**

PUBLISHED MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

Monday, November 16, 1987

6

# E

## Tempe, ex-ASU star to negotiate golf-course pact

By ED FOSTER  
The Arizona Republic

The Tempe City Council has directed its staff to negotiate a contract to build a golf course in Indian Bend Wash between McKellips and Curry roads, north of the Salt River bed.

Council members decided to go with a proposal by Mike Morley, a professional golfer who played 14 years on the PGA Tour. Morley will be backed financially by Marno McDermott, chairman of Two Pesos, a Houston-based Mexican food chain.

Morley attended Arizona State University from 1966 to 1968, where he was twice an All American in golf. He is a member of the university's Sports Hall of Fame.

The course planned by Morley would be nine holes: four par 3s, four par 4s, and one par 5. It will include a clubhouse and lake.

The land is owned by the Maricopa County Flood Control District and administered by Tempe. If a contract is approved, the course itself would be owned by Morley, who would pay an annual fee to the city.

The course is part of the city's abbreviated Rio Salado plan. The city plans to go ahead with development along the riverbed after county voters on Nov. 3 rejected the Rio Salado Project.

Morley would drill a well in the wash to water the course. He intends to buy another working well elsewhere and shut it down, in effect bringing in his own water rights. Under Arizona water laws, Tempe is limited in the amount of water it can use. By bringing in his own water rights, Morley will not have to use any of Tempe's water

allotment.

Morley's proposal was one of three. Ron Pies, director of community services for the city, described all three as strong. But he noted that Morley has a long golf history.

"Mike has been in the business many, many years," he said. "He is going to be involved in the building."

Elaine Ross, who represented two losing applicants, complained to the council that the Public Works Committee, made up of Vice Mayor Frank Plencner and council member Carol Smith, had not

followed the city's request for proposals in recommending Morley.

The request said the applicants should have five years experience managing a course, and Ross noted that there was no evidence Morley met that requirement. However, Pies said after the meeting that the city is not obligated to follow that.

The proposal from Ross' applicants, Brian Whitcomb, a golf pro in Paradise Valley since 1981, and Buster Quist, who is developing the Scottsdale Lakes Golf Club, would have watered the course with city

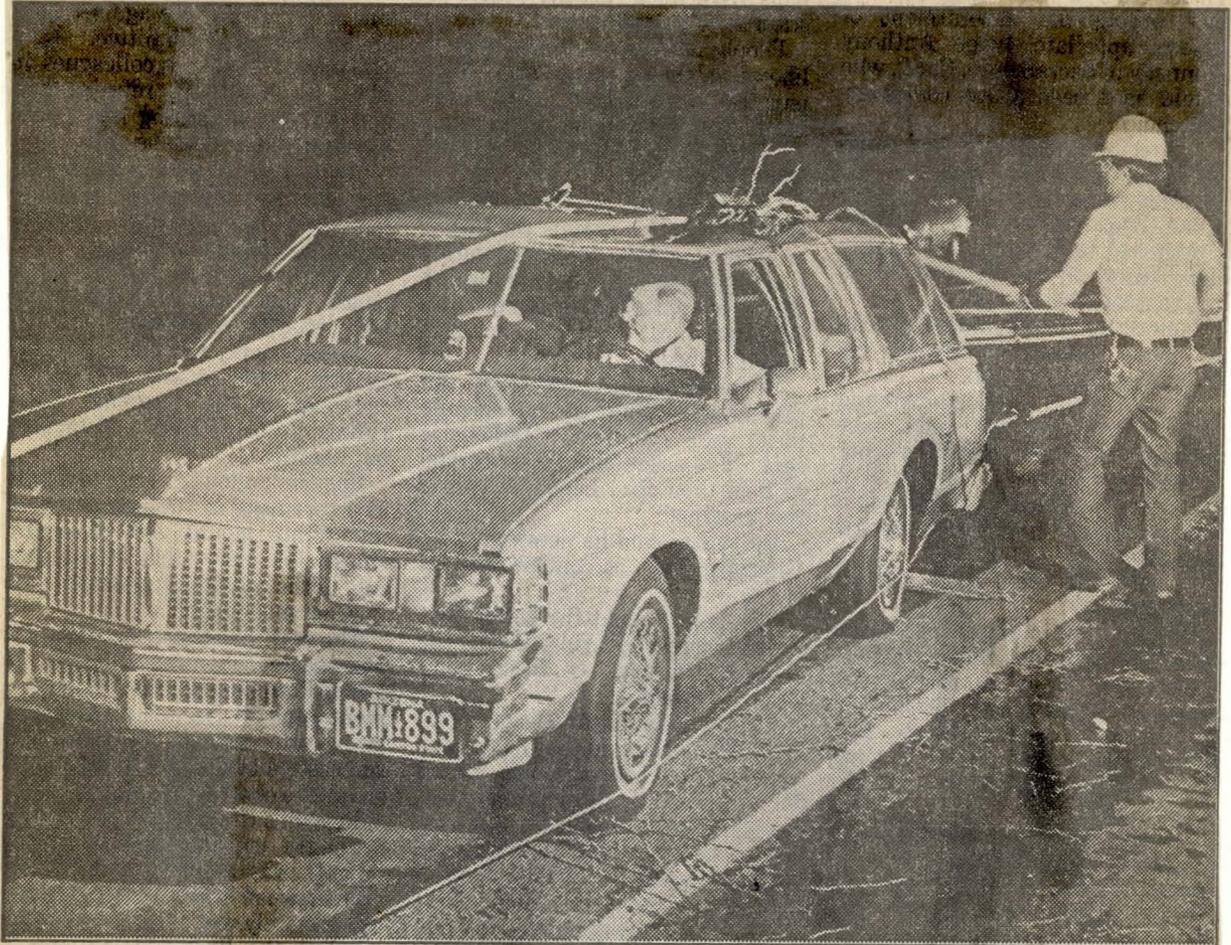
water, which would have left less for residents to use if the city were to stay under its water-use limitations.

The council decided without comment to go with Morley.

After the meeting, Pies said the water issue was crucial.

"Morley is bringing in his own water rights," he said. "That's a very, very important consideration."

"We can't tell the citizens of Tempe, 'Water your lawn three days a week because we've got to water this course.'"



Mike Ging/The Arizona Republic

Loren Sheckler sits in his car at Scottsdale Road and McCormick Parkway as an Arizona Public

Service Co. lineman uses an insulated pole to remove a fallen power line from the top of the auto.

## Storms wallop Valley with winds, hail, blackouts, chaotic rush hour

By MIKE PATTEN  
The Arizona Republic

A line of intense thunderstorms packing 80-mph gusts, blinding rain and half-inch hail roared through the Valley on Thursday, toppling mobile homes in Buckeye, knocking down power lines that trapped motorists in their cars and snarling rush-hour traffic.

"It just started blowing," said Beverly Harris of the 35800 block of West McDowell. "It went totally white, like the house had been covered by clouds."

Sixteen people were trapped in their cars at Scottsdale Road and McCormick Parkway for more than an hour and a half when power poles and lines fell on their cars,

and another person drove into a lake at McCormick Ranch to avoid one of the falling poles, according to Frank Hodges, a Rural/Metro Fire Department spokesman. None of the people was injured.

Arizona Public Service Co. spokesman Brad Parker said six 69,000-volt power lines were

— Storms, A6

# STORMS

Continued from A1

snapped and fell onto the cars. He said the downing of the lines caused a power outage in a 10-square-mile area bounded by 56th Street, Shea Boulevard and Pima and Indian Bend roads.

Parker said about 8,000 people were affected by the outage, which he said could take until today to fix.

As many as 50,000 Valley residents were without power at some point during the storm. Parker said every available APS worker, including some from Flagstaff and Prescott, will be called in to work today.

In Peoria, about 30 motorists were trapped near 75th and Orangewood avenues when power lines fell in front of and behind their cars. The motorists were evacuated by bus, according to Peoria police.

Traffic signals throughout the Valley were disrupted by the downed power lines.

At least four people were injured during the storm.

Gertrude Scoley, hurt when her Buckeye mobile home overturned, was admitted to Maryvale Samaritan Hospital for observation.

Irene Hahn, 66, was admitted to Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital for surgery on a broken leg. Two of her grandchildren were treated at the hospital for cuts and were released.

Red Cross workers and ambulances were dispatched to the Tonopah area after the storm seriously damaged about 10 house trailers south of Interstate 10 between 339th and 350th avenues. Some occupants were injured, according to a dispatcher with Rural/Metro.

"My God, my house fell," said Beverly Durham, who arrived at her mobile home on 359th Avenue just south of McDowell Road just after the storm passed.

"We've lived out here and had windstorms all the time, but never anything this serious," she said.

The storm moved into the Valley around 4 p.m. and moved north-easterly from Buckeye through Glendale and north-central Phoenix, into Scottsdale, Cave Creek and Carefree.

Guests at the Scottsdale Conference Resort, 7770 E. McCormick Parkway, were forced to dine by candlelight when the resort lost



Phoenix firefighters are framed by a shattered third-floor window at the downtown Valley Center.

Heavy winds late Thursday afternoon blew a window washer's scaffolding through the window.

Peter Schwepker/The Arizona Republic

power around 5 p.m.

"Everything went real smooth," hotel spokeswoman Diane Stevens said. "The guests were real good about it."

Stevens said the resort was without power for nearly four hours but was able to keep its kitchen open.

"We catered a 300-person banquet," she said.

Lena Fulks of the 35800 block of West McDowell Road said she had to hold her front door closed to keep the storm from blowing it open, but "it didn't last more than two minutes."

"It moved through really fast," said Bill Estle, a meteorologist for the National Weather Service.

By 5:45 p.m., the storm had moved into eastern Maricopa County.

Golf-ball-size hail broke windows in Glendale, said Suzanne Jennings, who lives at the New World Complex near 51st and Olive avenues.

"I stood out on porch and saw these big things leaping up out of the grass, and I said, 'What the heck is that?'" Jennings said. "It started out pea-size, but in five

minutes, it was bigger than a quarter."

Hail accumulations as deep as an inch were reported in Glendale, along with rain falling so hard that it blew through joints in closed windows.

Winds as high as 47 mph were recorded at Sky Harbor International Airport, with gusts as high as 86 mph logged at the Glendale airport.

Sky Harbor spokesman Rick Martinez said 18 northbound flights were delayed about 30 minutes as the storm passed. He said the storm did not affect arrivals.

The weather service reported several unofficial funnel-cloud sightings.

The weather service said rainfall ranged from a trace at Sky Harbor to 1.18 inches that fell in less than a half-hour in Scottsdale.

Estle said the severe storms were caused when a cold-weather system from the West Coast moved in and hit moist air that had been warmed by afternoon sunshine.

"It was the cold air in the upper levels and the warm air at the

surface," Estle said. "If it had been cloudy all day, we wouldn't have gotten (such) violent thunderstorms."

Trees were reported uprooted throughout the Valley, and one woman, who lives near Colter Street and Central Avenue, said a giant tree fell over in her yard.

"There's a hole here big enough for my kitchen," Roxie Downing said.

Maricopa County Sheriff's Office spokesman Jay Ellison said zero visibility was reported in Litchfield Park during the storm.

In Buckeye, a couple were reported trapped inside their car when a live wire was blown onto their vehicle. Ellison said the couple were rescued unharmed.

In Phoenix, heavy winds blew a window washer's scaffolding through a third-floor window at the Valley Bank Center. No damage estimate was immediately available.

Phoenix Fire Department spokesman Steve Jensen said firefighters started to evacuate the Kent Towers building at 100 W. Clarendon when an electrical panel

on the top floor caught fire.

Jensen said that the fire may have been caused by lightning but that the evacuation was halted when firefighters extinguish the blaze within minutes.

At the Arizona State Fairgrounds, a few people were struck by flying debris but suffered only minor injuries, according to fair spokeswoman Susan Baker.

The crowd took refuge in Veterans Memorial Coliseum, which was opened ahead of schedule for a performance by singer Anne Murray, and rides were shut down for inspection after the storm, she said.

Scottsdale Police Department aide Fran Klein said officers were scrambling to handle rush-hour traffic after the storm knocked out traffic lights at many major intersections.

Dave Seekins, a state Department of Public Safety officer, said that large power lines were reported down at Buckeye Road and 85th Avenue and that a serious traffic accident was reported nearby.

"There's so many accidents, I

## Fallen power lines trap 16 motorists in cars for 2 hours

By JOHN SCHROEDER  
The Arizona Republic

Sixteen-year-old Matt Farley, trapped inside his car for more than two hours when power lines fell on it during Thursday's storm, said he was too afraid of being electrocuted to turn off his car.

"I didn't touch nothing in there," Farley said. "I left the car running until they told me to turn it off."

Farley, of Phoenix, one of 16 motorists trapped by the downed lines, was driving down Scottsdale Road near McCormick Parkway when the storm hit.

"I was just cruising around, and it was getting really windy," Farley said. "I saw some poles hit the ground and sparks were flying."

Six 69,000-volt power poles snapped by high winds fell on a line of 16 cars about 5 p.m. The

downed lines extended south on Scottsdale Road from Indian Bend Road for nearly a quarter-mile.

Many people were trapped for more than two hours while Arizona Public Service Co. stopped power to the lines, but all were rescued unharmed.

Jean Nelson, who also was trapped, said she had pulled off the road to let the storm pass when a power pole snapped in two and toppled onto her car, pinning her inside.

"There was a pop and a flash and then the whole thing came down," she said. "I saw a flash, I heard the popping and exploding and then the whole car was rocking. Then everything stopped."

"I could see the cables over the car. I was surrounded by cable. It was very frightening."

couldn't even begin to give you any locations," Seekins said.

A harried deputy at the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office said he didn't have time to give his name.

"We have everything — auto accidents, power lines down, a tornado at Fountain Hills," the deputy said.

The storms also caused extensive flooding and damage in Wickenburg, where police reported several trees uprooted, roofs blown off homes and downed power lines on U.S. 89.

First-size hail was reported in Wickenburg, and the rising Hassayampa River threatened a trailer park nearby.

Police kept watch to determine whether to evacuate the trailer park.

Gusts also blew out several windows in a Wickenburg school, and a blown transformer caused a 1½-hour blackout in the town.

Rainfall amounts throughout the state included 0.55 inch in Wickenburg, 0.71 inch in Cottonwood, 0.65 inch in Bullhead City, 0.66 inch in Flagstaff, 1 inch in Prescott and 1.1 inches in Sedona.

Arizona Republic reporters Mark Coast, Andy Hall and John Winters contributed to this story.

# El Mirage dump sued by Arizona

Public health is threatened, officials say; charges denied

By JOANN BRAAM  
The Arizona Republic

The state attorney general's office has filed a lawsuit against the El Mirage Industrial Landfill, charging that it illegally operates as an "open dump" and that it threatens public health and property.

"What we want to do is protect the landfill from washout in the event of a flood," said Ron Miller, acting assistant director of the state Department of Health Services. "Debris can end up all over the place downstream."

The landfill is south of Grand Avenue on the western bank of the Agua Fria River, which normally is dry but is subject to flooding.

The suit, filed Monday in U.S. District Court on behalf of the DHS, says that the owners and operator of the landfill have failed since Sept. 13, 1979, to protect the dump against a washout, as required under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976.

The suit also charges that the landfill operates as an open dump, which is defined by the complainant as a facility for the disposal of solid waste that does not comply with certain Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulations.

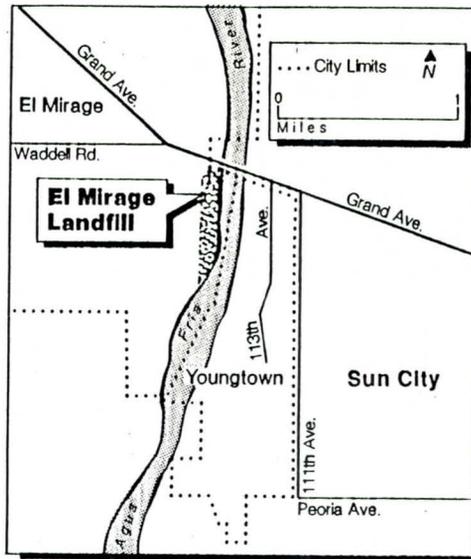
The suit asks the court to order the landfill to comply with the regulations and to pay civil penalties of \$25,000 a day for each day the landfill has been in violation of the federal regulations.

The defendants in the suit are Ken Boyce, who operates the landfill, and Refuse Research Corp. of Arizona, Mucho Dinero Inc. of Nevada and MRC Land and Development Co. of Arizona, all listed in the suit as co-owners of the landfill.

Phoenix attorney Doug Zimmerman, who is representing Boyce, denied that the landfill is a threat to public health and property and said riprap has been installed to prevent a washout.

Riprap is a wall made of stones used to prevent erosion.

"We believe the protection is perfectly accept-



Gus Walker/Republic

able," Zimmerman said Tuesday.

In a related action, the attorney general's office said it has given notice to the defendants that it intends to either file an amendment to the suit or file another suit against the landfill in 60 days, charging that it violates the U.S. Clean Water Act.

In the notice of intent sent to defendants on April 15, Jim Vieregg, an assistant attorney general, says the owners or operator of the landfill have discharged rocks, dirt, sand and other pollutants into the Agua Fria without a proper federal permit.

Zimmerman said he had not seen the notice of intent and expressed surprise to learn of its content.

"I'd be most most curious to see what pollutants we put in the water," he said.

In another El Mirage Landfill matter, a Maricopa County Superior Court judge has scheduled a hearing for Monday to continue considering charges filed by Boyce regarding a landfill ordinance enacted Sept. 11 by the El Mirage City Council.

In a suit filed Oct. 7, Boyce charges that the city's landfill ordinance is unconstitutional because it is "specifically, directly and exclusively intended to force the closure of the landfill."

The ordinance bans the importation of trash collected outside the city.

Boyce's operation is the only landfill in the city.

# River-land law signed by Mecham

Aimed at settling issue of ownership

By DEBORAH SHANAHAN  
The Arizona Republic

Gov. Evan Mecham signed a bill Tuesday that is designed to draw a court challenge and, ultimately, settle the question of who owns as many as 40,000 pieces of property along the state's riverbeds.

The question was raised when the state, in a 1985 lawsuit, asserted a little-known right under federal law to claim ownership of land along "navigable" rivers.

The still-pending lawsuit cast a cloud over the titles of property along rivers and streams throughout the state, including thousands of acres of farmland, property under downtown Phoenix high-rises and extensive sand-and-gravel operations along the Salt River.

"This is a move to settling a problem that's a little on the sticky side," Mecham said in signing the bill, which took effect immediately.

"I don't believe we can be in a position where landowners are being asked to pay taxes on properties ... and the state comes along and says, 'Well, surprise, now it isn't yours.' I don't think that's right."

Others, however, particularly David Baron of the Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest in Tucson, have argued that the legislation amounts to a giveaway of valuable public lands.

Under the new law, the state gives up claim to all river and stream beds except those of the Colorado, Salt, Verde and Gila rivers.

Along the Salt, Verde and Gila rivers, the law allows owners to pay a nominal \$25 an acre to gain clear title.

The law also maintains for the public whatever access currently exists for recreation, although some outdoor groups have argued that access will be difficult to guarantee under the law.

Baron was out of town Tuesday and could not be reached for comment about whether he intends to sue the state over the issue.

Lawmakers are hoping someone will file a lawsuit.

Rep. Bob Denny, R-Litchfield Park, said he sponsored the bill so "the courts will decide in one lawsuit rather than 40,000 lawsuits."

The law was hailed by sand-and-gravel operators, many of whom posed for pictures with Mecham.

Ironically, the law also was welcomed by Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado Development District.

The state's claim on riverbeds, if upheld, could slash the \$100 million cost of acquiring land for the \$1 billion project, which is envisioned as 40 miles of lakes, parks, homes and businesses.

Az Rep July 10, 87 F1

# State denies request for salt-cedar control

By GUY WEBSTER  
The Arizona Republic

Concern about use of herbicides and state funds prompted the Arizona Commission of Agriculture and Horticulture on Thursday to keep salt-cedar trees off the state's hit list of plants.

The commission also acceded to requests from cotton farmers to drop plans for a regulation that likely would have reduced the need for future pesticide applications against boll weevils.

The Gila Bend Natural Resource Conservation District had petitioned the commission to add salt cedars to the state's "noxious weeds" list because profusion of the trees around rivers and waterways

gulps water, cracks concrete ditches and crowds out other vegetation.

Salt cedar, also known as tamarisk, is not native to the Southwest. It has slender branches and feathery pink or purple flowers.

Commission staff supervisor Robert Gronowski recommended that the commissioners reject the conservation district's request. He said that listing the plant would obligate the commission to try to come up with funds to eradicate it.

"Control or eradication of salt cedar would be difficult, if not impossible, and would be extremely expensive," Gronowski said. "Environmentalists would protest the mechanical removal due to loss of  
— State, F2

## STATE

Continued from F1

shelter for birds and wildlife and the use of herbicides due to contamination of the water courses these plants grow in."

Also, many beekeepers depend on salt cedars as a nectar source for their bees, he said.

Commissioners said they would like further information about the costs of damage and control before reconsidering their decision.

Representatives of the Arizona Cotton Growers Association succeeded in scuttling plans from the commission staff to extend the length of time that cotton fields must be kept bare in winter.

The mandatory period is a non-chemical strategy against the cotton-boll weevil designed to remove the insect's winter habitat.

In western Arizona, where a federally supported eradication project has decimated weevil numbers in two years, the period is 60 days. In central Arizona, including the Phoenix area, the period is 45

days, beginning Feb. 1.

The commission, cotton growers and the U.S. Department of Agriculture are planning to extend the project to central Arizona next year. Commission Director Ivan J. "Tiny" Shields recommended that the period be lengthened to 60 days in central Arizona.

Rick Lavis, executive vice president of the Arizona Cotton Growers Association, and Bill Scott, former president of the association, opposed the change on grounds that it would reduce compliance among growers who do not have weevil problems themselves. The commission voted against the change.

After the meeting, U.S. Department of Agriculture entomologist Robert Staten, who has worked on boll-weevil eradication in western Arizona, said that failure to get a 60-day period would increase the need for pesticide applications in the projected central Arizona project. The projects use malathion.

## Revamping of county government merits study, Valley officials agree

A council of Valley government officials took the first step Wednesday night toward establishing a committee to work on restructuring county government.

In an unanimous vote, the regional council of the Maricopa Association of Government agreed to have Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard and four of its other members look into the formation of a committee to study ways to provide more-regional leadership in county government.

The move seemed to indicate that the regional council, which consists of a member of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors and the mayors of all 21 Valley cities and towns, has at least some support for

the idea of restructuring county government.

The idea of forming the committee had been recommended by the Board of Supervisors and the Valleywide Town Hall.

The Town Hall recommendation was made during a meeting of more than 100 citizens in June.

Maricopa County Supervisor Carole Carpenter, who attended the Town Hall, said she felt the regional council's move Wednesday was "a big step" because it represented the first time a panel of city officials has agreed to work on restructuring county government.

She said she thinks the support of cities is the key to getting any reforms in the structure of county government.

Az. Republic  
6-12-87

# Gravel firms want break on

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Sand-and-gravel companies will actively oppose the election campaign for the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project unless they succeed in gaining the passage of legislation to protect their land from condemnation, a spokesman for the companies said Thursday.

Ed Belt, president of the Arizona Rock Products Association, said that his statement is not intended to be a threat and that he remains optimistic that the legislation can be passed in a special session planned for July 29, even though the topic has not been placed on the tentative agenda for the session.

"We stand to gain from this project as much as anyone at this table," Belt told members of the Rio Salado Development District board Thursday.

The project would transform land owned by the companies and others in and around the Salt River bed into public parks and recreation areas and private commercial, industrial and residential development. Maricopa County voters will be asked at a Nov. 3 special election to approve a property tax of as much as 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to help build the project.

The legislation is a key element of the agreement the association is trying to reach with the district, which would develop the project, because it would protect the companies and other landowners along the Salt River from condemnation of their property. The companies own more than half of the 5,100 acres in the district's planning area.

The companies' land is targeted for development as part of the project, but the sand-and-gravel companies want to be able to develop it themselves in compliance with the district's plans instead of losing it to condemnation. In re-

turn, the companies would help pay for the project's public portions.

Belt said Senate and House leaders, including House Majority Leader Jim Ratchiff, R-Sun City, a staunch Rio Salado opponent, have agreed to support the proposed legislation even though they might not support the project.

"If we go there hand in hand with our agreement, I think we'll get in in the July 29 special session," Belt said. "And I think we have a good chance of success."

In turn, the association would support the election, Belt said.

"That's real optimism," said Senate Minority Leader Alan Stephens, a south Phoenix Democrat and a Rio Salado supporter.

"Anything that deals with Rio Salado in the Legislature will be more likely to be defeated rather than passed. People are just plain tired of the issue of Rio Salado at the Legislature."

Stephens said lawmakers already have a "full plate" of issues for the three-day special session.

William Ream, Tempe vice mayor and a member of the Rio Salado district board, said the legislation would be strongly opposed by all Arizona municipalities out of fear that it would open the door for future attempts to take away their own rights of condemnation.

"No matter what happens, I don't think it's critical to the future of Rio Salado, no matter what the Rock Products Association does," he said. "Sand-and-gravel companies are not going to count in this."

Later, Jay Smith, running the election campaign for the project, said a poll by Behavior Research Center Inc. of Phoenix found that the public "thinks very little" of the sand-and-gravel companies.

The Rio Salado board passed a resolution Thursday that said an agreement could be worked out between the companies and the

district to resolve the problem. The resolution was approved over the objections of Ream, who said the resolution was not on the agenda for the meeting, as required under the state open-meeting law.

"This action by the board should remove any last obstacle between

## Rio Salado

the Rio Salado Project and the Arizona Rock Products Association," Dennis Mitchem, chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, the campaign committee for the project, said in a press release passed out after the district adopted the resolution.

Az. Republic  
5-28-87

## **Blight Postponed**

*Editor:*

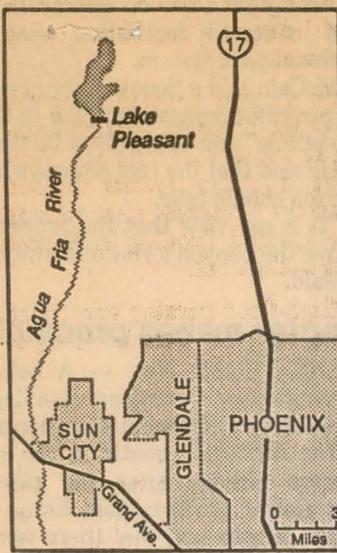
Congratulations to the Phoenix City Council on its recent decision to postpone further action on the plans for Reach 3 and Reach 4.

A drive in the area of 43rd Avenue and Peoria should be enough to convince the residents of Phoenix that the project as presently designed and implemented by the Corps of Engineers is not only disrupting to the neighborhood, but imposes a permanent blight on the area.

Detailed studies have proved that efficient flood-control projects can be much better engineered and constructed, not only for flood control but for scenic and environmental impact.

It is most refreshing to have this recognized by members of the City Council.

**MARJORIE McAFEE**  
*Phoenix*



Gus Walker/Republic

## U.S. bids to obtain lake land

### Plan would keep county in control

By JOANN BRAAM  
The Arizona Republic

The Maricopa County Parks Department will maintain operation of Lake Pleasant Regional Park under a plan by the federal government to accelerate acquisition of more than 16,000 acres of land in and around the park.

The federal takeover of the land also means the county may save millions of dollars in its operation of the 14,000-acre park, 35 miles northwest of downtown Phoenix, county officials said.

The plan frees the county from a \$1.1 million annual lease payment due July 1 that was not in the county budget.

The size of the lease payment came as a surprise to county officials earlier this year when they learned that the value of the parkland had been reassessed by the Arizona Land Department.

That boosted the lease payment to \$1.1 million from \$126,000.

If the payment were not made, county officials feared the county would lose control of the park.

— Lake, B4

5-8-87 Ag. Rep.

Thursday for a ban on aircraft flight and endorsed legislation that national-park system.

McCain told a Senate Energy sub an aircraft-management plan in the the public" and would allow further

He said that the real issue is what canyon should take.

"It is my view that the proper above the canyon's rim and away he said.

### **Copter makes precaution**

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — A helicopter precautionary emergency landing Federal Aviation Administration said

The helicopter landed in the Canyon Village after the pilot mechanical problem, said Frank Office. Moore said that there were that the passengers were flown out

Grand Canyon National Park off occur once or twice a year.

### **Defendant acquitted in**

KINGMAN — A Mohave County Bullhead City man of first-degree of his rival in a love triangle.

Billy Kemp Griffith, 31, had been counts of aggravated assault and on truck-motorcycle collision that took and injured Rebecca Robertson.

The jury deliberated only 30 minutes innocent on all counts.

The panel apparently rejected deliberately drove his pickup truck and Robertson were riding on a Bull

Trial testimony indicated that both men and that Bryson was the also said the Bryson and Griffith entered the picture several years ago

### **Mistakenly freed inmate**

A state-prison inmate released that is back behind bars, the Department

Frankie Don Phillips, 26, was taken Mesa police.

Phillips, who entered prison in a sale of narcotics, was paroled in January on parole, Phillips was convicted of to five more years, to be served consecutive

The department said that when prison officials overlooked the second his apprehension Wednesday, he remainder of the second sentence, department said.

Phillips was the third prisoner through administrative error, the department also have been returned to prison.

### **Divers recover angler's**

Maricopa County sheriff's divers fisherman who drowned when he northeast of Phoenix.

Comer Jordan, 64, of Phoenix, and he and a friend were in was capsized identity was not available, swam to

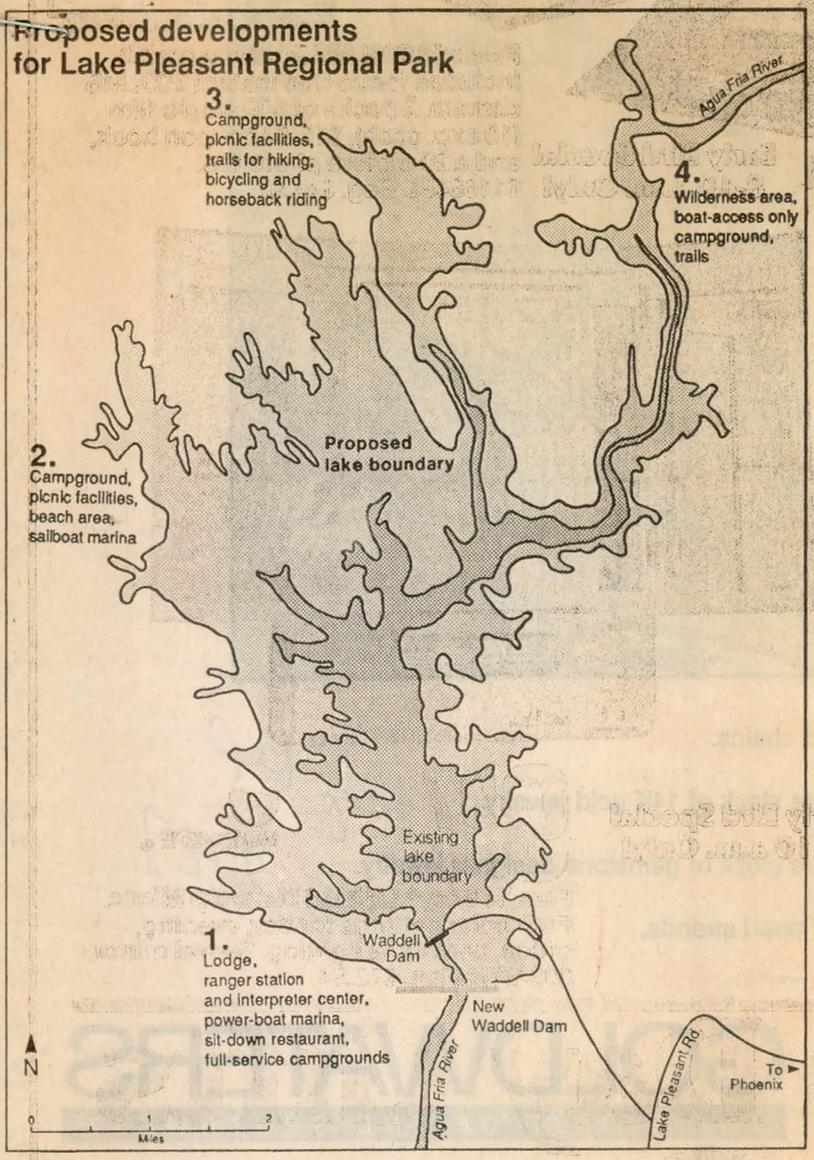
Divers went to the area Thursday after about three hours.

### **Tribe shuts Tucson bingo**

TUCSON — A dispute involving

Ar. Republic  
5-8-87

### Proposed developments for Lake Pleasant Regional Park



Republic

## Lake

*Continued from B1*

The proposal tentatively has been approved by the county, the Land Department and the two federal agencies involved in negotiations concerning land in and near the park, the Bureau of Reclamation and the Bureau of Land Management.

It calls for the two federal agencies to acquire more than 16,000 acres of state land in and around the park and then allow the county Parks Department to retain control of managing the recreation area.

Federal officials said the acquisition proceedings are being expedited so the county will not have to make the lease payment to the Land Department.

"We're in a hurry-up process, trying to get this done," said Keith Rogers, a real-estate specialist with the Bureau of Reclamation's Phoenix office.

Earlier this year, Parks Director Bill Richwine said the county did not have \$1.1 million to make the payment.

He said the county would have to relinquish rights to the park if the money could not be raised, leaving the management of the park up in the air.

Richwine said federal takeover of

the parkland by July 1 will mean "an immediate savings of about \$1 million we won't have to pay for a lease fee."

In addition, he said, the county will save several million dollars because it no longer will need to buy state land outside the existing park boundaries for park expansion and improvements.

Under a proposed intergovernmental agreement, the Bureau of Reclamation and the BLM will allow the county to manage the state land it intends to acquire outside park boundaries.

A county master plan is being developed for \$15 million worth of improvements to the park.

Part of the improvements include acquiring 25,000 acres to accommodate expanded attractions and a larger lake that will be caused by the completion of the New Waddell Dam at the park in 1993.

The dam is part of the \$5.2-billion Central Arizona Project.

The lake is expected to swell to 10,000 acres from 3,000 in 1993 with completion of the dam.

In addition to acquiring more land, the county plans a new lodge, two marinas, restaurants and campgrounds, roads, trails, and a wilderness area to replace and supplement existing structures that will be covered by water when Lake Pleasant is expanded.

REPUBLIC

Ariz. Republic  
4-17-89

## LEGISLATURE

# Don't Water Down Lakes Bill

**S**ENATE passage of a bill to restrict the use of drinking water in artificial lakes raises hopes that Arizona finally will get some long-needed legislation to safeguard against the improper use of one of the state's most precious commodities. A lot depends on what happens in the House, where similar, but weaker, legislation died last year. House tinkering with the bill could doom the current proposal.

In its present form, the measure calls for strong, sensible prohibitions. The Senate bill would limit decorative lakes to the size of an Olympic pool unless they were filled with effluent, storm-water runoff, poor-quality water or water withdrawn to solve waterlogging or water-contamination problems. Lakes in public recreation areas, ground-water recharge projects and golf courses would be exempt from the restrictions.

Supporters of the new regulations say they are needed to beef up rules that went into effect last Jan. 1. Those rules, under the 1980 Groundwater Management Act, prohibit filling lakes with some sources of ground water, but do not apply to developers who retire farmland and use its water rights to fill lakes on the property or who fill lakes with surface water.

Barring House changes in the language of the bill, it could head off an initiative to seek even tougher restrictions on lakes — a move threatened by developer John F. Long, who reportedly is still considering an initiative campaign.

Some changes, however, may be proposed. Rep. Jenny Norton, R-Tempe, said she has prepared an amendment that would grandfather in lakes when the state Department of Resources director determined that "substantial capital investment" had been made by developers. "I live on a decorative lake," Norton said, "and I firmly, truly believe that treated water is as good as any other water. But my neighbors are fussier. They paid their money so they could live next to drinking water. This is for them."

There can be little question that Norton's "them" are a distinct minority in Arizona. The vast majority of Arizonans — and that most likely includes those in Norton's district — are becoming fussy about having an adequate supply of drinking water. That would not be enhanced by decorative lakes filled with same.

The Senate bill is sound legislation. It should not be watered down.

# Lakes bill is passed by Senate

## Drinking-water ban faces foe in House

By DEBORAH SHANAHAN  
The Arizona Republic

A proposal to restrict the use of drinking water in artificial lakes was sent to the state House on Thursday, where attempts will be made to add a loophole for lakes already planned.

Meanwhile, developer John F. Long said Thursday that he still is considering an initiative aimed at imposing lakes restrictions even tougher than those passed by the Senate on Thursday.

In addition, he said that a proposal, so far unsuccessful, to change the 1980 Groundwater Management Act to make it easier to build golf courses has prompted him to propose putting a constitutional amendment on the November 1988 ballot to "reaffirm" the code as currently written.

"If it's part of the constitution, special-interest groups would never be able to tamper with it," Long said.

On the so-called lakes bill, the Senate voted 26-3 to support the restrictions without the loophole, which was defeated 18-8 last week. Voting against the proposal Thursday were Sens. Tony West of north-central Phoenix, Wayne Stump of northwest Phoenix and Hal Runyan of Litchfield Park.

The bill now goes to the House, where Rep. Jenny Norton, R-Tempe, has prepared an amendment that would allow drinking water to be used in lakes if the state determined "substantial capital investment" had been made by developers by Jan. 1.

"I live on a decorative lake," Norton said, "and I firmly, truly believe that treated water is as good as any other water. But my neighbors are fussier. They paid their money so they could live next to drinking water. This is for them."

As passed by the Senate, the proposal would limit artificial lakes filled after Jan. 1 to the size of an Olympic pool unless they were filled with effluent, storm-water runoff, poor-quality water or water withdrawn to solve waterlogging or contamination problems.

Lakes in public-recreation areas, ground-water-recharge projects and golf courses would be exempt from the restrictions, which are intended to strengthen rules that went into

## Lakes

*Continued from B1*

do not apply to developers who retire farmland and use its water rights to fill lakes on the property or who fill lakes with surface water.

Opponents say the bill, as written, is "anti-growth" and would unconstitutionally deprive developers of property rights. They advocate phasing out drinking-water lakes.

A bill with a 10-year phase-out died last year in the House after much lobbying by builders, realtors and golf-course owners.

Rep. Larry Hawke, R-Tucson, chairman of the House Natural Resources and Energy Committee and a supporter of lakes restrictions, said there are no guarantees that Norton's loophole will be added to the bill.

"They're going to have to tell me what 'substantial capital investment' means," he said.

Long said it is "premature" to say whether he likes the Senate version well enough to abandon his lakes initiative.

His second proposal, unveiled Thursday, would require a three-fourths vote of both the House and Senate to make changes to the ground-water code.

"That's so difficult, it's almost prohibiting changes," Long said, adding that such protections are needed because of attempts this session by other developers to weaken the code.

Those proposed changes are in limbo, with committees in both the House and Senate refusing to support what they considered a "gutting" of the code.

The proposed changes, among other things, would allow developers to retire irrigated farmland and "pool" the water for lakes and golf courses even if the land they were on had not previously been irrigated.

effect Jan. 1.

Those rules, under the 1980 code, prohibit the filling of lakes with some sources of ground water but

— Lakes, B2

Ariz. Republic  
4-17-87

## Flood project dams up traffic on Main Street

### Stores lose customers, but officials have alibi

By KAREN McCOWAN  
Arizona Republic Correspondent

During the snowbird season, Annette Beton is usually so busy managing an East Mesa gas station and convenience store that the days fly by.

This year, though, her days are long and empty. The westbound lanes of East Main Street, along which her business sits, are blocked off. On the other side of the temporary concrete wall, cars and trucks, most of them sporting out-of-state plates, flow by in a bumper-to-bumper stream. Winter residents, usually the core of her business, just aren't turning into her station this year; it's too hard to get back onto the road.

What is usually one of east Mesa's busiest intersections is closed, except for single lanes moving east and west on Main.

The culprit is a \$60 million flood-control project aimed at ending flooding in east Mesa south of the Roosevelt Water Conservation District canal.

As bridge and pipe work for the project is being done, Higley Road is closed south of Main Street. Main Street, which is six lanes wide west of the intersection, is only two lanes wide east of it.

When completed, the floodway will stretch from the Gila River to just north of Brown Road, according to Sue Mutschler, public

involvement coordinator for the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

"It will be a tremendous benefit for a big part of East Mesa," Mutschler said. "Right now, floodwaters that run off from the north and east pool behind the RWDC canal and eventually break it, flooding people south of the canal. This project should be a tremendous help for them."

Beton and other merchants along Main Street east of Higley Road have no quarrel with the project's value; they simply question its timing.

"This time of year, we are usually one of Cardon's (Oil Co.) top-dollar stations in the whole Valley," Beton said. "Right now, our totals are among the lowest."

Connie Bridges, who operates the King's Table restaurant at 5252 E. Main with her husband, Mel, agreed.

"This is the bread-and-butter season for our business," she said. "Why they would choose to do this project now is beyond me. We serve 10,000 people a week here in the wintertime. In the summer, we drop down to about 2,000."

She estimated that the untimely construction is costing their business 1,000 or more customers a week. That hurts, she said, but she added that she is even more

— Traffic, Extra 5



Gary Ulik/Republic

Main Street and Higley Road has been a bottleneck for motorists and a pain in the neck for merchants because of a project to control flooding in east Mesa south of the Roosevelt Water Conservation District Canal. This is the view looking west on Main.



## Mesa residents want schools to push basics

By JERRY HICKEY  
The Arizona Republic

Mesa Public Schools should allow

thinks the district's curriculum allocations may closely match the survey results for the five subjects.

basic skills in the top five extra services in terms of relative allocations of money.

The participants were asked to grade Mesa schools. The district received an A from 25 percent, a B from 52 percent, a C from 19 percent, a D from 3 percent and an F from 1 percent.

In the smaller survey, the district had received an A from 45 percent, a B from 53 percent and a C from 2 percent.

The participants in the larger

tance, the top five goals they listed were to help students:

- Read with understanding.
- Develop a positive attitude toward learning.
- Communicate effectively in speech.
- Communicate effectively in writing.
- Develop study skills needed for lifelong learning.

Ranked lowest in the list of 16

## Traffic

*Continued from Extra 1*

concerned because many of her customers have been involved in accidents attempting to turn on and off Main Street.

"I'd say since the construction began, we've had one to two fairly serious accidents a week involving people trying to get out of our driveway," she said. "Most of our winter customers are seniors who may not be judging speed and distance quite as well as they used to. Many are from rural communities, and this kind of traffic situation is very frightening for them."

However, Mesa police officers who regularly patrol the area say the construction has actually reduced the number of serious accidents along that stretch of Main Street, said Anita Mason of the department's traffic division. They attribute the reduction to the slower driving speeds induced by the construction, she added.

Carol Goodman, owner of Ceramic Crafts, 5211 E. Main, calls the timing of the construction project "terrible."

"It has hurt us very, very badly," she said. "Our December business dropped to half of what it was last year."

Her husband, Carl, operates Canyon State Radiator and Muffler in a different part of the same building.

"He was also down a good 50 percent," she said.

The big problem is the double whammy of increased traffic from the snowbirds and the constricted roadway, Goodman said.

"The traffic is constant, and people just won't slow down enough to let people in and out of a driveway," she said. "One night last week, when I was leaving the shop, I watched a little old lady get out of her motor home and walk out onto the road to stop traffic so her

husband could pull out."

"It's disgusting," said Gertrude Smith of Jamestown, N.D., who has wintered at the Centebar Motel and Apartments, 5402 E. Main St., since 1967. "It's very unhandy. You just can't get out onto the road. Cars won't let you in when they should. The other day, I timed it on my dashboard clock. I sat for 15 minutes trying to get onto Main."

Motel manager Donna Djakic said the construction project has devastated her seasonal business.

"We just don't have any over-nighters this year," she said, "and they're usually about 30 percent of our business. Traffic is bad enough out here when all the winter visitors are here. To do something like this now seems ridiculous."

Mesa City Engineer Harry Kent said the city "sent several letters" to the flood-control district, which is coordinating the project, asking that the project be completed before the snowbird season.

"We asked them to bid it in April so they could be done by October," he said. "Obviously, that didn't happen."

It didn't for two reasons, said county officials and project engineers.

"Part of the reason was that a certain portion of the work had to be done when the RWCD canal was dry in November," said Earl Kirby, deputy chief of construction and operations for the flood-control district.

The project was designed last spring and was bid in mid-summer, said Sal Misseri, manager of the project for Mathews Kessler and Associates, an engineering firm.

"The contract was awarded in late August, and work began in early September," he said. "All of the construction had to be coordinated around the two-week dry-up period for the canal. But then we ran into a problem with one of the

In the survey, 65 percent of the participants said students entering school will be better-prepared because many attended preschools.

Sixty-four percent said that eventually, classrooms across the country will be linked by television and that students will be able to share lectures and discussions.

New technologies will allow more individualized instruction for students, according to 63 percent.

items needed for the project."

No local or regional supplier could provide the 72-inch reinforced-concrete pipe needed for the floodway, Misseri explained.

"We ended up having to have it specially made, and it took us three months to get that," he said.

When Mesa officials learned about the delays, they considered asking the contractor to put the project off until summer, when the snowbirds would be gone.

"But by that time, we already had several other projects scheduled in the same area for summertime," Kent said. "You reach a point where you just can't have too much going on at once in the same place, or the contractors will be out there butting heads. So we decided we'd better just bite the bullet this time."

Kent added that the pace of growth in the East Valley is making it impossible to schedule all construction projects for the summer: there is simply too much to be done.

Misseri said work in the Higley-Main area should be finished about March 1. Ironically, that's about the time business usually starts to slow down at Beton's gas station, as snowbirds begin to return to their home states.

Across the street, the manager of the Circle K on the southeastern corner of the intersection offered a long-range perspective on the situation.

"I guess it's something that has to be done, so you just have to live with it," Loretta Worrell said. "When we were first told about it, Circle K offered me the chance to manage another store, but I turned them down. I decided to stay with this one because I figure it's eventually going to make more money because it's in such a good location."

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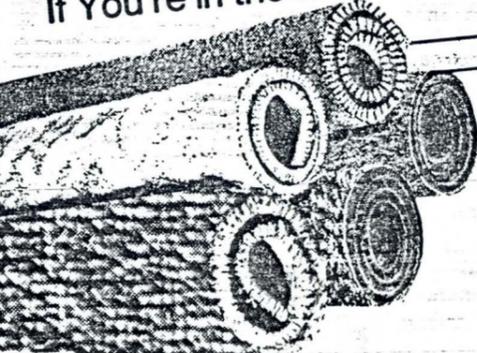


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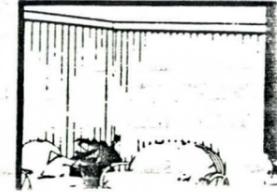
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## Flood victims fail to win damages

By BRENT WHITING  
The Arizona Republic

Current and former residents of two settlements on the Agua Fria River lost another round Tuesday in their fight to be reimbursed for flood damage during heavy storms in December 1978 and February 1980.

The Arizona Court of Appeals upheld a September 1982 verdict in favor of several defendants, including Maricopa County Water Conservation District No. 1, operator of Waddell Dam, which backs up Lake Pleasant.

During a six-month trial, the district was accused of negligence in failing to make safe volume releases from the dam during the two storms, resulting in flooding to the downstream communities of Hound Dog Acres and Rose Garden Lane.

Hound Dog Acres, near 107th Avenue and Happy Valley Road, has been abandoned, but people continue to live in Rose Garden Lane, which is about two miles farther south along the Agua Fria River.

The district maintained during the trial that the dam was operated reasonably during the storms and that residents of both communities suffered the consequences of choosing to live in a riverbed.

The district also contended that although it could not release water with impunity, it could not be held liable for damages as long as releases were no more than the amount of water flowing into Lake Pleasant during the two storms.

In a unanimous 46-page decision, the Court of Appeals said Judge Stanley Z. Goodfarb of Maricopa

County Superior Court correctly ruled that although Waddell Dam was not built as a flood-control structure, the district did have a duty "to exercise reasonable care in the release of water from the reservoir behind the dam."

Judge Levi Ray Haire, writing for the court, said the ratio of inflow to releases "was just one of the factors to be considered by the jury in determining whether the district had exercised reasonable care."

The ruling will not have any impact on any other flooding cases in Arizona because it was issued by the court as a "memorandum decision," meaning it cannot be cited by lawyers as a precedent.

Mark Sifferman, a Phoenix lawyer for residents of Rose Garden Lane, said the ruling will be appealed to the Arizona Supreme Court.

Larry D. Hammond, a Phoenix lawyer for former residents of Hound Dog Acres, said he will consult with his clients before deciding whether to appeal.

Ninety-two former and current residents of Hound Dog Acres and Rose Garden Lane had sought about \$3.5 million in damages, including \$2.5 million in punitive damages.

Other defendants included the Del E. Webb Development Co. and Sun Valley Crushing Co., which were accused of aggravating the flood damage by excavating in the river channel or by building dikes that diverted water into the two communities.

Larry L. Smith, a Phoenix lawyer for the water district, said he is pleased with Tuesday's ruling as well as the fact that it is a memorandum decision.

Ag. Republic  
10-6-81

# District supports Agua Fria dam

By Mary A.M. Perry  
Republic Staff

AR 10-6-81

The Central Arizona Water Conservation District voted Monday to endorse a so-called Orme Dam alternative that includes a dam on the Agua Fria River rather than a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers.

The district's 8-4 vote to endorse Plan 6 came after considerable disagreement as former governors Howard Pyle and Jack Williams voiced their support for Plan 3 — one that includes a confluence dam. The district's executive board voted two weeks ago to endorse Plan 6.

The district's choice involves building a Cliff Dam on the Verde River and a new or enlarged Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River, both for flood control, and a Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River to store Central Arizona Project water. Stewart Mountain Dam on the Salt would be reconstructed for safety.

Plan 3 contains the same upstream structures on the Salt and Verde but includes a confluence dam instead of a dam on the Agua Fria River south of Lake Pleasant.

The Plan 3 confluence dam or the Plan 6 dam on the Agua Fria would be built only for regulatory storage of CAP water. The upstream structures are

the same in both plans and provide the Valley with about the same amount of flood control, according to federal study figures.

The water-conservation district was formed by legislative action in 1971 to act as the financing agent for CAP water scheduled for delivery into the Phoenix area in 1985 and into Tucson in 1987. Its board has 15 elected members.

"This action is a sorry tribute to the great Carl Hayden who fought for every drop of water in this state," said Pyle, who was governor of Arizona from 1950 through 1954. The late Sen. Hayden worked for the original 1968 congressional legislation that authorized the CAP. The original legislation included a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers or a "suitable alternative."

Conservation-district board members Gene Shumway and Lynn Sharp of Mesa also voted against the district's endorsement of Plan 6. They both said they wanted to study the plans further.

"It's a matter of the people that live here being protected against the molestation of raging floodwaters," Shumway said.

Plan 6 would reduce 100-year flood flows — about 215,000 cubic feet per second at Sky Harbor Airport — to a flow of about 55,000 cfs at the

— Dam, A13

## Dam

Continued from A1

airport, according to Army Corps of Engineers figures. Plan 3 would reduce the flow to 50,000 to 55,000 cfs, but the corps says the difference — involving rain falling between dams — is negligible.

Williams, who voted against Plan 6, earlier lost an attempt to table the issue until he "can be convinced" that Plans 3 and 6 are comparable.

"I think we've been had," Williams said.

A Salt River Project task force and the Phoenix City Council have decided to endorse Plan 3, with Plan 6 as a second choice. When Gov. Bruce Babbitt's Advisory Committee voted Friday to endorse Plan 6, SRP Manager Jack Pfister and Mayor Margaret Hance said they would support the committee's choice.

A primary study group, the federally directed Central Arizona Water Control Study, will make its report late this month. The final decision by the Interior Department will come next spring after consultation with the Bureau of Reclamation's regional director and Arizona's congressional delegation.

Arg. Republic  
10-3-81

Editorials

A.R.

10-3-81

## Decision On Orme

YEARS of strife and study over flood control and water storage for the Phoenix metropolitan area have now come down to a final decision.

Of seven alternatives presented by the Central Arizona Water Control Study, three proposals are favored.

Under Plan 3, four structures would be built, including Orme Dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, Cliff Dam on the Verde, a new enlarged Roosevelt and reconstructed Stewart Mountain Dam on the Salt.

Estimated cost: \$764 million.

Under Plan 6 and Plan 7, the same upstream structures as Plan 3 would be included.

But instead of a confluence dam there would be a new Waddell structure on the Agua Fria River below Lake Pleasant.

Estimated cost: \$746 million.

While the Phoenix City Council endorsed plans 3, 6 and 7 in that order, the county Board of Supervisors could not agree on what to endorse and therefore did nothing.

Whatever plan is chosen, it may have to be reauthorized by Congress because costs are more than double original estimates.

Those who favor Plan 3 generally agree that it would provide Phoenix with greater flood control as well as a larger water supply.

However, Yavapai Indians of Fort McDowell, some of whose lands would be flooded by an Orme Dam, have endorsed Plan 6.

William D. Mathews, general manager and chief engineer of the Maricopa County Flood Control District, maintains that only a dam at the Orme site can spare the Valley from flooding below current dams.

Mathews estimates that as much as 130,000 cubic feet per second of water could pour from the basin below Roosevelt Dam and the proposed Cliff structure in flash flooding.

He says an Orme Dam could reduce flooding to 50,000 cubic feet a second, which would permit expansion of Sky Harbor Airport and development of the Rio Salado Project.

Waddell Dam provides flood control for neither the Salt nor Verde rivers.

And there is no guarantee Roosevelt and Cliff dams would be constructed, nor that Stewart Mountain would be reconstructed.

Thus, the Phoenix area could be left — for an undetermined length of time — with no flood control and six declared unsafe dams above it under that proposal.

The \$100 million allocated under the original dam safety legislation has been allocated and no funds are now available.

The Yavapais as well as environmental groups warn they will go to court and tie up for years any attempt to build a dam at the Salt and Verde.

Ultimately, then, the plan that best serves the needs and safety of a metropolitan area could be thwarted by unreasoned and emotional arguments, and by fear of a tedious court fight.

Any Republic  
10-1-81

Hearing on Orme alternatives  
draws 35 opponents of plan

AR-10-1-81

## Senator supports dam at confluence of Salt, Verde

By Mary A.M. Perry  
Republic Staff

Sen. Stan Turley, R-Mesa, was the lone supporter of a so-called Orme alternative that includes a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers at a final public hearing Wednesday night.

About 35 people, supported by applause from an audience of about 250, spoke against the dam.

"After studying facts distributed by the federally directed Central Arizona Water Control Study," Turley said, his personal choice is Plan 3.

Plan 3, one of seven under consideration by CAWCS, includes a dam at the Salt and Verde confluence, a new Cliff dam on the Verde and a reconstructed Stewart Mountain Dam and a new or enlarged Roosevelt Dam on the Salt. Plan 3 would flood nearly 10,000 acres of the 25,000-acre Fort McDowell Indian Reservation.

"Plan 3 leaves enough land base for the Indians and provides the greatest yield of Central Arizona Project water," Turley said.

If Plan 3 is not satisfactory to federal decision makers, he said, his second choice is Plan 6.

Plan 6 includes the new Cliff structure on the Verde and the Stewart Mountain and Roosevelt structures on the Salt. But instead

of a confluence dam, Plan 6 includes a new Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River.

The Yavapai Indians at Fort McDowell have endorsed Plan 6.

Joe Dixon, the Army Corps of

Engineers representative on the study, said Wednesday night that there was no difference in flood control between Plan 3 and Plan 6.

Plan 3 would reduce a 100-year flood — a flow of 215,000 cubic feet

per second of water at Sky Harbor Airport — to 50,000 to 55,000 cfs at the airport. Plan 6 would reduce the 100-year flood to 50,000 cfs at the airport, according to CAWCS studies.

Plan 3 and Plan 6, respectively, would yield 163,000 acre-feet and 143,000 acre-feet a year of storage for CAP water.

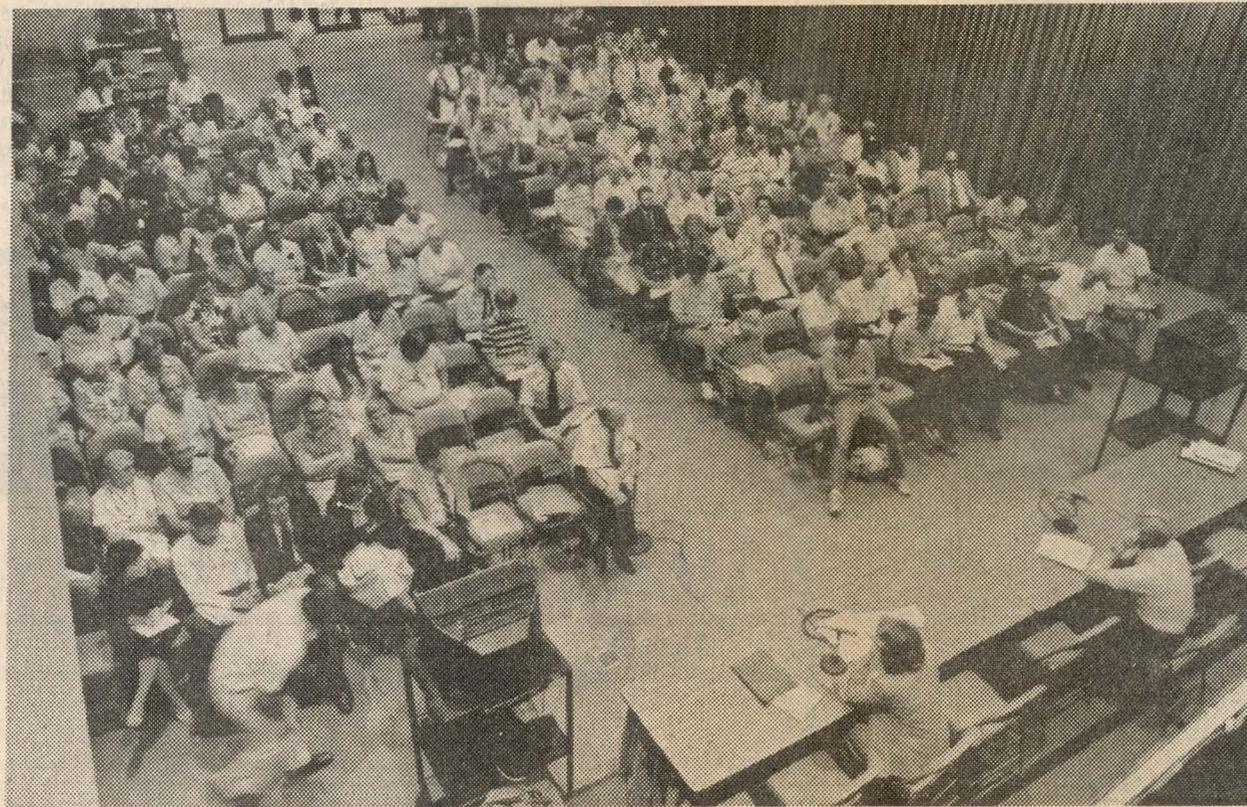
"I will support any plan that you choose," Turley told the CAWCS members. "But I hope for regulatory storage for the CAP."

Representatives from the faculty of Arizona State University, the Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, the East Mesa Chapter of Senior Citizens, Gray Panthers and Citizens Concerned About the Project all spoke against a plan that contains a confluence dam.

John Foster, a representative of District 27 Democrats, also opposed a plan that would lead to "the destruction of the Fort McDowell Indian community." Foster called the difference for CAP storage between Plans 3 and 6 "insignificant."

CAWCS will compile data from the three public hearings held this week and, after obtaining a recommendation on plans from the governor's advisory committee, rank the plans for review by the federal Bureau of Reclamation and Department of Interior.

The committee will meet Friday and Saturday and is expected to make a recommendation to the governor Saturday.



Republic

The audience listens to testimony at Wednesday's hearing for the Central Arizona Water Control Study.

## County supervisors fail to agree on an Orme alternative

By Randy Collier  
Republic Staff

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors could not agree Wednesday on a choice among seven so-called Orme alternatives under consideration by a federally directed study group.

Tom Freestone, the board's chairman, said the board "had resolved not to resolve the matter."

Dan Sagramoso, deputy chief engineer for

the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, recommended to the board that it endorse Plan 3, which would increase the storage of Central Arizona Project water by 163,000 acre-feet per year.

Supervisor Ed Pastor, a member of a committee appointed by Gov. Bruce Babbitt to review and recommend a plan from the Central Arizona Water Control Study group, said Plan 3 would be the worst environmentally for

residents of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Reservation.

Plan 3 calls for a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, a new Cliff dam on the Verde and a reconstructed Stewart Mountain Dam and new or enlarged Roosevelt Dam on the Salt.

Pastor said he would recommend either Plan 6 or Plan 7, both of which would provide for a New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River

(instead of a confluence dam) and a reconstructed Stewart Mountain Dam and new or enlarged Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River.

Supervisor George Campbell made a motion that the supervisors endorse Plan 3 with Plans 6 and 7 being their second and third choices.

Campbell and Freestone voted for Campbell's motion, Atkinson voted no, and Pastor abstained. Supervisor Fred Koory Jr. was not present.

City Republic  
10-1-81

# Problems feared if floods are injected into ground

Floodwaters could be controlled and injected into the state's groundwater table to augment the water supply, but it would be expensive, according to William Mathews, the general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

Although ground-water recharging has been done for decades, an eco-

nomically feasible program based on floodwaters apparently would be something new, Mathews said. He spoke Wednesday at the 25th annual Arizona Water Symposium in Carefree.

"In recent floods, 3 million acre-feet of water has passed through the greater Phoenix metropolitan area,"

he said. "That large amount that arrived in Painted Rock was lost to the water users of this area and became a nuisance and negative economic impact upon all of the farming interests downstream from Painted Rock."

Mathews said the definition of floodwater also is a major problem.

The technical definition of floodwater is water out of control. When it is controlled, it becomes subject to water rights, he said.

Most of the flows from the Phoenix area, when subsequently slowed down, would be claimed by downstream water-rights holders, he said.

Land prices for a water-conserving

## ground water

facility and costs for water-treatment costs are other factors limiting the economic feasibility of using the floodwaters, Mathews said.

"You have to endure these costs," he said. "You don't get clear, clean water in floods."

— Mary A.M. Perry

Ag. Republic  
9-29-81

# Dam

Continued from A1

However, she said she has not made up her mind which plans she will support at the committee meetings this weekend. She said she asked the council to endorse the position paper if she would have maximum flexibility at the meetings.

At the CAWCS public hearing, Jerry Grady, president of the Agriculture Business Council, said the \$764 million Plan 3, is best because it provides the most flood control for the Valley.

Plan 3 calls for the confluence dam plus a new Cliff Dam on the Verde, a new or enlarged Roosevelt Dam and a reconstructed Stewart Mountain Dam

on the Salt River. The plan calls for 163,000 acre-feet of water stored for the CAP per year.

Plans 6 and 7 include the same Cliff, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain projects but add the Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria instead of a confluence dam. Plan 6 would reduce a 100-year flow at the airport to 55,000 cfs and provide 143,000 acre-feet of CAP water storage annually. Plan 7 would reduce the flood flow to 55,000 cfs and provide 114,000 acre-feet of storage.

Grady said that although relocation of the Fort McDowell Indians would be "traumatic," it wouldn't be "any greater or more unique a sacrifice than non-Indians have made." "With due respect to the Fort McDowell Indians," Grady said,

"ABC does not find that the change required of them in Plan 3 is sufficient reason to forego the opportunities to better protect the larger community or provide greater water-supply potential to Arizona's metropolitan centers."

David Maurer of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce said the chamber recommends any of the three plans calling for a confluence dam. Plans 4 and 5 also call for the confluence dam and the other three structures, but are more expensive (\$1.1 billion and \$1 billion, respectively) because this confluence dam, designed to hold floodwaters in case some of the upstream structures give way, would be built first.

Tim Bray, executive director of the Rio Salado Development District, a

group charged with planning a lake system throughout Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix for flood control and recreation, also said maximum CAP water storage was the group's preference.

A representative of the Citizens Concerned About the Project, Frank Welch, said Plan 8 was the solution for Valley flood control.

Plan 8 calls for no federal action for flood control and CAP water storage. Instead, it calls for cities to build bridges that can accommodate floodwaters in the Valley.

"(Plan 8) would cost less than \$200 million," Welch said. "We already have nine bridges planned for completion by December 1981. And five more are planned by 1983."

The hearings continue today at 7:30 p.m. at Carl Hayden High School.

# Phoenix council endorses 3 plans for building dams

AR-9-29-81

## Groups also urge Orme alternative

By Frank Turco and Mary A.M. Perry  
Republic Staff

Three so-called Orme Dam alternatives — including one involving the construction of a new dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers — were endorsed Monday by the Phoenix City Council.

The council said the three plans are far superior to four others that have been developed by the federally directed Central Arizona Water Control Study.

The three are Plan 3, which includes a dam at the confluence of the two rivers, and Plans 6 and 7, both of which include construction of a new Waddell Dam below Lake Pleasant.

Also on Monday, several other Valley groups made their recommendations for Orme alternatives at the first of three public hearings conducted by CAWCS. Plan 3 also was at least one of the recommendations of the Arizona Agri-Business Council, the Rio Salado Development District and the Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce.

Although the City Council did not rate its three selections, it did adopt a position paper that indicated it favored Plan 3 over the other two plans, primarily because it would provide more safety and a larger water supply.

The same plans already have been endorsed by the Salt River Project, which says that it prefers Plan 3 but

that Plans 6 and 7 would be acceptable.

The Yavapai Indians on the Fort McDowell Reservation have said they will oppose any plan that includes a dam at the confluence of the rivers because it would flood their 25,000-acre reservation and force relocation of 390 residents.

The Yavapais have endorsed Plan 6.

The City Council's position paper was drafted by Mayor Margaret Hance, a member of the governor's advisory committee, which will make a recommendation after meetings on Friday and Saturday.

It said any acceptable plan must contain a guarantee that it will be implemented on a definite timetable, reduce a so-called 100-year flood to 50,000 cubic feet of water per second at Sky Harbor Airport, provide for the safety of existing dams, provide effective storage of Central Arizona Project water, protect the city's ground-water rights, and provide low enough flow levels to permit the development of the Rio Salado project and expansion of Sky Harbor.

Mrs. Hance said Plan 3 offers the best chance of improving the safety of existing dams and provides a larger water supply than Plans 6 and 7.

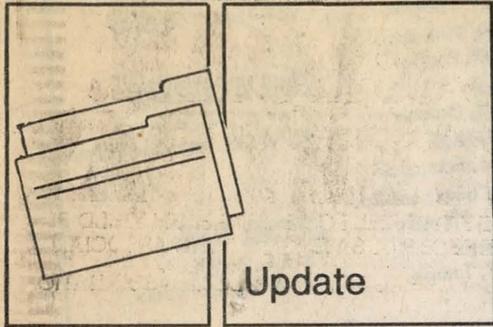
She said she is concerned that if Plans 6 or 7 are selected, most of the federal money will be spent on the Waddell Dam, and money to ensure the safety of the existing dams may be lost along the way.

— Dam, A2

8-24-81

AR-8-24-81

# Help is near for some flood-prone areas, years away for others



By Gail Reid  
Republic Staff

After floodwaters of the Salt, Gila and Agua Fria rivers ravaged communities along their banks in 1978 and again in 1980, state flood-control officials decided enough was enough.

They figured it was time either to relocate the families living in those flood-prone areas to higher ground or to divert the water around them.

Among those targeted for help were residents of Allenville, south of Buckeye; Duncan, in eastern Arizona; Hound Dog Acres,

north of Sun City; and Holly Acres, southwest of Phoenix.

But 18 months and \$5 million later, major problems remain. Relief for residents of Holly Acres and Hound Dog Acres still may be years away.

The picture is somewhat brighter for about 30 Allenville residents, whose new homes may be ready by November. Some Duncan residents also may find new homes by the end of the year.

Progress has been slow.

"It takes a long time to complete projects like this because we are not working with an existing system set up for flood control," explains Patrick Harrington, an assistant director for the Arizona Division of Emergency Services.

"We have to create and develop projects that were non-existent."

What has happened since the last floods hit in February 1980?

• The state flood-relief commission determined it would be impractical to relocate

Holly Acres, bordered by 91st Avenue and the Agua Fria River and Broadway Road and the Gila River.

Instead, Maricopa County Flood Control District officials bulldozed a 1,000-foot-wide channel on the Gila River between 91st and 123rd avenues, and they are studying flood-control alternatives.

Engineers have proposed a levee along the Gila River between 113th and 119th avenues or building a "ring dike" around the Holly Acres subdivision, which includes about 80

— Flood, B2

## Flood

Continued from B1

homes.

Bill Mathews, director of the flood-control district, estimated the dike would cost \$1.2 million and the levee \$1.5 million.

• The emergency-services division agreed to move flood victims from Duncan in 1978 and is preparing to relocate about 60 families later this year to an 82-lot subdivision that is nearly completed.

About 70 homes and more than 15 businesses were damaged by 1978 and 1980 floods of the Gila River.

Construction started in July on the \$1.9 million subdivision and is scheduled to be completed by December, Harrington said. The division is using state emergency funds to finance the project.

The U.S. Farmers Home Administration also is constructing a \$1.5 million senior-citizen apartment complex for about 40 elderly residents who are living in the flood plain. The complex is scheduled to be completed in early 1982.

He estimated that \$1.5 million would be needed to relocate the businesses.

• In Allenville, 50 homes were

damaged twice by the rampaging Gila River. The entire community is in the process of being relocated several miles north. Most of the residents have been living in temporary housing in Buckeye, waiting for a new subdivision to be completed.

The subdivision, on Palo Verde Road, is scheduled for completion in October, and about 30 Allenville families are expected to move in November.

• The situation in Hound Dog Acres, where 25 out of 50 homes were damaged when the Agua Fria flooded in December 1978 and February 1980, remains in limbo.

Flood-control-district officials decided it was too costly to try to protect the homes. They convinced state officials to relocate all the families living in the area.

The Division of Emergency Services acquired \$150,000 from the state to purchase 160 acres of land north of Hound Dog Acres and \$888,000 from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Administration to relocate the families.

Land selected by residents, however, was valued at \$4,000 an acre, making the purchase impossible.

Additional funds were not available, and residents could not agree on another site. They still are living in homes in the flood-prone community.

## Avondale backs plan to rechannel Agua Fria

AVONDALE — City officials here have endorsed a proposal to rechannel the Agua Fria River to alleviate perennial flooding problems.

Engineers from the state Department of Transportation, the Maricopa County Highway Department and the county Flood Control District proposed the suggested realignment. All three agencies could benefit from the rechannelization.

In a letter to William Mathews, the chief engineer and general manager of the Flood Control District, Avondale expressed its support for the project. The proposal to rechannel the river between Thomas Avenue and Indian School Road could save the state and county at least \$1 million, the letter said.

Mathews said he hopes to take the proposal before the county Board of Supervisors for its consideration sometime before Sept. 1.

Rechanneling would call for digging a deeper but narrower channel within the existing flood plain.

The deeper channel would force floodwaters to flow within the new channel, freeing the remainder of the flood plain. Such a move also would reduce, if not prevent, flood damage to Avondale and surrounding communities during heavy water flows.

At least 350 acres of privately owned property would have to be acquired to accomplish the rechannelization.

The flood plain currently is confined between Indian School Road and Van Buren Street to the north and south and by 115th Avenue and Dysart Road to the east and west.

However, nothing has been nailed down yet as to how or when the proposed rechannelization might take place. Mathews said the proposal still "is very much a conceptual idea."

He added that if the rechannelization occurred, the state Transportation Department could use dirt from the new channel's excavation as fill for the completion of Interstate 10. Using fill from the new channel could save the state about \$450,000, according to Flood Control District engineers.

Also, the county Highway Department could save about \$750,000 on a proposed bridge over the Agua Fria at McDowell Road if the river is rechanneled.

The county Highway Department has proposed the bridge over the Agua Fria at McDowell, but because the river is so wide at that point, engineers considered offsetting the bridge to the north. If the rechanneling occurred, the river would be narrower, and the bridge could remain in the proposed spot at a lesser cost to the county.

Avondale City Manager Carlos Palma told the City Council in July that the rechannelization would take away some development but would open up other areas for new development.

Council members had expressed some concern over the proposal, saying such a move could create "havoc" for landowners within the channel. But a consulting engineer for the city, Daryl Woods, told the council last week that he, Palma and representatives of the Flood Control District had met with landowners and that most agree with the concept of rechannelization.

"We could all go in there for about the same amount of money we would spend anyway and have a far superior project," Mathews said. "And it would even benefit those people who appear to be impacted negatively."

Mathews said the projected cost for rechannelization would come to roughly \$2.5 million, including the purchase of land rights from the affected landowners. However, he stressed that such a projection is a preliminary estimation.

"If we build the channel, I suspect we can build for about \$2.5 million," he said. "If we don't, the same will go on anyway."

Projected work on Interstate 10 and the proposed bridge over McDowell Road will continue, regardless of whether the rechannelization project is approved.

Mathews said he has met with all involved landowners and has assured them they will be reimbursed for any inconvenience caused as a result of the rechannelization.

The most-affected landowner would be Jack Rayner, who stands to lose at least 180 acres within the channel and as many as 300 acres overall. He also has five irrigation wells on the property that would have to be relocated at a cost of about \$100,000 each, he said.

Mathews said Rayner is reluctant to move out of the area but agrees that the realignment also could be beneficial. Rayner farms at least 900 acres on the flood plain, including the area within the suggested realignment.

The cost of buying out landowner rights and relocation has not been determined yet, Mathews added.

The Avondale City Council already has agreed to another \$5 million project aimed at alleviating perennial flooding problems. That project involves the transferring of \$5 million from the Department of Transportation to the Flood Control District to develop a flood-control system for the Agua Fria.

# Plan for rechanneling Agua Fria could bring saving of \$2.7 million

ARC-715-81

By Jacquee Gaillard  
Southwest Valley Bureau

A proposal to rechannel the Agua Fria River between Indian School Road and Van Buren Street could save the state and county as much as \$2.7 million.

About 350 acres of privately owned property would have to be acquired to accomplish the rechannelization.

A team of engineers from the Arizona Department of Transportation, the Maricopa County Highway Department and the Maricopa County Flood Control District proposed the rechannelization.

Last week, representatives of the flood-control district met with Avondale officials and landowners who would be affected to explain the proposal.

Rechanneling would call for digging a deeper but narrower channel within the existing flood plain. The flood plain is

confined between Indian School Road and Van Buren Street to the north and south and by 115th Avenue and Dysart Road to the east and west.

An engineer for the flood-control district, Dan Sagramoso, said digging a deeper channel would force floodwaters to run within the new channel. Consequently, more land would be freed within the old flood-plain area.

Sagramoso added that rechanneling also would result in less flood damage to Avondale during water flows.

In addition, the state Transportation Department could use the dirt from the new channel's excavation as fill for the completion of Interstate-10. Using fill from the new channel could save the state roughly \$450,000, Sagramoso said.

Also, the Maricopa County Highway Department could save \$750,000 on a

proposed bridge over the Agua Fria at McDowell Road if the river is rechanneled, he said.

"ADOT gets to build I-10 a little cheaper, the county gets to build the bridge a little cheaper, and the channel gets excavated with benefits for the community," he said.

Channel realignment was proposed about two years ago, but it would not have been a cost-efficient move at the time, Sagramoso said. Realignment now could save the county about \$2 million, he added.

Avondale City Manager Carlos Palma told the City Council last week that the rechannelization would take away some development but would open up other areas under the flood plain for new

— Saving, Extra 2

## Saving

Continued from Extra 1

development.

Council members expressed concern over the proposal because they felt rechanneling would play "havoc" with landowners within the channel. Palma said the proposal is only preliminary and does not require immediate council action.

But Sagramoso said bids should be sought on the I-10 project in December and that a decision on the rechanneling will be necessary before then.

"This is in no way an effort to cram anything down anyone's throat," Sagramoso said. "But rather, a tremendous opportunity to cooperate. I've been looking at it so far as a tremendous opportunity to cooperate.

"They would like to move the river as far away from Avondale as possible, but the I-10 bridge already is built. We'll have to do it this way or not do it."

Landowner Jack Rayner said he

at least 180 acres within the proposed channel and as many as 300 acres overall. He said he has five irrigation wells on the property that would have to be relocated at a cost of about \$100,000 each.

"I hate to see them go through my land. But a whole lot depends on what kind of compensation we're talking about," he said. "It would affect my livelihood."

Rayner's family has owned the land since 1914, he said. Rayner, 65, farms at least 900 acres on the flood plain, including the area within the suggested realignment.

Allied Concrete Inc. also owns a portion of the land. Smaller portions are owned by Phoenix Sand and Rock Inc., Thurston Development and the state.

What the land would cost has not been determined.

The Avondale City Council already had agreed to another \$5 million project aimed at alleviating flooding problems. That project involves the transferring of \$5 million from the Department of Transportation to the county flood-control district to develop a flood-control system for the Agua Fria

Arg. Republic  
5-15-81

AR 5-15-81

## Dam's builder sues for added \$1 million

The builder of Spook Hill Dam, an earthen flood-control structure east of Mesa, has filed suit against the Maricopa County Flood Control District seeking to be paid an additional \$1 million on its construction contract.

Mardian Construction Co. claims it is entitled to the money because of increased construction costs resulting from unforeseen sand washes and unexpected caliche deposits.

Daniel Sagramoso, assistant engineer for the Flood Control District, declined to comment Thursday on the suit, filed in Maricopa County Superior Court on Wednesday.

Spook Hill Dam, which was completed last year, is 24 feet high and 4.1 miles long and is designed to store 1,070 acre-feet of floodwater. The dam discharges into the Salt River behind Granite Reef Dam.

Mardian Construction was awarded a \$4.36 million contract Jan. 27, 1978, for construction of the dam, but Sagramoso said the structure cost \$5.57 million.

According to the suit, the Flood Control District was negligent, among other things, in failing to provide accurate and non-defective contract plans involving the soils to be excavated for construction of the dam.

# County parks commission OKs aquatic facility

*AR-5-13-81*  
\$4 million complex is proposed for Adobe Dam Recreation Area

By Keven Ann Willey  
Republic Staff

The Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission on Tuesday voted to request authorization for the Parks Department to advertise for bids to construct an aquatic facility with a wave pool northwest of Phoenix.

Plans to build a \$4 million facility featuring a wave pool similar to Tempe's Big Surf were presented to the commission earlier Tuesday.

A representative from a Dallas-based recreation-consulting firm proposed the facility as part of the 1,600-acre Adobe Dam Recreation Area northwest of Phoenix.

After more than an hour of discussion, the commission voted to request authorization from the Board of Supervisors for the Parks Department to advertise for bids to construct such a facility.

Department Director Bob Milne said an opinion

from the county attorney's office indicated that the county must bid for such a project.

The supervisors approved in concept a plan to develop the Adobe Dam Recreation Area, including an aquatic facility, at its April 20 meeting.

Calling the proposed facility "an interesting concept of public service," Milne said private enterprise would construct and operate the facility and the county, which owns much of the recreation-area land, would get a percentage of the receipts.

Bob Minick of the consulting firm, Leisure and Recreation Concepts, told the commission his firm would like to build such an aquatic facility on the 16 acres off Pinnacle Peak Road at 43rd Avenue.

Minick said the planned facility, with a projected opening date in 1982, also would include parking, dressing rooms, snack bars, flumed "body slides" for various pools, sunning areas, novelty shops and a first-aid station, and would use an overall Spanish decor.

A feasibility study by a Los Angeles firm estimated that the facility would serve 200,000 people its first year and nearly 500,000 in

subsequent years, Minick said. Estimated admission prices would be \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

Minick estimated that the facility, designed to attract families for all-day outings, would serve a maximum of 4,000 people a day and be open 200 days a year.

The facility would require about 150 seasonal employees with 40 permanent staff members for maintenance and 24-hour security.

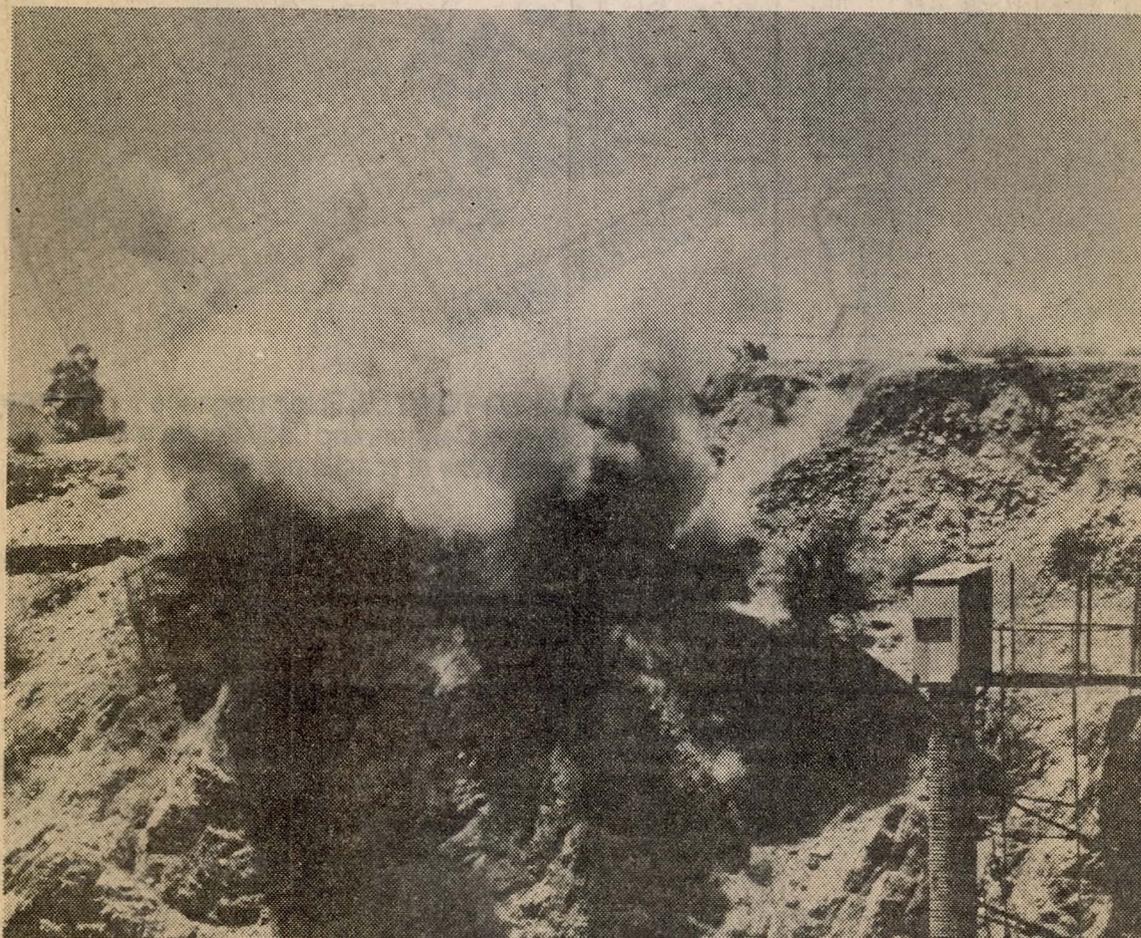
Alan Heuss of WaveTek Pools in Ashland, Ohio, a firm that specializes in the fan-shaped swimming pools featuring wave-making equipment, told the commission that the proposed structure could be self-supporting and profitable both for the developer and the county.

Milne said the request to go to bid should go before the supervisors within two weeks. If approved, a contract could be awarded by fall.

Commission member Sam Ramirez said the commission should be involved in developing specifications for the project before it goes to bid.

Development plans for the area behind Adobe Dam, bounded by Deer Valley Drive, 35th Avenue, the dam and 31st Avenue, include bike and hiking trails, camping and picnic facilities, an 18-hole golf course, visitors' center and other recreation facilities.

The Deer Valley Planning Committee has opposed plans to include an aquatic facility in the recreation area because it could encourage commercial growth in an area designated for low-intensity development. Committee Chairman Art Hallinan also has questioned whether adequate security and other city services would be available.



Michael Ging / Republic

## Blast!

Tuesday's blasting was like Monday's — dynamite charges blew a foot or two of loose rock from the top of the cliff, but most of the

wall still stands. The problem, workers say, is that the rock already is so fractured that it absorbs the explosive shock without toppling.

Arg. Republic  
5-12-81

## County OKs study of cost to repair west Valley dam

AK 5-12-81

No one wants to claim ownership of McMicken Dam, a 7½-mile earthen structure that once protected Luke Air Force Base and the west Valley from flooding, but everybody wants it fixed.

Maricopa County's supervisors, sitting Monday as the board of the county's Flood Control District, authorized a study to determine how much it will cost to repair the dam.

The board, although not claiming ownership, is concerned that the county could be liable for future flood damage that might result without the repairs.

William Mathews, the district's general manager, estimated it will cost his office \$100,000 to do the study. He said a "very rough estimate" on repairs is \$3 million.

McMicken Dam was built in 1956 for about \$1.7 million as a detention basin for Tribly Wash. Its main purpose was to protect the Air Force base, Mathews said. The funds were appropriated by Congress directly, instead of through the Air Force or the Army Corps of Engineers, he said.

As a result, neither the Air Force nor the Army claims ownership. The county received ownership of the land, which may mean it also owns the earthen structure, Mathews said.

The dam was breached in 1977 because of progressive settlement and cracking. Mathews said that was done because a disaster could have resulted if it broke during a flood.

In 1978 and 1979, the Maricopa County Water Conservation District 1, a major irrigation system in the west Valley, and the base both sustained flood damage because of the breaches, he said.

The conservation district is so concerned about future flooding that it has agreed to put up as much as half the cost of repairing the dam, Mathews said. Luke officials also have made attempts to get federal funds, he said.

City Republic  
5-11-81

AR - 5-11-81

# Phoenix Flood Plain Residents Waiting For Stalemate Waters To Drop

J.J.  
Casserly

Editorial Writer  
The Arizona Republic



The only movement in the dusty settlement of Hound Dog Acres was the sweat trickling down the sleeping dog's snout.

The nearby Agua Fria riverbed was fried with heat.

The score of mobile homes and more modest shelters simmered in the scorching sun.

Yet, this is flood country.

The 21 families, a community of about 50 people, fled here southwest of Phoenix from the chaos and confinement of the city.

They have now lived in chaos greater than any has ever known and they've organized to survive.

For, Hound Dog Acres sits in a flood plain that has been swamped by the last three major floods that washed across the Phoenix area.

A half dozen families have packed and moved on. Others hang tough — hoping for something to happen.

Almost anything.

Little happens here.

These people simply built — and built simply — and moved mobile homes into the flood plain.

Maricopa County allowed the development because there were loopholes in the law. They found the loophole to be a floodgate.

There's no hope of structural protection — a dam, dike or levee.

The cost-benefit ratio is a nightmare.

Jerry Vittori, chairman of a homeowners' committee, explained:

"So we sit here in limbo. Some move out in the flood season, from December through March, and a few find their way back. These are not monied people. They're day-to-day people on fixed incomes."

Vittori added:

"No one can plan. Life is suspended."

The residents of Hound Dog Acres have been hoping for a single hand of help. Now, suddenly, two hands are extended to them — the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Arizona's Division of Emergency Services.

The state agency, with an annual budget of about \$1 million, was launched in 1979 after the first two of the most recent floods. Its aim was to help relocate flood victims.

HUD has offered \$888,000 to assist

Hound Dog residents by relocating them and, if possible, their homes, as well as covering engineering and associated construction costs.

The state is prepared to spend \$150,000 to purchase new land to complete the deal.

Vittori summed up the reaction of his fellow homeowners, "We're not going to choose any flood plain."

Holly Acres is a muddier tale of the same ravaging floods.

Some 20 miles south of Hound Dog on the Salt River, the 400 families — about 1,500 people — have been tossed and turned in tempest for more than three years.

The transient tranquility of summer turns to waiting fear in winter — the fear of even greater flooding.

The people of Holly Acres say they have no choice. They cannot move.

Most have two or three mortgages. That's how they raised funds for

flood insurance after the first big storm of 1978. They can't default. Nor can they walk away from a disaster loan which has legal feet and follows.

This is no Hound Dog. It's more like a thoroughbred setter at a showing.

Ten to 20 acres roam around each ranchette, some worth \$90,000 or more. The streets are paved and gardens manicured. There is an air of affluence.

The Maricopa County Flood Control District has tried to help. It cleared a 300-foot-wide channel along a seven-mile stretch of the nearby Gila River to ease flood problems.

The District is clearing another 1,000-foot channel to reduce damage from future storms.

But the big ticket — millions of dollars from the Corps of Engineers for a dike or levee — apparently won't be available to shore up the

future.

The state and Maricopa county are splitting the costs of a study that could lead to structural protection for Holly Acres. Construction costs would be limited to \$10 million.

However, that's only a hope in a waiting game.

Some 100 homeowners are suing the Salt River Project, claiming it was negligent in releasing waters during the big floods.

Jerry Hill, president of the Holly Acres Flood Control Association, believes the legal fees would be better spent on seeking alternative answers.

"It's a stalemate. Nobody can do anything."

Not even move. And Hill adds:

"Very possibly, we'll be flooded out again."

There is something worse in Phoenix than a long, hot summer.

It is, for some, a long, wet winter.

City Republic  
5-6-81

5-6-81

# Deer Valley panel rejects aquatic-facility plan

## Proposal conflicts with desire to have 'low-intensity growth'

Plans to include an aquatic facility as part of a planned 1,600-acre recreational development at Adobe Dam have failed to win the support of the Deer Valley Village 1 Planning Committee.

Chairman Art Hallinan said he will present the committee's objections to the proposal at a hearing Tuesday before the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Board.

Developers had proposed a facility similar to Big Surf in Tempe.

Hallinan said the committee has opposed such facilities in the past because they would promote commercial development in an area designated by city planners for "low-intensity growth."

The proposed Adobe Dam recreation area is more than 17 miles northwest of downtown Phoenix, bounded by Deer Valley Drive, 35th Avenue, Adobe Dam and 31st Avenue. The land was annexed by Phoenix in 1979.

Hallinan said the committee, one of several groups of area residents that serve in an advisory role to the Phoenix Planning Commission in land-use planning and zoning issues, also opposes the aquatic facility because of the lack of such services as security and utilities in the area.

Nearly half of Village 1, an area bounded by Jomax Road, 16th Street, Greenway Road and 51st Avenue, is city land, Hallinan estimated. The remaining land belongs to the county.

Regarding zoning in the area, George Krempl, deputy planning director in charge of the the Phoenix planning coordination office, attended the committee meeting last Wednesday and briefed members on proposed revisions to the city's zoning ordinances.

The proposed ordinance, which would reduce the number of zoning districts from 27 to 10, is aimed at providing more flexibility to home builders in the design of subdivisions.

Under study by the Phoenix Planning Department for nearly two years, one effect of the revision would be to allow home builders to mix housing types and lot sizes within a given parcel of land.

"We have suggested that zoning classifications should be based on density," Krempl told the committee. "What form or style is used (within residential developments) should be the option of the developer."

Basing zoning classifications on density would be more in keeping with the city's established growth plan, he said.

The Phoenix Concept Plan 2000 outlines city goals to encourage growth in nine "urban village" areas in the city.

Committee members said they will study the Planning Department's proposed revisions and respond at a planning-commission hearing May 20.

In addition, Hallinan said new committee members are invited to attend an orientation session May 14 with the city Planning Department.

He said members interested in participating should notify Kathy Donovan at the Planning Department soon.

Meanwhile, the planning commission recommended the appointment of Jeff Fairman, 20048 N. 18th Drive, as the 12th member of the Village 1 Planning Committee.

The committee, which was formed in March, will hear its first zoning case May 26.

Also at that meeting, city planner Bill Mee will present a film on the Phoenix Concept Plan 2000.

Aiz. Republic  
5-5-81

AR. 5-5-81

# Valley floods in '80 caused \$63 million in damage

By Rick Rowden  
Republic Staff

Damage due to floods in the Valley in February 1980 amounted to \$63.7 million, according to a report by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Preliminary estimates several weeks after the floods had put the damage at \$35 million.

Damage to roads and bridges along the Salt, Gila and Agua Fria rivers accounted for \$22 million, or more than a third of the damage, the corps said.

The corps survey of the stricken Phoenix

metropolitan area included physical damage, net-income damage and emergency costs.

The corps said the damage along the Salt River totaled \$49.6 million, the Gila River \$6.5 million and the Agua Fria River \$7.6 million.

The floods prompted Gov. Bruce Babbitt to declare a state of emergency on Feb. 15 in Maricopa, Gila and Yavapai counties. Four days later, President Carter declared the three counties as major disaster areas.

Federal aid totaled \$21 million.

"Total precipitation during the storm period of Feb. 13 to 22 ranged from less than 1 inch in a few portions of northeastern and far

southwestern Arizona to more than 13 inches at several of the higher mountain locations in the central part of the state," the report said.

"Rainfall in the Phoenix metropolitan area was generally around 1½ to 2 inches in the southern sections and 3 to 4 inches in the northern foothills."

The corps report blamed the floods in great part on heavy rainfall between Feb. 13 and 22 and above-normal, January rainfall, including a heavy storm Jan. 29 and 30.

Because of the January rainfall and runoff plus above-normal storage at the end of 1979,

it said, all of the major reservoir systems in central and eastern Arizona were nearly full even before the start of the Feb. 13-22 rains.

Other categories of damage included: public property other than roads and bridges, \$13.3 million; business and income losses, \$5.5 million; agricultural, \$5 million; commercial, \$3.1 million; residential, \$1.9 million; and industrial, \$1.8 million.

It said the greatest commercial losses took place along the heavily urbanized sections of the Salt River between 48th Street and 35th Avenue. Damage there was placed at \$23.2 million.

Arg. Republic  
4-24-81

AR 4-24-81

## Road policy hinders growth, county told

A Maricopa County policy of not issuing building permits on land lacking a legal public road is stopping development in unincorporated areas, the Board of Supervisors has been told.

Burt Lewkowitz, executive vice president of the Arizona Association of Realtors, asked the supervisors Wednesday to change the policy.

Under the policy, the county Planning Department will not issue building permits, he said.

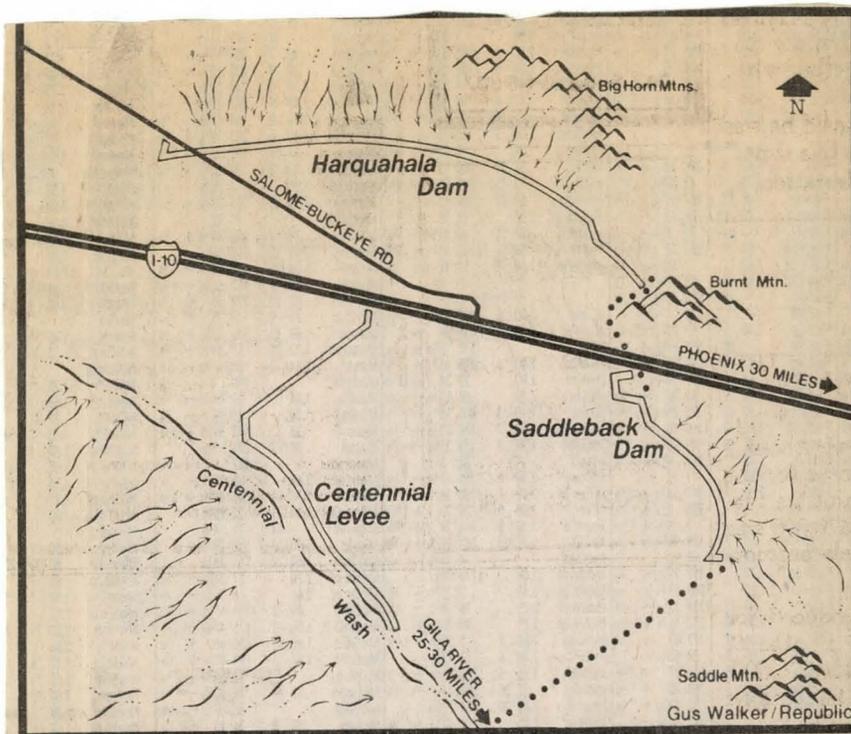
"The problem is the county is imposing its determination of what is access versus what the owner considers acceptable access," Lewkowitz said. "You have literally stopped real-estate development in many areas of the county."

The zoning regulation requiring legal access to land before building can begin was established in 1974, but the policy was not enforced until 1½ years ago, Lewkowitz said.

Don McDaniel, county planning director, said he does not want the county to be liable when someone builds a home and then discovers it has no access to a public road.

Supervisors Ed Pastor, Tom Freestone and Fred Koory said they have received complaints from residents in their districts who were cut off from their homes. They asked Lewkowitz and McDaniel to develop an arrangement satisfactory both sides.

Arg. Republic  
4-21-81



Water flowing from the north will be captured by the 55-foot-high, earthen Harquahala Dam. It then will be carried by a floodway (upper dotted line) to Saddleback Dam, where a diversion channel (lower dotted line) will transport it to Centennial Wash and on to the Gila River.

## Bids scheduled to be opened for Harquahala-project dam

By Rick Rowden  
Republic Staff

AR.  
4-21-81

The U.S. Soil Conservation Service will open bids Wednesday for the construction of the second of three dams comprising the Harquahala Valley Watershed Project, 50 miles west of Phoenix.

The 11½-mile-long earthen Harquahala Dam, which will be 55 feet tall at its highest point, will be the largest of the three structures designed to act in concert to protect agricultural and residential areas, as well as Interstate 10, against flooding by diverting water into Centennial Wash.

The dams and connecting channels will utilize existing culverts under the interstate to channel floodwater into the wash, which will carry it 25 to 30 miles southeast into the Gila River just below Gillespie Dam.

The project is in the vicinity of I-

10 and the Buckeye-Salome Road in the Harquahala Plain.

The first structure on which work began was the 5.3-mile-long Saddleback Dam, scheduled to be finished by early 1982. It is 22 feet high and southeast of the Harquahala Dam.

The third is the 9½-foot-high Centennial Levee, to be situated directly south of the Harquahala Dam. It is about 9½ miles long. Construction is slated tentatively for late 1982.

The cost of the project, including the channels connecting the dams, has been estimated at about \$19.5 million. Of this, \$17.5 million is federal money. The balance is being shared equally by the state and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

When completed, the three-dam complex will be turned over to the flood-control district for operation and maintenance.

City Republic  
3-11-81

# County prepares for fight over flood aid

## Federal officials will decide if assistance should be cut

By Phyllis Gillespie  
Republic Staff

Federal officials are expected here in the next few days to examine Maricopa County's flood-plain variances.

The visit may not be pleasant.

The federal Emergency Management Agency already has made threats that county residents could lose their federally subsidized flood insurance and their rights to disaster-relief funds if the county has been too generous in allowing construction in flood-prone areas.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Tom Freestone is angered by the threats.

"Those federal bureaucrats just seem to be obsessed with regulating peoples' lives, telling them how to use their own land and holding federal programs over their heads," he said.

County records show that, in the five years the flood-control program has been in operation, 65 flood-district variances have been granted by the supervisors, most for single-family homes.

An additional 12 to 15 variances were issued by county administrators, generally for emergency construction after floods.

Dale Peterson, director of community services for the federal agency in San Francisco,

said he will look at those records for evidence that the variances were granted because of "extreme hardship" to the property owners.

"I will bend over backwards to help them keep their flood insurance, but if the county doesn't hold up its end, I won't hesitate to recommend cutting it off," Peterson said.

Yavapai County failed to pass flood-plain management regulations last year and was cut off from disaster relief, Peterson said. The same thing could happen in Maricopa County.

He cited a variance issued by the supervisors March 2 that allowed a homeowner to reduce the main-floor height-above-ground requirement from 5.9 feet to 2 feet even though the home is in a flood fringe area near the confluence of the Gila and Agua Fria rivers.

Although that area hasn't flooded in recent history, Peterson said a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report indicates the risk is higher than previously believed.

"The house should at least have the proper height to avoid flood damage," he said.

"Economic hardships or how nice it will look with the garage under it is not an extreme hardship. Other people manage it. Getting flooded is a lot more of an economic hardship."

Peterson said examples of extreme hardship permitting variances might be a rock outcropping that requires special construction methods or renovation of an existing building.

<sup>A.R. 3-11-81</sup>  
"If he (the owner) can't afford to raise the house up, he can't afford flood damage or flood insurance," Peterson said. "It's silly for the board to think it is doing him a favor."

Freestone responded, "To get upset about a 3.9-foot variance is about the mentality I would expect from a federal bureaucrat."

Supervisor Fred Koory said he looks at each case before voting for a variance.

"I know the flood people don't like it, but some peoples' land is delineated into a flood plain where water has never been," he said.

"If there are other homes already in the area with less than the regulation specifications and there has never been a flood there, I vote for the variance."

Peterson said he would prefer that residents be given more assistance to relocate out of a flood-prone area.

"I would like to work with the county so people can get better assistance to build elsewhere rather than issue variances in flood areas," Peterson said.

"I would do this before requesting the county be suspended from the flood-insurance program."

Despite the controversy over Maricopa County's variances, federal funding for the state flood-control program won't be affected, he said.

That program is working well, Peterson said.



### **Cliff Dam A Loser**

*Editor:*

Mayor Terry Goddard is showing his parochial colors when he decries the loss of the Cliff Dam. The water from Cliff (less than 16 million acre-feet) is a drop in the bucket for Phoenix. It makes more sense to retire farmlands producing surplus cotton than to permanently inundate miles of ecologically valuable riparian habitat.

Phoenix and Goddard should realize what the Arizona congressional delegation finally had the wisdom to see: That Cliff Dam is a loser — environmentally, economically and politically.

MARK W. LARSON  
*Phoenix*

# Water projects' faded popularity is blamed for death of Cliff Dam

## Analysis

By ANNE Q. HOY  
Republic Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Once upon a time, big federal water projects got bigger until they were so big that they were finally done.

Not anymore.

The death of the controversial \$316 million Cliff Dam — sacrificed by Arizona's congressional delegation last week in order to guard the bulk of the massive Central Arizona

Project's flood-control and water-storage plan — is vivid proof that the time of big water projects is gone.

Such projects, skippered by powerful water barons from the South and West, once sailed through Congress. But federal budget restraints ushered in an era of cost sharing in the 1980s, requiring those who benefit from expensive water projects to help pay for them.

And a fiscally strapped Congress became more receptive to charges

that water projects were "pork barrel" and environmentally damaging to precious stretches of wetlands and forests.

This year, Interior Secretary Donald Hodel declared the era of big water projects over, unveiling a new policy to direct funding only to those projects closest to completion and away from others.

The \$5.2 billion Central Arizona Project, to bring Colorado River water to central and southern

— Dam, A2

## DAM

Continued from A1

Arizona, was the biggest beneficiary of the new policy.

President Reagan proposed that it receive a record \$275.8 million for fiscal 1988. The House Appropriations Committee last week cut that to \$237.1 million, still the largest annual outlay ever for the CAP.

But being the biggest winner also made the CAP the biggest target out of and in Congress, where members now clamor for scarce money to ship home.

"The solidarity of votes among the segments of the country that get water development have completely broken up, and they are now competing with each other for small dollars," said Elizabeth Raisbeck, vice president of government relations for the National Audubon Society and a key player in the negotiations last week to kill Cliff Dam.

Environmentalists, teamed with a growing number of fiscal conservatives in Congress, have made powerful allies.

Increasingly they have attacked parts of the CAP, particularly its water-storage and flood-control feature known as Plan 6.

Their focus was Cliff, a Plan 6 dam that was to have been built on the Verde River east of Phoenix to protect central Arizona cities from floods and to store water from them. Plan 6 also calls for repair work on two existing dams on the Salt River and the construction of another on the Agua Fria.

Cliff has been under attack since 1981, when it was selected as the alternative to the controversial Orme Dam, which would have inundated much of the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation.

Cliff drew fire because it would have damaged a 10-mile stretch of rare Sonoran Desert and the habitat for the federally protected desert bald eagle.

Environmentalists' vows to kill the dam never were dismissed by Arizona's congressmen, even if the delegation's public posture was one of having things under control.

The Arizona delegation, state officials and even some large water users have believed for at least a year that Cliff would never be built.

Even Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., an ardent supporter of the CAP and the least satisfied with the agreement hammered out between members and environmentalists to kill Cliff, conceded the dam is dead.

"From a practical standpoint, everyone assumes we are not going to get Cliff," he said.

In addition to eroding support for water projects, Arizona's congressmen were faced with:

• A lawsuit in federal court in

Phoenix, filed by environmentalists in an attempt to stop Cliff.

• Two General Accounting Office studies that found Cliff was being improperly funded.

• An Interior Department inspector general's report recommending that the CAP be reauthorized by Congress, in itself an almost impossible political task.

• And new water studies that undercut the need for Cliff Dam.

But the fatal blow, propelling the delegation to give up Cliff in exchange for a pledge from environmentalists to cease fire on the remaining parts of Plan 6, came last week.

Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., a member of the House Appropriations Committee, first saw the trouble.

On June 12, Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, R-Pa., informed Kolbe he was going to offer an amendment in the committee the following Wednesday to cut all funds for Cliff Dam.

Coughlin, who had lost a similar fight last year, planned to get tough and take the amendment to the House floor if he failed. House floor fights are particularly dangerous because members are no longer assured alliances.

Meanwhile, a coalition of environmental groups informed Reps. Kolbe and Morris Udall, D-Ariz., that they were going to attack not just Cliff on the floor, but an additional \$61 million for Plan 6, effectively killing the project.

Telephone calls were made. Heads were counted. The vote tally showed that the delegation probably could win the Appropriations Committee fight, despite the defection of Rep. Vic Fazio, D-Calif., a one-time supporter of the CAP and an influential member in a 45-member congressional delegation that has grown increasingly cool to big water projects.

Some thought a battle on the House floor could have been won. But prospects of sliding by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, a longtime opponent to the CAP, in the Senate were slim.

"There was a unanimous feeling that if Cliff's not going to come (about), do you want to take the high risk of getting rolled and then pick up the pieces?" said Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz. "And the collective judgment was 'Let's not do that.'"

Raisbeck put it another way.

"The Arizona delegation did not want Cliff Dam to become an albatross. ... To save Cliff, they would have to be buying votes for Cliff when they could be saving those chits for things more important to Arizona."

Discussions began at the weekly Tuesday morning delegation breakfast when Udall, who rarely attends the usually all-Republican group, presented a proposal that Cliff Dam construction funding be killed, but money for environmental studies for the dam be preserved so as not to kill the dam altogether.

Sometimes-heated debate ensued. More meetings were called.

Some members argued that the delegation would look like it was needlessly caving in. Others said if they were going to kill Cliff they should do it completely. Still another argued that they were moving too fast and giving up too much.

Questions were raised about the fate of the local cost-sharing agreement negotiated after almost a year of talks, the water promised for Phoenix that was to be stored behind Cliff and the possibility of flooding from the Verde River.

An angry Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard said the abandonment of Cliff scratches the cost agreement, and he held out little hope that another can be negotiated unless a plan is worked out for central Arizona cities to recover the water Cliff would have provided.

However, Arizona's congressmen remained optimistic that the pact can be reshaped to keep the project on schedule, to be completed in the late 1990s.

Another factor in the quick decision, according to one member of the delegation who spoke on condition of anonymity, was Gov. Evan Mecham.

"We don't have the leadership in the state that we had when (ex-Gov. Bruce) Babbitt was there, and it isn't there in the water community or in the state," the member said. "That's what I think generated us to move."

Mecham said he was not asked to help, and said that he testified in Congress in favor of the CAP earlier this year at a time when the delegation assured him that "everything was fine."

"It is a little hard for the governor to do things in Congress," Mecham said. "I think for them to try to point a finger at me when they should be looking at their house is a cheap political shot. And I have guts enough to say you can quote me."

Udall said the events of the past culminated rapidly, powering momentum to give up the dam.

"There was an indication that we were in trouble. ... We did some quick head counting and it was obvious we did not have the votes we had in the past. Each year you're a little weaker, they're a little stronger. This was a dam that was really vulnerable."

## EDITORIALS

### PLAN 6

# Life After Cliff Dam

**W**ITH the unfortunate demise of Cliff Dam, two prominent members of Arizona's congressional delegation put the reality of Congress' new mood *vis-a-vis* funding for Western water projects in perspective:

"We just do not have the clout we had before," lamented the venerable Rep. Morris Udall. Sen. John McCain, referring to the accord reached with a coalition of environmentalists, said, "By this agreement we will preserve Plan 6 and be able to see the Central Arizona Project completed in our lifetimes."

Cliff Dam's apocalyptic destruction will not sit well with Valley cities who were counting on its storage capacity of 30,000 acre-feet of water annually as a secure water source for expected population growth into the next century.

While sacrificing the dam clouds the validity of the local funding agreement to hasten completion of the \$1.1 billion Plan 6, efforts to forge a new upfront funding formula involving municipalities, the federal government and local water interests should not be abandoned. The remaining components of Plan 6 — a New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and structural modifications to Stewart and Roosevelt dams on the Salt River — are still critical to management of Arizona's water needs.

The sharp spear of environmentalists has

long been aimed at dam proposals associated with the CAP. Successful at deleting Orme Dam, they took out after Plan 6 in general and, claiming that nesting eagles would be disturbed, zeroed in on Cliff Dam in both the courts and Congress. Key congressmen on the powerful appropriations committees were converted to Cliff Dam opponents. If the dam opponents had lost in committee, they would have taken their fight to the floor of Congress where once-strong support for costly water projects has evaporated with the arrival of new faces and big deficits.

Arizona's delegation did the only rational thing it could. It cut its losses by sacrificing the \$316 million earthen dam in return for a guarantee by environmentalists not to contest other parts of Plan 6. The agreement specifies that the delegation and U.S. Interior Department officials will find a means to ensure water supplies to offset the loss from Cliff Dam.

If any silver lining is to be found in the dam's extinction, it may result in a pared-down Rio Salado project not dependent on upstream flood control. A smaller Rio Salado development could make the upcoming Nov. 3 public referendum a bit more palatable for tax-conscious voters — and environmentalists — in Maricopa County.

## Lawmakers OK demise of Cliff Dam

### Arizona delegation yields to opponents

By ANNE Q. HOY  
Republic Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Arizona's congressional delegation, in a stunning bow to environmentalists, on Thursday declared the controversial Cliff Dam dead after three days of closed-door meetings.

In exchange, they obtained a pledge from dam opponents not to attack any other part of the Central Arizona Project's Plan 6, a flood-control and water-storage project.

The delegation sacrificed the \$316 million Cliff Dam in the face of almost certain defeat of the dam on the House floor and a threat of losing all of the \$1.1 billion Plan 6. It is the second CAP dam to be eliminated in recent years.

Cliff Dam, which was to have been built on the Verde River east of Phoenix, was designed to protect central Arizona cities from floods and to store water for them.

An angry Phoenix Mayor Terry

— Cliff Dam, A12

## CLIFF DAM

Continued from A1

Goddard said the delegation's agreement lacked vital specifics about how Phoenix would have replaced 30,000 acre-feet of water a year that Cliff would have provided.

"They have capitulated," Goddard said. "We spent 12 years getting the last specific program. I think we have taken a massive step backward."

Goddard said abandoning Cliff scratches a delicate cost-sharing agreement reached between Arizona and federal officials in 1986 after a year of tough negotiations. Local officials had agreed to put up funds to speed completion of Plan 6.

Goddard held out little hope that another agreement can be negotiated unless a plan is worked out for central Arizona cities to recover the water Cliff would have provided.

However, Arizona's congressmen remained optimistic that the pact can be reshaped to keep the project on schedule, to be completed in the late 1990s.

Members of the delegation said water for Phoenix and other central Arizona cities could be provided from Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and from CAP water that no one has claimed.

At the heart of what was billed as a gentlemen's agreement was a pledge by the delegation not to pursue any future funding for Cliff Dam or any other dam on the Verde River.

In exchange, a national coalition of environmental groups pledged to drop a lawsuit pending in federal court in Phoenix challenging Cliff Dam, to call a cease-fire on all remaining parts of Plan 6, and to support repairs to unsafe dams on the Salt and Verde rivers.

Environmentalists opposed Cliff because, they said, it would destroy the nests of the endangered bald eagle.

Democratic Rep. Morris Udall said the delegation agreed to scrap Cliff because of mounting political opposition to the dam and the possibility of losing all of Plan 6 in a House-floor fight. He was referring to a lack of support in a fiscally strapped Congress and a heightened awareness of environmentally unsound projects.

"We are agreed that for now Arizona gives up the idea of building Cliff Dam," Udall said, adding that the days of Western coalitions to win large water projects are gone.

"We just do not have the clout we had before."

At the press conference, members of Arizona's congressional delegation lifted the shroud of secrecy surrounding the three days of meetings and unveiled a seven-point agreement reached with an environmental coalition. The coalition included the National Audubon Society, the Friends of the Earth, the National Wildlife Federation and the Sierra Club.

GOP Rep. Bob Stump said the agreement was "100 percent" better than earlier drafts.

But Stump said he believes the delegation moved too fast and did not seek enough input from Arizona cities and major water users, a sentiment that was echoed in Arizona.

Democratic Sen. Dennis DeConcini said the delegation will work with Interior Department Secretary Donald Hodel to secure water for Phoenix and other central Arizona cities.

"We are not going to sell out anybody. . . . We are only ensuring the continuation of CAP without major environmental disruption," DeConcini said.

Cliff Dam has been under attack since 1981 when it was picked as an alternative to Orme Dam. In addition to environmental opposition, a series of General Accounting Office reports have questioned the way the dam was funded.

The agreement was a clear win for environmentalists who revere the 10-mile stretch of the Verde River that the dam would have inundated.

"The Verde River sells itself," said Edward Osann, director of the water resources at the National Wildlife Federation. He said environmentalists had been prepared to drum up support in Congress to kill both Cliff Dam and the remaining parts of Plan 6.

"It was clear that we were going to be back again and again," said Elizabeth Raisbeck, vice president for government relations for the National Audubon Society. "The Arizona delegation has spared the local water-development interest from years of litigation."

Propelling the rapid demise and almost-crisis atmosphere during at least eight delegation meetings this week was an amendment to kill Cliff Dam by Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, R-Pa.

Coughlin withheld the amendment at a House Appropriations Committee meeting Wednesday on the fiscal-1988 money bill that funds the CAP. But he vowed to resurrect it if the delegation failed to kill Cliff.

Perhaps one of the biggest concessions on the part of environmentalists was to agree to allow the delegation to state in a House-floor amendment that Plan 6 without Cliff Dam would be the authorized alternative to Orme Dam. There has been a longstanding controversy over whether Plan 6 is the legal alternative to Orme.

Also included in the "Statement of Principles on the Arizona Cliff Dam Settlement" were agreements:

- That environmentalists will not oppose funding for the construction of remaining parts of Plan 6, including New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and modifications to Stewart and Roosevelt dams on the Salt River. This provision holds as long as Cliff or any other Verde River water-storage dam planned by the federal government or private parties are not a part of CAP.

- That the Arizona delegation agrees, once the lawsuit is dropped, "not to pursue any future funding of Cliff Dam or similar water storage conservation features on Verde River."

- That environmentalists agree to support funding for the completion of dam-safety repairs to Horseshoe and Bartlett on the Verde and modified Roosevelt and Stewart dams.

- That additional flood control may be needed on the Verde River. The Army Corps of Engineers will be directed to study what changes to the two Verde River dams would be required to protect Valley from floods.

- That the delegation will work with Interior "to ensure that the Vally cities will secure water supplies necessary to replace the water yield" that Cliff would have provided.

Interior Secretary Hodel expressed his continuing support for CAP and pledged "to work with the Arizona delegation as best he can to try and accommodate the agreement," said David Prosperi, Hodel's spokesman.

Tom Clark, of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, said the group wanted time to look at the details.

"I am not sure the deal was a good one for both sides, but I am not ready to make my final decision," he said.

Plan 6, when adopted in 1984, included construction of Cliff Dam on the Verde, the enlargement of Roosevelt Dam and repair of Stewart Mountain Dam on the Salt River, and construction of New Waddell on the Agua Fria.

# Outlook for Cliff Dam is gloomy

## State delegation near accord to kill project

By ANNE Q. HOY  
and MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

WASHINGTON — Opposition in Congress to the Cliff Dam and the possibility of a bruising House fight left Arizona's congressional delegation Wednesday on the verge of scratching the dam from plans that have taken nearly a decade to work out.

The delegation, which huddled in at least six closed-door meetings amid extraordinary secrecy Tuesday and Wednesday, failed Wednesday to reach agreement with envi-

ronmentalists on the terms of abandoning the \$316 million dam, planned for the Verde River east of Phoenix.

But members reportedly are close to agreement, the prospect of which is being hailed by environmentalists and opposed by Arizona cities and large water users who fear it will scuttle a cost-sharing agreement reached in 1986 after more than a year of tough talks.

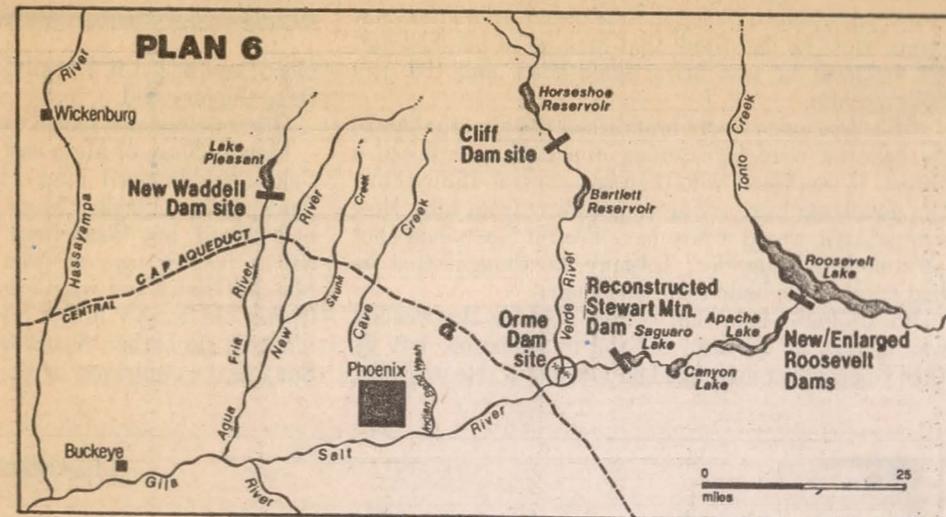
"We are continuing to talk. Back to the next round," said Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., after emerging from the final meeting Wednesday. "We are very close. . . . But it all hangs together. If you do not have agreement on the whole thing, you don't have any agreement."

Leaders of environmental groups in Phoenix declined comment, saying they had been warned by their cohorts in Washington not to speak to reporters on the negotiations or the deal could be blown apart.

Elizabeth Raisbeck, vice president of government relations for the National Audubon Society and a key player in the talks, said the talks are aimed at "reaching an agreement to get rid of Cliff Dam . . . but they are not finalized yet, and I am frankly very nervous about speculating about it."

Edward Osann, director of the water-resources programs at the National Wildlife Federation and a player in the talks, said, "I have felt for a long time that Cliff Dam is

— Dam, A7



The Cliff Dam is a key element of the Central Arizona Project's flood-control plan.

# DAM

Continued from A1

not going to be built. I am as sure about that as anything."

Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., agreed later, saying, "I think from a practical standpoint, everyone assumes we are not going to get Cliff."

Members hope to have an agreement in hand when the full House takes up a fiscal 1988 appropriations bill for federal energy and water projects, as early as next week.

The money bill, approved by the Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, includes \$237.1 million for the Central Arizona Project. Of that, \$1.2 million is for Cliff Dam.

If members agree to kill Cliff Dam, they will bring their agreement to the House floor next week.

Cliff Dam, a key element of the CAP's flood-control and water-storage feature known as Plan 6, has been under attack since 1981, when it was selected as the alternative to the Orme Dam. Orme, which would have been built at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, would have flooded most of the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation.

Cliff has been attacked because it would endanger the habitat of the bald eagle, which is protected by the federal government.

In addition to environmental opposition, the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, has twice said the Bureau of Reclamation, which is building the CAP, cannot legally use money Congress authorized to repair unsafe dams in Arizona to build Cliff. These funds have been earmarked by local officials and the Department of the Interior to help pay for Cliff.

The delegation's near agreement on killing Cliff, an action opposed by Phoenix, was prompted after Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, R-Pa., informed members in a letter Friday that he would offer an amendment before the House Appropriations Committee to slash all funding for Cliff Dam.

Coughlin, who last year lost a similar move, vowed this year to take his battle to the full House.

On Wednesday, Coughlin told the House Appropriations Committee that he would not offer his amendment because he did not want to jeopardize "negotiations now under way to eliminate the need for the dam."

But Coughlin said he will propose the amendment on the House floor next week if the Arizona delegation fails to reach agreement with the environmentalists.

The dim prospect of winning a floor fight over Cliff Dam at a time when Congress is fiscally strapped propelled the delegation to negotiate with environmentalists, who are challenging the dam in U.S. District Court in Phoenix.

Although participants declined to disclose details of the negotiations, it was learned that the delegation wants environmentalists to vow to drop the lawsuit and refrain from any further legal challenges or opposition to the CAP.

The environmentalists are seeking commitments that if the lawsuit is dropped, the delegation will not later try to resurrect Cliff Dam.

The abandonment of Cliff Dam would kill a cost-sharing agreement for Plan 6, approved by Interior Secretary Donald Hodel in 1986. Under the pact, Arizona water users agreed to contribute \$371 million in exchange for federal commitments to accelerate Plan 6, which also includes work on two existing dams and the building of still another besides Cliff — all in the Phoenix area.

George Britton, water- and environmental-resources manager for Phoenix, said the parties to the local funding agreement agreed only if each piece of Plan 6 remained intact. For example, Phoenix offered to help with funding in exchange for water that would be stored behind the dam.

"If they abandon Cliff, the water supply, which was the key element for the cities, is gone. To pay \$33 million for virtually nothing is a tough decision to make," Britton said.

William Chase, water adviser for Phoenix, said Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler and Glendale are opposed to abandoning Cliff Dam.

Bill Wheeler, executive director for the Central Arizona Project Association, said that the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project would be threatened without Cliff Dam, which would capture floodwaters upstream of that local development project along the river.

However, John DeWitt, spokesman for the Citizens for Rio Salado Committee, said that Cliff would not affect Rio Salado plans.



# THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1987

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PHOENIX, ARIZONA

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98TH YEAR, NO. 31

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## Outlook for Cliff Dam is gloomy

### State delegation near accord to kill project

By ANNE O. HOY and MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

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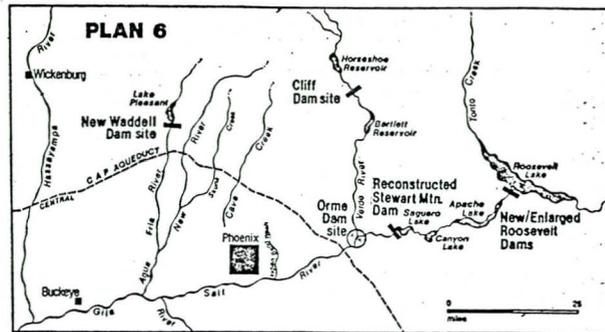
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## DAM

Continued from A-1

not going to be built. I am as sure about that as anything."

Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., agreed later, saying, "I think from a practical standpoint, everyone assumes we are not going to get Cliff."

Members hope to have an agreement in hand when the full House takes up a fiscal 1988 appropriations bill for federal energy and water projects, as early as next week.

The money bill, approved by the Appropriations Committee on Wednesday, includes \$237.1 million for the Central Arizona Project. Of that, \$1.2 million is for Cliff Dam.

If members agree to kill Cliff Dam, they will bring their agreement to the House floor next week.

Cliff Dam, a key element of the CAP's flood-control and water-storage feature known as Plan 6, has been under attack since 1981, when it was selected as the alternative to the Orme Dam. Orme, which would have been built at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, would have flooded most of the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation.

Cliff has been attacked because it would endanger the habitat of the bald eagle, which is protected by the federal government.

In addition to environmental opposition, the General Accounting Office, the investigative arm of Congress, has twice said the Bureau of Reclamation, which is building the CAP, cannot legally use money Congress authorized to repair unsafe dams in Arizona to build Cliff. These funds have been earmarked by local officials and the Department of the Interior to help pay for Cliff.

The delegation's near agreement on killing Cliff, an action opposed by Phoenix, was prompted after Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, R-Pa., informed members in a letter Friday that he would offer an amendment before the House Appropriations Committee to slash all funding for Cliff Dam.

Coughlin, who last year lost a similar move, vowed this year to take his battle to the full House.

On Wednesday, Coughlin told the House Appropriations Committee that he would not offer his amendment because he did not

want to jeopardize "negotiations now under way to eliminate the need for the dam."

But Coughlin said he will propose the amendment on the House floor next week if the Arizona delegation fails to reach agreement with the environmentalists.

The dim prospect of winning a floor fight over Cliff Dam at a time when Congress is fiscally strapped propelled the delegation to negotiate with environmentalists, who are challenging the dam in U.S. District Court in Phoenix.

Although participants declined to disclose details of the negotiations, it was learned that the delegation wants environmentalists to vow to drop the lawsuit and refrain from any further legal challenges or opposition to the CAP.

The environmentalists are seeking commitments that if the lawsuit is dropped, the delegation will not later try to resurrect Cliff Dam.

The abandonment of Cliff Dam would kill a cost-sharing agreement for Plan 6, approved by Interior Secretary Donald Hodel in 1986. Under the pact, Arizona water users agreed to contribute \$371 million in

exchange for federal commitments. However, John DeWitt, spokesman to accelerate Plan 6, which also man for the Citizens for Rio Salado includes work on two existing dams Committee, said that Cliff would and the building of still another not affect Rio Salado plans. besides Cliff — all in the Phoenix area.

George Britton, water- and environmental-resources manager for Phoenix, said the parties to the local funding agreement agreed only if each piece of Plan 6 remained intact. For example, Phoenix offered to help with funding in exchange for water that would be stored behind the dam.

"If they abandon Cliff, the water supply, which was the key element for the cities, is gone. To pay \$33 million for virtually nothing is a tough decision to make," Britton said.

William Chase, water adviser for Phoenix, said Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler and Glendale are opposed to abandoning Cliff Dam.

Bill Wheeler, executive director for the Central Arizona Project Association, said that the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project would be threatened without Cliff Dam, which would capture floodwaters upstream of that local development project along the river.



# Valley cities to continue funding CAP after refund vow is made

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
and DEE MICHAELIS  
The Arizona Republic

Valley cities have agreed to continue with their up-front payments for construction of Central Arizona Project dams after being offered a refund of their money plus interest if they do not receive water rights in exchange.

Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, which represents Phoenix, Chandler, Tempe, Mesa, Scottsdale and Glendale, said the money-back offer came as a result of negotiations with federal officials after the U.S. Department of the Interior agreed last month to abandon plans for building Cliff Dam.

The \$400 million Cliff Dam was planned for the Verde River east of Phoenix as part of the CAP's Plan 6 and would have stored additional water for the cities' use. The dam was killed by the Arizona congressional delegation as part of an agreement with environmentalists, whose opposition to the dam had endangered funding for all of Plan 6.

Interior Secretary Donald Hodel, who was in Phoenix on Thursday for a Republican fund-raiser, said his department is looking for other water supplies for the cities.

"All the discussions we've had is: How do you replace the water storage and flood control elements of Cliff Dam without building Cliff Dam?" Hodel said. "There's a fair amount of detail work that's got to be done."

The \$3.6 billion CAP is a partially built aqueduct system to carry Colorado River water from the Arizona's western boundary to cities and farms in central and southern Arizona.

The Valley cities have paid the department more than \$1 million for Cliff in hopes of receiving an annual water supply of 30,000 acre-feet, or enough to serve about 150,000 people.

After the dam project was killed, the cities withheld their July payments, saying they wanted assurances that the federal government will replace the water that would have been stored behind the dam.

Manning said Gov. Evan Mecham is scheduled to meet with Hodel in Washington on Thursday to sign a supplement to a 1985 agreement on up-front funding between Arizona and the Interior Department.

Under the deal, the state and local governments had agreed to pay \$371 million in advance to help complete Plan 6, which consisted of Cliff, another new dam and modifications to two existing dams.

The supplement would allow the cities to walk out of the deal if Congress has not funded alternative water-storage studies for the cities by March 30. The cities also could drop out of the funding agreement if no alternative water-storage plan has been approved by all parties by Jan. 30, 1989.

"If we don't get an acceptable plan for our investment, we can take all our money and run with it," Manning said.

Hodel agreed, saying, "It's inappropriate for us to collect money for a part of the project that many never be built."

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

7-24-87

ARIZONA REPUBLIC  
7-6-87

### **CAP Canals May Be Useful In Future**

*Editor:*

The Central Arizona Project is costing tons of money, but it may be worth it all.

When traffic gridlock comes to Phoenix, and it surely will, the water projects may be extended and

used as boat canals to carry people to and from work.

It also would solve the auto pollution problem, create a "Little Venice" to attract more snowbirds.

**KENNETH C. NEISWANDER**  
Yuma

# Scottsdale delays CAP payment after dam is cut

By CHRISTIA GIBBONS  
The Arizona Republic

Scottsdale will hold up its July \$100,000 payment for Plan 6 of the Central Arizona Project until it gets federal reassurances that water it was to have received from the now-defunct Cliff Dam project will be replaced.

Leonard Dueker, the city's water expert, said June 30 that although the payment was due July 1, the city will take advantage of a 30-day payment grace period while "we regroup."

In June, Arizona's congressional delegation and environmental groups opted to drop Cliff Dam

from the CAP Plan 6 in order to save other parts of the plan. The rest of the plan calls for improvements to Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt River and construction of the New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River at Lake Pleasant.

Cliff Dam would have been built above the confluence of the Verde and the Salt rivers. Scottsdale water stored there would have been available by the late 1990s.

Dueker said that Cliff Dam would have provided Scottsdale with enough water to serve 6,000 houses.

Scottsdale has been making pay-

ments for nearly a year on its \$4.5 million share of a municipal cost-sharing agreement with the Department of Interior to build the dam. It joined Phoenix, Glendale, Tempe, Mesa and Chandler in paying \$60 million of the \$390 million dam project.

Dueker said that he's hearing tidbits on a daily basis from various sources on how the situation is going to be handled.

"The thing that has shocked most of us is that it took so long to work out the cost-sharing agreement . . . just to have it come apart in two or three days," he said.

Dueker said it is the federal

government's responsibility to figure out how to replace the water. It could do so by reallocating CAP water or assigning previously unallocated CAP water, he said.

If the government failed to come up with alternative water resources, Dueker said, he is not sure if Scottsdale will ask for its money back. The city already has paid nearly \$750,000.

Scottsdale would have used Cliff Dam for water conservation, but there are flood-control aspects of the project for such other governmental entities as the Maricopa County Flood-Control District that has Dueker concerned.

"Unless we find some flood-control protection, we could have a repeat of the 1980s floods when we only had two bridges open" across the Salt River in the Valley, he said.

Since then, Valley bridges have been strengthened, but not enough to withstand a 100- or 200-year flood without a reduced-flow protection offered by Cliff Dam, Dueker added.

"The cities, the Salt River Project, the (county) flood-control district are all working together to keep this cost-sharing agreement intact while still getting close to the same benefits," he said.

# Opinion on CAP project called 'moot'

By ANNE Q. HOY  
Republic Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The Central Arizona Project's \$1.1 billion Plan 6 requires separate approval from a fiscally strapped Congress, the General Accounting Office said Monday.

But the GAO's report, contained in a legal opinion made public Monday, apparently is moot because of an agreement struck among Arizona's congressional delegation and environmentalists and ratified by the House last week, several congressmen said.

That agreement led to the sacrifice two weeks ago of the controversial \$316 million Cliff Dam, once proposed for the Verde River north of Phoenix and a key feature of Plan 6.

The House, in approving the details of that agreement last week, authorized the remainder of Plan 6 as the legal flood-control and water-storage feature of CAP and put to rest any questions about its appropriateness.

The agreement still faces Senate approval. But an aide to Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., chairman of

the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, quoted Udall as saying the GAO report is "moot" and does not threaten Senate approval.

The Arizona delegation gave up Cliff Dam on June 18 in exchange for environmentalists' pledge to halt all legal and political opposition to the remaining parts of Plan 6.

Plan 6 now calls for the enlargement of Roosevelt Dam and repair of Stewart Mountain Dam on the Salt River and the construction of New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River.

The GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, said Plan 6 has not been authorized by Congress, despite the fact that Congress has appropriated money for it for three years, beginning in fiscal 1985.

The opinion is the opposite of that reached by the GAO on Feb. 20, when it found "no legal basis for objections to the Department of Interior continuing to implement" Plan 6.

The GAO said in February that although the dam projects are not, in its view, "a suitable alternative"

to Orme Dam, which Plan 6 replaced, "Congress has funded it and known about it without objection for three years."

But the GAO said Monday that a closer review of the congressional appropriations process and instructive legal cases revealed that the issue was "not so clear-cut."

"Upon further review, we do not think that Plan 6 was authorized as a result of the appropriations process," the GAO opinion said. "Therefore, we think that the Department of Interior should obtain congressional authorization for Plan 6 prior to commencement of construction."

The report said that while Congress has appropriated money for the dam project since fiscal year 1985, there has never been a "detailed review" or "an explanation of the magnitude of the change from Orme Dam."

The GAO opinion, which is advisory and not legally binding, said there is no "clear intention by the Congress as a whole" to authorize Plan 6.

Udall and other members of the delegation knew of the opinion two

weeks ago when they moved to give up Cliff Dam in exchange for a cease-fire on the remainder of Plan 6. It apparently was among the reasons they moved to insulate the rest of the project from attack.

Plan 6 was selected in 1984 as the "suitable alternative" to Orme Dam, proposed for construction at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, after Orme was scratched because it would have flooded the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation.

But Plan 6 and Cliff Dam in particular became the focus of an attack by environmentalists because it would have flooded the nests of the federally protected desert bald eagle.

The GAO reversal came at the request of Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, an ardent opponent of Plan 6.

Metzenbaum, armed with legal opinions, asked the GAO to reconsider the February finding, but apparently made that request at the urging of environmentalists, who have now pledged to stop their fight.

# Record CAP budget approved by House; Cliff Dam funds end

Republic Staff / Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House on Wednesday passed its first major fiscal 1988 appropriations bill, a \$16.15 billion water-development and energy package that includes a record \$237.1 million for the Central Arizona Project but no money for Cliff Dam.

The action comes less than a week after Arizona's congressional delegation agreed to kill the controversial dam, planned for the Verde River east of Phoenix.

The bill, sent to the Senate on a

340-81 vote, rejects a Reagan administration plan for a major reshuffling of Bureau of Reclamation irrigation projects in 17 Western states. The administration has called for a virtual moratorium on planning for new projects and a channeling of construction money away from many projects and into giant ones, such as the CAP.

In voting \$972.6 million for the bureau — \$23.5 million above the administration request — the House restored planning money and directed that construction continue on a broad front.

Reagan has requested \$275.8 million for the CAP, designed to bring Colorado River water to Arizona's population centers. The \$237.1 million approved by the House still would be a record annual outlay.

On a voice vote, the House approved an amendment cutting off funds for Cliff Dam and authorizing the remainder of Plan 6 as the legal flood-control and water-storage feature of the CAP — an effort to insulate it from legal attacks.

That action came as the result of a flurry of secret meetings last week that

produced an extraordinary agreement between Arizona's congressional delegation and national environmental groups to kill the \$316 million Cliff Dam.

In exchange, environmentalists, who opposed Cliff Dam because it would have destroyed the nests of the federally protected desert bald eagle, pledged not to attack other parts of Plan 6.

Plan 6 was selected in 1984 by the Interior Department from among several plans as the flood-control and water-storage feature of the CAP. That

— CAP, A2

selection was made after Orme Dam, proposed for the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, had been scrapped because it would have inundated the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation.

The delegation sacrificed Cliff Dam after it became clear that continued support threatened all of Plan 6, which includes a dam on the Agua Fria River and modifications to two dams on the Salt River.

Rep. Morris Udall, D-Arizona, called the agreement "difficult and not altogether popular," and pledged to find water supplies for Phoenix to replace the water that Cliff Dam would have provided.

He said a local-federal cost-sharing agreement will have to be rewritten. The agreement among Arizona water beneficiaries last year would have put up \$371 million in local funds to speed completion of Plan 6.

Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard said he will hand-deliver a letter today to Arizona's congressional delegation saying Phoenix and five other Valley cities want a substitute supply for the water that Cliff Dam would have provided or they will

not agree to their end of the local-funding arrangement.

Glendale Mayor George Renner said, "In other words, we will not pay taxpayer money for nothing."

Glendale, Phoenix, Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale and Chandler had offered \$60 million in exchange for rights to water that would have been stored behind the dam. The first payment was due next Wednesday.

The bill approved Wednesday also includes \$17.3 million to build a hydroelectric power plant at the Headgate Rock Diversion Dam on the Colorado River Indian Reservation; \$22.5 million for flood control in the Phoenix area, including the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel in northern Phoenix; and \$7 million for flood control in Santa Rosa Wash, in the Santa Rosa Valley southwest of Casa Grande.

It proposes to begin construction on 41 projects across the nation, 28 more than requested by the administration. House members say most of the 28 would cost less than \$5 million each.

The bill also calls for local

beneficiaries to pay a share of the cost of a project.

Lawmakers say the legislation is \$1.5 billion below what Reagan has sought for a variety of programs ranging from nuclear-waste disposal to irrigation projects to deliver subsidized water to Western farmers.

But the Office of Management and Budget disagrees, saying the spending plan for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1 relies on a variety of accounting gimmicks to appear to be below the president's budget proposal.

In a position paper, the budget office says the legislation would cut the Energy Department's nuclear spending for the military by \$237 million and boost outlays for a variety of non-defense activities by \$562 million.

"If the bill reaches the president in its present form, the Office of Management and Budget would recommend that he veto it," the office statement says.

Anne Q. Hoy of *The Republic's* Washington bureau and *Republic* reporter Mary A.M. Gindhart contributed to this report.

AZ. Rep.  
6-17-87

# House panel preparing to cut CAP budget proposal by 14%

By ANNE Q. HOY  
Republic Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A House money panel today is expected to slash \$38.7 million from President Reagan's record request for the Central Arizona Project for fiscal 1988, taking the first congressional action on the project this year.

The House Appropriations energy and water-development subcommittee, headed by Rep. Tom Bevill, D-Ala., is expected to approve \$237.1 million for the massive project, including funding to repair Arizona dams and \$158,000 for work on the controversial Cliff Dam, proposed for the Verde River. Opposition to the dam focuses on the prospect that it would destroy desert nesting habitat of bald eagles.

The action, which CAP supporters said would not slow the project, is expected to come when the subcommittee puts final touches on the energy- and water-appropriations bill for fiscal 1988. The Senate has taken no action on its money bill.

The reduced funding level still would be the largest annual budget to be approved for the \$5.2 billion CAP since it was authorized in 1968. Congress approved \$206.2 million for the CAP and Arizona dam repairs last year.

But the reduction represents almost 14 percent of the \$275.8 million Reagan requested in his 1988 budget proposal to Congress in January.

## But '88 funding level still would be record

The record proposal was part of an administration effort to focus funding on Western water projects that are "substantially under way" and to take funds away from those that are in beginning stages of construction.

Under the plan, projects in North Dakota, Colorado, Washington and Nevada were among those facing millions of dollars in reductions.

Reagan's budget proposal angered the Western states that were to lose money, with officials charging that it pitted project against project and state against state.

But the subcommittee is expected only to slow and not dump the administration's plan to finish those water projects nearest completion.

"It is not every dollar that was recommended by the president, but compared to what other projects are getting I think it is very good," said Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., of the CAP funding proposal.

Kolbe is the only Arizonan on the House Appropriations Committee, but he does not serve on the subcommittee.

Kolbe said the subcommittee recommendation "is sufficient for us to keep the project on schedule and it does what we need it to do."

The CAP, the largest water project in the West, is designed to

divert water from the Colorado River to Arizona's population centers. The CAP began pumping water to Phoenix in early 1986, and it is expected to supply water to Tucson by 1991.

Kolbe said the expected decrease in the budget bill came after congressionally set budget targets reduced by about \$100 million the president's proposal for the construction budget for the Interior Department's Bureau of Reclamation.

Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, also was satisfied with the subcommittee recommendation, said Robert Maynes, DeConcini's press secretary.

He quoted DeConcini as saying the Reagan request "was simply unrealistic with the amount of red ink we have to deal with now."

Of the money the subcommittee is expected to approve, \$152.5 million would be for work on the Tucson Aqueduct, for testing pumps and for Indian water-distribution systems. Reagan had proposed that \$191.2 million be earmarked for this CAP work.

The subcommittee is expected to leave intact the \$73.9 million that Reagan proposed for non-Indian water-distribution systems, \$3.6 million to repair Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and \$7.1 million to repair the spillway at Stewart Mountain Dam, also on the Salt River.

Az. Republic  
6-12-87

# CAP not overdraft cure, state water chief says

## Strict conservation measures needed

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

The Central Arizona Project eventually will reduce the state's ground-water overdraft by 60 percent, but stringent conservation rules will be needed to make up the remaining shortfall, the state's water director said Thursday.

In the meantime, Arizonans must start planning to use every drop of water, including floodwater, storm runoff, irrigation water, sewage water and surplus CAP water available when the Colorado River still is flowing high, Alan Kleinman, director of the state Department of Water Resources, said in a speech to Securing Arizona's Future Economy, a group that studies new methods of increasing the state's water supply.

More-restrictive water-conservation rules for cities, farmers and industrial water users will be proposed by the department in October, with final adoption scheduled for January, Kleinman said. The rules, which will be part of the state's second Water Management Plan, will become effective Jan. 1, 1990, and will apply until 2000.

"Since 1980, the state's overdraft is down, and we're headed in the right direction," Kleinman said. "I hope, however, we can increase the size of the pie with which we have to work to meet our goal."

The state's goal, set in law by the Groundwater Management Act of

1980, is to bring into balance the amount of water pumped from underground aquifers with the amount of water replaced, either by nature or by a process known as recharging, in which unused water is pumped into the ground.

Arizona, with an average of less than 10 inches of rainfall a year, consumes 2 million acre-feet of water a year more than is replaced in underground supplies. Seven years ago, the state's overdraft was 2.5 million acre-feet. The federally built, \$5.2 billion CAP eventually will bring an average of 1.5 million acre-feet of water a year into central and southern Arizona from the Colorado River.

"There will be droughts," Kleinman said, "and in times of drought, we will only have the ground water."

Cloud seeding and recharge projects will help increase the state's dependable water supply, Kleinman said, although he has not decided whether he will collect a fee from ground-water pumpers, as allowed by the 1980 law, to help fund such projects.

"The agricultural community is having some trouble accepting the idea of the fee," Kleinman said.

Bill Chase, water adviser for Phoenix, said that if Kleinman enforced the augmentation fee, it would raise \$2 million a year for recharging and cloud seeding.

The rules under the second management plan will further limit the amount of water allowed users from the levels permitted in the first plan, which was adopted in 1985. The rules apply to the Phoenix, Tucson, Prescott and Pinal County water-management areas, which were designated in the 1980 law as having the largest ground-water overdrafts.



Alan Kleinman, Department of Water Resources director, says Arizona must utilize every drop of water.

## Wasting water

**W**ith the completion of the Central Arizona Project, this region finds itself in an ironic and historically unprecedented situation. It has more water than it can use.

Millions of acre-feet of water that the region has paid for and is entitled to rolls through the CAP system and out of the state because farmers and cities for the most part have far more water than they need and have no way to store the water they do not use. That may be a luxury now, but like all luxuries, it will eventually become very expensive.

Mesa and other East Valley cities plan to begin storing some of their excess water this summer, pumping it underground and recharging the area's groundwater system.

Rep. Jenny Norton, R-Tempe, has a more ambitious idea, however. Norton has introduced and fought for a bill that would authorize the CAP to sell bonds to finance construction of underground water storage projects, on behalf of the cities.

The proposal makes solid sense on several levels. It would allow Arizonans to store water for the future at a time when CAP water is arguably as inexpensive as it will ever be. Storing CAP water underground will recharge

the natural groundwater table and naturally filter out some of the CAP water's infamous salinity.

Who would object to such a sensible and far-sighted plan? Why, the farmers who planned to use the cities' excess CAP water, that's who. Pinal County farmers expected the cities' excess water to be a windfall — or is that waterfall? — to agriculture. What the cities can't use and can't store goes to agriculture. But if the cities start keeping all the water due them, the farmers are concerned that their needs won't be met in drought years. Farmers, like the cities, have yet to build sufficient storage facilities to hold on to their water for future use.

A compromise is in the works. Norton's bill would require the cities to give farmers their extra CAP water until a certain date. The cities want the deal to last until 1992. The farmers want the water through 1995.

It is in the best interest of the state, the cities and agriculture that a compromise be struck and that this bill pass. We can only hope that those involved will have the vision to provide for the protection and storage of this region's most precious import.

Arg. Republic  
4-16-87

### Canal for Marana farms partially collapses

MARANA — A canal that delivers water to Marana farms partially collapsed as workers inspected a tunnel for a Central Arizona Project pipeline beneath it.

Water from the canal flooded a CAP ditch, and six workers at the site on the western side of Interstate 10 at West Tangerine Road escaped injury.

Norman Stevens, project manager for Enserch Alaska Construction Inc., said the incident Tuesday will delay the project by about two days. The cave-in also cut off water to about 25 farmers, said Steve McElhannon, mechanic for the Cortaro Water Users Association.

*City Republic*  
*3-26-87*

## COLORADO RIVER

# Water For Dry Years

**I**N a desert environment, it makes sense for major population centers such as Phoenix and Tucson to buy drought insurance. Good public policy demands proper planning for water-short years.

One strategy Phoenix and other communities have seized upon is the purchase of farmland for subsurface water rights.

Another means will become available to the state if the Arizona Legislature approves House Bill 2401. The measure would grant authority to the Central Arizona Water Conservation District to build and operate recharge projects for Central Arizona Project water.

The bill comes at an opportune time. CAP aqueducts to Phoenix are completed, construction on the Tucson leg is in progress and record flows in the Colorado River are creating an excess far greater than the ability of any lower-basin state to capture.

The water conservancy board has found in La Paz County what it thinks is an ideal place to store Colorado River water underground. The unfarmed 160-square-mile area in Butler Valley is not far from the CAP aqueduct and could store 2 million acre-feet of water — enough to service 1 million people for 10 years.

If studies confirm that the underground geology is suitable, water could be brought to Butler Valley for storage.

As with all great ideas, there is a catch. In this case, it is the upfront price tag of \$17

million to transport the water and, using advanced percolation technology, pump it into the ground. It will take another \$25 million to build the facilities to reclaim the water, a cost that would be borne by the users, as well it should.

Originally, the bill called for a property tax of up to 5 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation in Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties. This proposal, opposed by the Arizona Public Service Co., was deleted. With such a tax, nearly all of the \$17 million could be raised in two years. Property taxes on a \$100,000 home would have gone up \$16 over two years, while APS was looking at an added tax load of \$1 million.

With a public vote on the Rio Salado project scheduled later this year — and a possible tax levy of 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation — heaping another tax burden on homeowners would not sit well.

Two other ideas — a pump tax on municipal and industrial water users and a surcharge on the sale of CAP water — are unpopular with city officials. General fund revenues offer another solution, but annual outlays could be subjected to legislative wrangling. The most feasible idea at this point seems to be a bonding plan incorporating a feature such as the proposed surcharge, since that would provide revenue to support the bonds.

Putting water in the bank is a sound investment. In its deliberations, the Senate should search for an acceptable and fair funding mechanism. Without it, HB 2401 is virtually meaningless.

# Cities worried water from dam would stink; CAP to study issue

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

The operators of the Central Arizona Project agreed Thursday to study adding as much as \$10 million worth of features to the planned New Waddell Dam to ensure that CAP water stored in the dam would not smell or taste bad to city water customers.

A committee of the CAP Board will study the concerns of eight Valley cities that water from the dam's reservoir would taste "like dirt and smell like rotten eggs."

The cities are concerned that Colorado River water, which would be stored in the New Waddell Dam reservoir northwest of Phoenix on the Agua Fria River, sometimes would stagnate, allowing foul-smelling and musty-tasting algae to grow in the lake's upper portions.

In addition, the cities fear an oxygen deficiency would occur in the water layer beneath the algae, allowing the growth of bacteria that make water smell and taste bad. The size of that middle layer, called the thermocline, would vary according to the lake's water level.

City officials are worried that the outlets planned for the dam would draw water from the thermocline, and they asked the CAP Board to install outlets at various levels to draw from whatever level has the best water quality.

However, officials of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which is building the dam as part of the \$5.2 billion CAP, said Thursday that they do not expect there to be any problems with odor or taste in

the water. The dam has been approved by Congress as part of the CAP's Plan 6 and is scheduled to be completed in 1993.

The bureau recommended that special surface aerators be installed to keep the water stirred, dispersing concentrations of poor-quality water. The multioutlet system would cost about \$300,000 a year to build and operate, while an aeration system would cost about \$60,000 a year.

Leonard Dueker, special assistant to the Scottsdale city manager, said some algae grow well below the surface and, thus, would not be taken out by aeration.

"Taste and odor are something people can be very sensitive to," Dueker told the CAP committee Thursday. "You just can't outguess what changes will occur in a reservoir. It's a very complex situation."

Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, said the multi-level-intake system is needed to avoid algae that form in various parts of Colorado River reservoirs in the fall, causing the foul-smelling and foul-tasting water.

The association, which represents Phoenix, Tempe, Mesa, Glendale, Scottsdale, Chandler, Peoria and Goodyear, "is deeply distressed that Reclamation . . . fails to realize that the CAP is no longer primarily an agricultural-water delivery project," Manning said in a letter to the CAP Board. "The CAP is a drinking-water-delivery project for which water-quality concerns are and

should be critical."

If the bureau added the structure to the dam project, the cities would repay the \$10 million along with 3 percent interest over 50 years, Manning said, estimating the resulting cost to municipal water users at 66 cents an acre-foot.

An acre-foot is the quantity of water that would cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot.

If the structure is not built and odor and taste problems occur, the cost of solving them through chemical or filtering processes at city treatment plants could exceed \$30 an acre-foot, he said.

George Barr, vice president of the CAP Board, said, "I'd like to spend a little time and money now to avoid problems later."

Tom Burbey, Arizona operations chief for the Bureau of Reclamation, said he does not think there would be an odor or taste problem from New Waddell, mostly because deliveries of water from the dam to cities will be winding down anyway by the time fall algae form.

New Waddell Dam is designed to store water from the CAP canal in the winter, when electricity for pumping from the Colorado River is cheaper. The water would be released back into the canal in the summer, when farm and city demand is high.

Also, Burbey said, New Waddell water could be blended with water from the CAP canal before flowing into open canals to city water systems to help reduce any problems.

# Lack of demand forces price cut for CAP water

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Central Arizona Project officials lowered prices for Colorado River water Thursday in an attempt to sell as much as 500,000 acre-feet of water that otherwise would go unused this year.

That amount of water, enough to serve 2.5 million people, is available because of a lack of demand — and treatment plants — for the water pumped into central Arizona by the \$5.2 billion canal project.

Cities that expect to use their full shares of the CAP supply for future growth have not completed treatment plants for the water.

The Central Arizona Water Conservation District's board of directors agreed it would be better to sell the surplus water at a lower price than to let part of Arizona's share of the river go unused.

Although the CAP has been completed from Lake Havasu to Phoenix and Mesa, customers have signed up for only about 500,000 acre-feet of the water, half of what the canal system could deliver this year.

An acre-foot of water is the amount it would take to cover an acre to a depth of 1 foot.

"We're not taking the water because we don't have the customers," said Larry Dozier, an assistant general manager of the water district. "As bad as we don't want to see that water go down the river, there really isn't very much we can do about it."

Plans to lower the price of the water have been discussed for months.

As much as 1.5 million acre-feet could be available next year. Officials have said the massive water project could pump 2.2 million

acre-feet by 1991, when it will be fully operational.

Dozier said agricultural customers probably are the only ones who could take advantage of the additional water because many already have built oversize delivery systems in hopes of obtaining extra water. Cities, on the other hand, are building water-treatment plants in stages.

But Dozier said farmers want an even lower price to take the water — lower than what they pay to pump water out of the ground.

In February, the board is scheduled to discuss a proposal to sell the water to farmers at a loss just to have it put to use. Under that proposal, the farmers eventually would pay full cost, plus interest, for the water.

The huge water project, fought for by generations of Arizona politicians, is being built with federal funds that will be repaid, with interest, over 50 years by property taxes and fees for water and electricity in the CAP service area.

Critics have said that federal funds should not be used to support Arizona's growth. Last year, Arizona cities that will use the water agreed to contribute millions to speed the CAP's completion.

Under the plan approved Thursday, the lowest-priced water would be sold to those who are going to use it to recharge the ground-water table in the service area — Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties. Water for recharge projects would cost about \$37 an acre-foot. The price for other uses would range to \$80 an acre-foot.

Phoenix-area cities and Tucson already have signed for the water and will pay about \$50 an acre-foot when they start taking it. The fee

— CAP, B2

## CAP

Continued from B1

includes charges for the CAP's operation, for the repayment of CAP construction costs owed to the federal government and for the cost of electricity needed for pumping.

In another matter, the district adopted the nickname "CAP" for its cumbersome legal title: Central Arizona Water Conservation District.

Board member Sam Goddard tried in vain to have the legal name abolished.

"We're not in the business of conservation," said Goddard, a former Arizona governor. "We're in the business of delivering water."

Member Dee O'Neill of Tucson said she favored leaving the legal name intact, suggesting to Goddard that "we try harder to live up to our legal name."

Tom Clark, the district's general manager, said the nickname would make correspondence, public relations and advertising easier.

He told the board that during the last legislative session, "a very important legislator who was helping us" forgot the district's name during a conversation.

"It was embarrassing to him, and it was embarrassing to me," Clark said.



# Campaign to stop Phoenix channel shifts to Congress

July 1 Republic South East EXTRA

By ANN KOONCE  
The Arizona Republic

After two years of sitting in meetings, opponents on both sides of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel battle are free of the Phoenix City Council at last.

While the engineers now are talking about contracts and utility lines, the residents are talking about a final assault on the project through its funding in Congress.

Leaders in the town of Paradise Valley are glad they are out of the action.

Until June 23, all the action on the \$76 million flood-control channel for east Phoenix was centered on Phoenix City Hall.

The council has been considering whether to support the construction of the 4.2 mile-section of the channel between 12th and 40th streets, known as Reach Four, since April 1985.

On June 23, the council voted 8-1, with Councilman Ed Korrick dissenting, to back the construction.

The Army Corps of Engineers is building the diversion channel, which varies from a 22-foot-deep, 36-foot-wide, concrete structure, in east Phoenix to a 600-foot wide, shallow parklike area in the west Valley.

Reach One on the western end of the channel is complete.

The Maricopa County Flood Control District is buying land for the project and will operate it after construction.

The \$210 million project has been planned since 1965 to protect the Valley from flooding south of the Arizona Canal to the Salt River.

It is designed to run along the north side of the Arizona Canal from Camelback Road and 40th Street to Skunk Creek near 75th Avenue and Bell Road.

The channel will accept storm runoff from north of the Arizona Canal before it flows into, and over, the already-full canal.

The canal, which is operated by the Salt River Project, carries irrigation water to a major portion of the Valley. There are no storm sewers in Phoenix north of the canal.

"This was a critical meeting," said Dan Sagramoso, chief engineer for the flood-control district. "If the council had not supported Reach Four, it could have jeopardized the whole project."

"Corps officials are in Washington now testifying on their budget for the year after next. If Phoenix had said it did not want Reach Four, the corps could have stopped its funding."

Sagramoso said the flood-control district, which is supported by local taxes, has \$19.7 million budgeted for the fiscal year beginning July 1 to buy land and move utility lines and bridges along the channel route.

"We are scheduled to install sewer siphons at the canal's intersections with 19th, Dunlap and Northern avenues," Sagramoso

said. "And we will relocate the Arizona Canal at 23rd Avenue this fall. Bridge and utility relocations will be at 19th and Seventh avenues and Seventh Street."

Opponents, meanwhile, hope to appeal to Congress to cut the corps' budget.

"I still feel the channel is not needed," said Vern Schweigert, a leader of Citizens Against Reach Four and president of Rostland Arizona Inc., operator of the Arizona Biltmore Resort Hotel.

Schweigert's group fought the channel for more than a year, before agreeing that flood protection is necessary for east Phoenix. However, it still claims that the channel is too large. Group spokesmen say retention basins in Paradise Valley and at the Biltmore, when combined with a small channel, would be adequate.

"We may appeal to Congress," Schweigert added. "If the corps does not have the money, they can't build the channel. I don't see where Reach 4 will benefit the taxpayers."

Vice Mayor Joan Lincoln of Paradise Valley, who has been familiar with the Corps' plans for more than 10 years, said she is relieved that the retention-basin idea was defeated.

Reach 4 will run through the southern tip of the town. However, the town council agreed with the plan as a necessary evil in the 1970s.

"We are pleased that the possibility of retention basins has been removed from the plan," Lincoln said. "We settled a long time ago on a cement ditch. There is no way that this project could be treated like Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale. The (construction) area is too narrow."

"The town is willing to make sure that the neighborhoods (in Paradise Valley) are satisfied with the landscaping and other aesthetics of the diversion channel," she added.

"We have had excellent cooperation with Phoenix city engineers, the corps and the flood-control district in exchanging information."

# Phoenix OKs eastern leg of channel

## Camelback Road area to get flood protection

By ANN KOONCE  
The Arizona Republic

The Phoenix City Council on Tuesday night approved construction of a \$76 million flood-control channel through east Phoenix, after reviewing five engineering reports.

By an 8-1 vote, with Councilman Ed Korrnick opposed, the council approved the 4.2-mile eastern leg of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, known as Reach Four, between 12th and 40th streets.

The channel is designed to protect against flooding by accepting runoff from areas north of the Arizona Canal. The canal cannot hold runoff because it is filled with irrigation water, and there are no storm sewers north of the canal.

"All the city south of the canal to the Salt River will benefit from this," Vice Mayor John Nelson said. "We need this protection."

But Korrnick said the channel "is like shooting a fly with a 12-gauge shotgun."

The vote came after the council received a report from SEA Inc., a Phoenix engineering company, that found that a wash near 40th Street and Camelback Road could receive about 6,800 cubic feet per second of runoff in an unusual storm. A channel would be needed to contain such a flow.

The SEA report agreed with studies by the Army Corps of Engineers, the Maricopa County Flood Control District and another consultant hired by Phoenix in April, whose predictions varied from 6,540 cfs to 7,170 cfs.

— Channel, A2

# CHANNEL

Continued from A1

A fifth consultant, hired by a group opposed to the channel, said a channel is not needed. The consultant predicted a flow of 3,782 cfs in a major storm and said the runoff could be handled with retention basins in the town of Paradise Valley and at the Arizona Biltmore resort.

The channel, which has been planned by the corps and the flood-control district since 1965, is to run along the northern side of the Arizona Canal from near 40th Street and Camelback Road to Skunk Creek at 75th Avenue and Bell Road.

The cost of the entire channel is estimated at \$210 million. The western end is under construction.

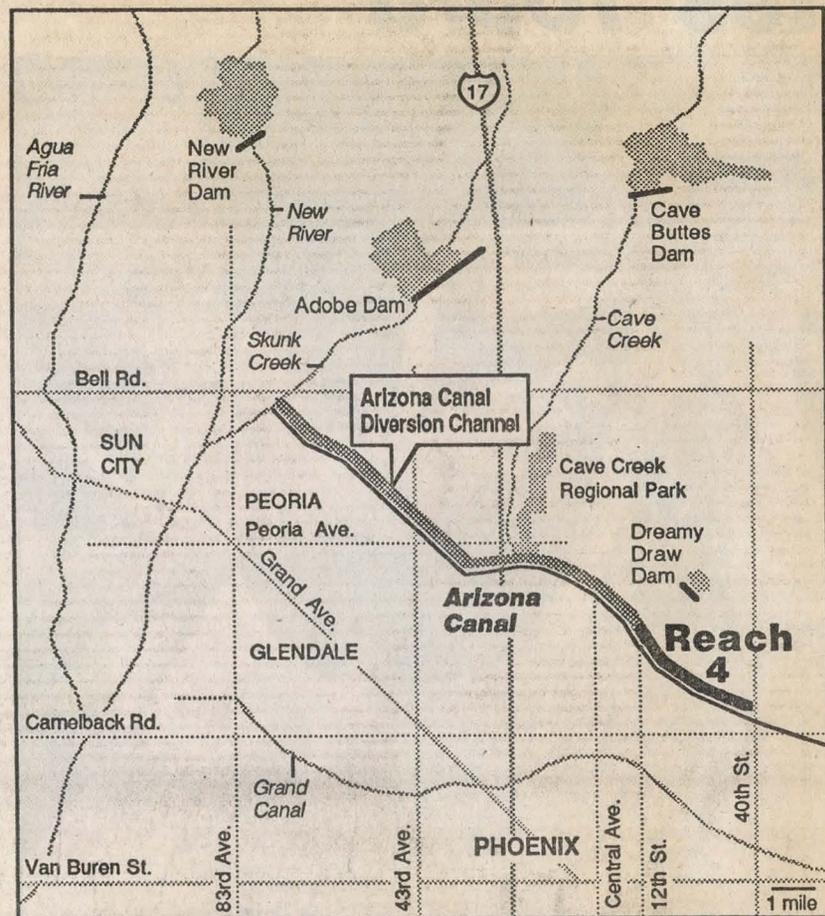
The project is being paid for with federal and flood-control district money.

Councilman Paul Johnson said the city needs to be concerned about landscaping and safety along the channel.

"The only control we have over how this will look is the degree we are willing to work with the Army Corps of Engineers," he said.

A leader of Citizens Against Reach Four, which has fought the project since early 1985, said the group has not changed its stance.

Vern Schweigert, a leader of the group and president of Rostland Arizona Inc., which operates the Biltmore, said he is considering



Gus Walker/Republic

fighting the project's funding in Congress or filing suit.

The channel would run through the Biltmore parking lot at 24th Street and Missouri Avenue. Business would be disrupted during construction, but the channel would be covered when completed.

"Our committee will get together in a couple of weeks to make

strategic decisions," Schweigert said. "The Biltmore is negotiating with the corps on a construction alternative (that would not interrupt hotel business), and I may drop my formal opposition as the Biltmore. However, I could continue to fight as a private citizen."

The group claims that the project never was authorized properly by Congress.

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The Arizona Republic

Wednesday, June 24, 1987

## Foes win further study on final leg of channel

By ANN KOONCE  
The Arizona Republic

The Phoenix City Council voted Tuesday night to delay a decision on the eastern leg of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel until June 23 for an engineering report.

After hearing a plea from opponents of the \$76 million federal project, the council unanimously agreed to pay half of the bill to hire an engineer to study storm waters that drain from the town of Paradise Valley and east Phoenix into a wash near 40th Street and Camelback Road.

The council will use the study to determine whether a concrete channel up to 22 feet deep, as proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers, is needed in east Phoenix, or whether it prefers a smaller channel and detention basins in Paradise Valley.

The 4.2-mile eastern leg would run between 12th and 40th streets.

Channel opponents, including residents and businesses near the Arizona Biltmore at 24th Street and Missouri Avenue, agreed to pay the other half of the estimated

\$30,000 cost.

Studies done by the Army Corps, the Maricopa County Flood Control District and a Colorado engineer hired by the city last month estimate that the wash could produce up to 7,100 cubic feet of water per second during a major storm.

The studies support the need for the eastern leg of the \$210 million diversion channel, which is planned to run on the northern side of the Arizona Canal from near 40th Street and Camelback Road to 75th Avenue and Bell Road.

However, an engineering company hired by channel opponents, W.S. Gookin and Associates of Scottsdale, said only 3,782 cfs would be produced by a storm. Less storm water could mean that a large channel may not be needed to protect the area south of the canal from flooding.

The western end of the channel is complete, and construction has started on a section from 59th Avenue to Cave Creek near the Black Canyon Freeway. The eastern leg is the only section still not yet approved.

The Arizona Republic  
May 20, 1987

AR 5/20

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# Flood-channel reports to go before council

Federal and local engineers will present their studies to the Phoenix City Council on Tuesday night over how the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel should be built through east Phoenix.

The meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the City Council's chambers, 251 W. Washington St.

The Arizona Canal Diversion Channel is a project that will divert storm runoff from the Arizona Canal.

The city's engineering staff has recommended that Phoenix allow the Army Corps of Engineers to build the channel's \$76 million eastern leg as planned, on the northern side of the Arizona Canal between 12th and 40th streets.

The opinion is based on a corps report that says the channel is the cheapest, most-effective way to collect storm waters north of the canal and protect central Phoenix from flooding.

The \$210 million channel will follow the Arizona Canal northwest to Skunk Creek, near 75th Avenue and Bell Road. The western half is under construction.

The corps report is backed by a consultant from Denver who was hired by Phoenix.

Residents in the Arizona Biltmore area, who have fought the project for two years, support a smaller channel combined with detention basins in the town of Paradise Valley.

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The Arizona Republic  
May 19, 1987

Ariz. Republic  
5-19-87

AR 5/19

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# in project area

## 17.3-mile path being cleared for canal-diversion channel

By Keven Ann Willey  
North Phoenix Bureau

Nearly half the homes in the path of the planned 17.3-mile Arizona Canal Diversion Channel in north Phoenix have been purchased by the Maricopa County Flood Control District, according to district officials.

The flood-control district has spent more than \$11 million since 1974 to buy 110 homes and two businesses along the planned canal, officials said.

The district still has to acquire about 144 homes and 41 businesses along the channel, said Robert L. Boyd, property-acquisition manager for the district's land-management division.

The multimillion-dollar flood-control channel, scheduled for construction beginning in 1985, will run north of and parallel to the existing Arizona Canal from the Cudia City Wash near 40th Street and Camelback Road to Skunk Creek near 83rd Avenue and Greenway Road.

As part of the New River and Phoenix City Streams Project, the giant drainage ditch is designed to protect central Phoenix, Glendale and Peoria from flooding.

It will reroute water from the Cudia City, Dreamy Draw and Cave Creek washes and others into Skunk Creek and eventually into the Agua Fria River west of Phoenix.

The project's four dams — Dreamy Draw, Cave Buttes, Adobe and the yet-to-be-built New River — are northwest of Phoenix and are designed to reduce the flow of water into the Valley floodplain.

The channel is being designed and built by the Army Corps of Engineers at an estimated cost of \$150 million.

Recreational development along the channel, which will stand empty most of the time, the four dams, and part of the Cave Creek floodway are estimated at \$25 million, said Nick Romanzov, project manager for the Los Angeles district of the corps.

Land-acquisition and relocation costs for the channel will cost an estimated \$70 million. That sum initially will be paid by the county Flood Control District, with half of it to be reimbursed by the state at a later date, said Dan Sagramoso, district deputy chief engineer.

Most of the property already purchased by the district is between 39th and 33rd avenues near Carol Avenue just north of Dunlap Avenue, and between Central Avenue and Seventh Street on Las Palmaritas between Northern and Dunlap avenues.

In addition to cash, residents have been given the choice of staying in the homes on a rental basis or being paid relocation benefits ranging from \$15,000 to \$40,000, Boyd said.

*The Arizona Republic* on June 3 quoted several residents as being upset about having to move. Many said they were not told of the flood-control plans when they bought their homes in the early 1970s.

But other residents, like Suzanne and William Reddy, who used to live at 201 E. Las Palmaritas, said the district's acquisition plans brought a long-awaited buyer for homes they had feared would not sell because of high interest rates and an inflation-racked housing market.

In the June article, residents said the Flood Control District was giving them "reasonably fair" deals for their homes.

The district currently is negotiating for 12 homes and seven other parcels between 12th and 16th streets near Orangewood Avenue, Boyd said, and 10 commercial properties between 15th Avenue and Hatcher Road.

Some commercial properties in the Metrocenter area may cost the district as much as \$200,000, he said.

The most costly purchase the district faces, a north Phoenix apartment complex that officials declined to name on the advice of attorneys, is expected to cost the district \$1.3 million, Boyd said.

So far during fiscal 1981-82, \$3.6 million has been spent on acquisition and relocation costs for the channel. A total of \$8.5 million is expected to be spent by June 30.

Of the 91 rentable properties the district has purchased, 75 are being leased for an income of \$31,000 a month, Boyd said.

The rental income nominally reimburses the district for

— Project, Extra 7

## Project

Continued from Extra 1

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Construction of the diversion channel between Skunk Creek and Cactus Road is projected to begin in 1985, followed by the Cactus Road to Cave Creek Wash section in 1987, the Cave Creek to Dreamy Draw section in 1988 and the Dreamy Draw to Cudia City Wash section in 1991.

The width of the channel will range from 36 feet at 40th Street and Camelback to 465 feet as it drains into Skunk Creek near 83rd Avenue and Greenway Road, officials said.

For more information on the district's land acquisition and relocation programs, area residents may contact the local Flood Control District's office at 611 E. Las Palmaritas, 861-2119.

## arm boy's' interest

# County buys 110 dwellings in project area

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*Continued from Extra 1*

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City Republic  
4-29-81

ARC 4-29-81  
**Gila Drain needs improvements, hydrologist says**

The effects of a 100-year flood in the southeast Valley could be compounded if the Gila Drain is not improved, according to Tom LaMarche, hydrologist with the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Under the conditions of a 100-year flood, Gila Drain, he said, would not be capable of handling water discharged into it by the Western Canal to the north.

The Western Canal collects street water and overflow from detention basins in the communities surrounding it, including Mesa, Tempe, Gilbert, parts of south Phoenix and unincorporated land.

Development has created more paved roads, driveways and rooftops, which, in turn, have caused more flooding possibilities. Because floodwater cannot percolate into the ground, more water is being emptied into the Western Canal.

The drain itself does not collect street water from any of these municipalities. It is not a storm drain. Its main function is to transport excess Salt River Project irrigation water from the Western Canal and empty it into the Gila River to the south.

— Drain, C4

## Drain

*Continued from C1*

Under current proposals to enlarge the drain, which would be called the Gila Floodway, the waterway's capacity would be increased eightfold so it could receive much more water from the Western Canal and collect some runoff directly from flooded areas, according to LaMarche.

Currently, the gate of the Western Canal lets 75 cubic feet per second into the north-south drain. The proposal would increase this to 600 cfs.

The Maricopa County Flood Control District is leading the campaign to get local people interested and talking, according to Sid Brase, Gila Drain project manager.

An initial meeting was held April 2 at the Flood Control District office with representatives from Tempe, Mesa, Phoenix, the Gila River Indian Reservation, SRP, Gilbert, Chandler and the Arizona Department of Transportation. Another meeting is planned for May.

"There are so many ifs at this point," Brase said, referring to decisions the group will have to make.

"We're just in the talking stage," he said, and "trying to develop enough interest and see how much money each group will kick in (to improve the drain)."

Flooding remains a problem on the Gila Indian River Reservation, through which the drain passes, LaMarche said. However, he said it always has been a problem because it is low-lying land and runoff naturally gravitates to it from the north.

Brase predicted that construction probably could not start for at least three or four years. He also estimated that the project would cost \$12 million to \$15 million.

Grover Serenbetz, Tempe public-works director, said an improved system would prevent flooding for south Tempe and act to carry off excess storm water.

"We need the protection," he said, "because we have homes all along that canal. . . . It is something that needs to be reckoned with."

Ariz. Republic  
4-23-81

# Fencing of dam considered to end erosion by vehicles

By Rick Rowden  
Republic Staff

AR 4-23-81

Fences may be erected around Cave Buttes Dam and its three dikes to protect them from damage that reportedly is caused by motorcycles and four-wheel vehicles, according to Lionel C. Lewis, staff engineer with the Flood Control District of Maricopa County.

Lewis told the Citizens' Flood Control Advisory Board on Wednesday that bids for the fencing would be sought next month.

He said tentative plans call for four- or five-strand barbed or smooth wire in between 35,000 and 40,000 feet of fencing around the structures on Cave Creek. Cave Buttes is one of four dams in the Arizona Canal diversion-channel project.

Lewis said the fencing would be placed on the upstream and downstream sides of the dams.

"Fencing is not the answer, but it does discourage the timid," he said.

The erosion, if continued, eventually could destroy the structures, he warned.

Flood Control District Manager William D. Mathews said he expects to go ahead with a study to determine the cost of repairing McMicken Dam as soon as the Board of Supervisors approves the study.

Estimates of repair costs range from \$1 million to \$5 million. The dam was built in 1953 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to protect nearby Luke Air Force Base and adjoining areas from flooding.

The dam, also known as the Trilby Wash Detention Basin, was breached in 1977 by having two openings cut in it to release water and relieve pressure after a structural crack was discovered.

The 9.4-mile-long dam extends from Peoria Avenue just west of the Beardsley Canal northeast in an arc to a point near Pinnacle Peak and Cotton Lane.

By Republic

Sunday 4-19-81

# Speedy work saves \$5 million

By Rick Rowden  
Republic Staff

Adobe Dam, one of four dams in the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel north of Phoenix, will cost \$5 million less than originally estimated, an Army Corps of Engineers spokesman has announced.

Terry Buckley, resident engineer, said the savings will result from an early completion date. The original completion date for the dam, on Skunk Creek, had been Sept. 28, 1982, but it has been moved up to Nov. 1 of this year, Buckley said.

"The initial estimate of actual construction costs, excluding its design, was \$13.5 million, and this has been cut to \$8.5 million," he said.

He said the construction period was shortened because of the comparatively dry winter, which left Skunk Creek empty.

"We're building the entire dam in conjunction with the diversion levee," he said Friday. "The levee, or dike, also serves as the dam's foundation."

The other dams in the \$300 million New River and Phoenix City Streams Project are:

- Dreamy Draw Dam, built in 1973 at a cost of

\$610,000 and located between Northern Avenue and the Paradise Valley Access Road in Sunnyslope.

- Cave Buttes Dam, completed in November 1979 at a cost of \$14.5 million and located on Cave Creek.

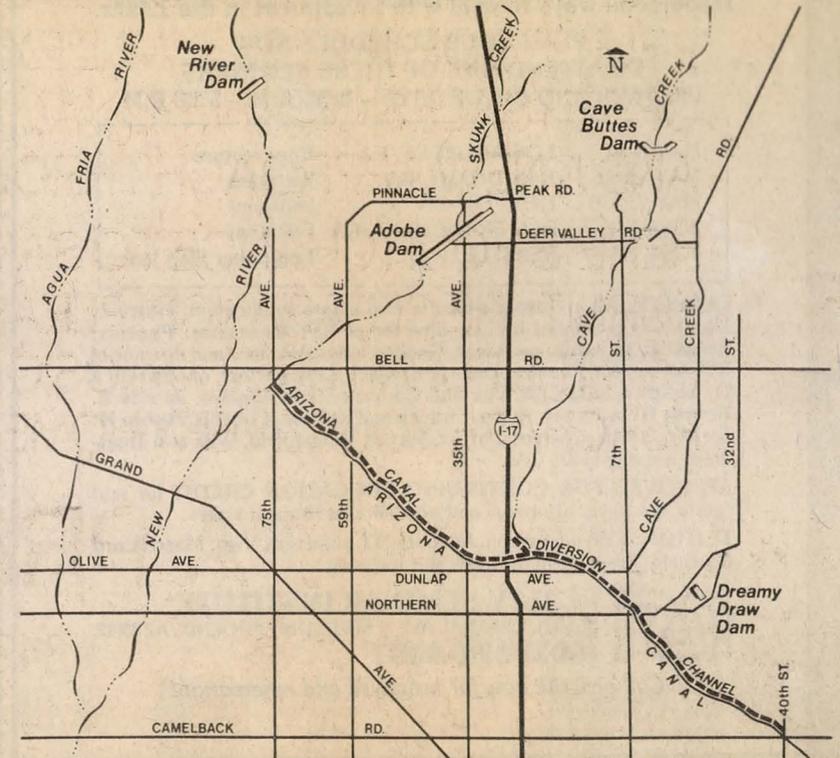
- New River Dam, on which construction is to begin in May 1983 and be completed in 1985, on the New River.

The dams will be operated in conjunction with the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, which will be parallel to the Arizona Canal, to protect north Phoenix from flooding.

Construction of the 17.3-mile-long diversion channel, about 50 feet north of the Arizona Canal, will be done in four stages after the New River Dam is completed and after flowage easement is obtained on Skunk Creek and the New and Agua Fria rivers.

The target date for the first stage from Skunk Creek to Cactus Road is 1985. The other three stages will be from Cactus Road to Cave Creek in 1987, from Cave Creek to Dreamy Draw in 1988, and from Dreamy Draw to 40th Street in 1990.

The entire project is scheduled for completion in 1991.



Gus Walker/Republic

Ag. Republic  
3-14-81

A.R. 3-4-81

# Cuts and schedule delays won't affect flood projects

Word of budget cuts and schedule delays will not affect the state Department of Transportation's proposal to help fund flood-control projects for the Avondale area, state officials said.

Bill Ross, the department's main engineer for I-10, said the agency's plan to transfer \$5 million to the Maricopa County Flood Control District to develop a flood-control system for the west Valley area is unaffected by a recently announced delay of \$7 million of interstate-highway projects.

In fact, Ross said, project delays do not represent additional cuts in agency money, as suggested by several recent news articles. Instead, the rescheduling of projects merely postpones the completion date of some projects and accelerates plans for others, he said.

"For example, we now are working on a five-year schedule (planning for projects five years ahead)," Ross said. "What people maybe don't fully understand is that whenever you're planning that far ahead, there are always some scheduling changes that have to be made."

The stretch of I-10 between 95th and 115th avenues was to have been constructed earlier this fiscal year, Ross said. But design and drainage-channelization-plan delays postponed construction until this June.

Any so-called budget cuts should not affect the project, he said.

In the meantime, the Department of Transportation expects to get word from Avondale city officials by next week on whether the community favors the agency's plan to transfer funds to the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Deputy State Engineer Owen Ford said the \$5 million had been planned to be used by the Department of Transportation for the construction of a detention basin to reduce the speed of water flow in the area of the planned interstate bridge over the Agua Fria.

Concerns from Avondale residents over channelization plans in the area prompted the state agency to offer the funds to the district for the development of a flood-control system for the area.

Ross said that if the 95th-to-115th-avenues project gets under way promptly, the next design phase, 115th to 125th avenues, may get started earlier than the scheduled 1982 date.

These phases primarily involve grading and drainage work, he said. Paving, lighting and the posting of signs would be done later.

The entire I-10 extension is scheduled to open for traffic in mid-1984, Ross said.



AZ Republic  
10-1-87

# Scottsdale group withholds blessing on Rio Salado plan

By JOHN SCHWARTZ  
The Arizona Republic

The Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce board has declined to endorse a proposed Valley-wide property-tax increase to pay for about half of the proposed \$3 billion Rio Salado reclamation project.

"While acknowledging the visionary concepts of the Rio Salado Project, (the Chamber) still has questions about the economic impact, viability and practicability of the project," according to a resolution released Wednesday.

"Therefore ... the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce does not support the funding mechanism of the Rio Salado Project to be voted on Nov. 3."

The decision came late Tuesday at a special meeting on Rio Salado, Chamber President Bob Solem said Wednesday.

"We were very careful with the wording of our resolution because we don't want to give anyone the idea we are against Rio Salado as a concept," Solem said. "It's just that there are still enough unanswered

questions about the project that we are not ready to make this kind of commitment (to its funding)."

The Rio Salado plan calls for transformation of 26 miles of shoreline along the usually dry Salt River bed into a public recreation, business and residential area. The work would take about 25 years.

A countywide election will be held Nov. 3 on the property tax.

On Sept. 18 in a public forum in Scottsdale, the pro-project Citizens for Rio Salado responded to seven specific concerns expressed by a study group established by the Chamber.

The concerns, for the most part, were not alleviated by the group's response, Solem said.

The task force had seven major areas of concern: flood control without the construction of another dam on the Verde River, which flows into the Salt River near Mesa; the property tax; cleanup of toxic wastes and dumps in the riverbed; water conservation; eminent domain and stream-bed ownership

— Rio Salado, B2

B2 THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1987

## RIO SALADO

Continued from B1

problems; lack of representation on the Rio Salado board by municipalities, such as Scottsdale, that would not border Rio Salado; and the project's uncertain costs.

"A few of the questions, such as representation, were pretty well answered satisfactorily by the Rio Salado, but others were less so and remain a concern," Solem said.

"Those include the lack of a more complete design study without Cliff Dam (on the Verde) and a better grasp on the cost and method for

cleaning up the toxic-waste dumps in the river."

Solem, a real-estate and land investor, said the Chamber is not going to be active against the Rio Salado Project and would not support any groups that oppose the project.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of Citizens for Rio Salado, said Wednesday that the Chamber board's vote "was very shortsighted."

"We gave them a comprehensive

written response to all their concerns but feel we were denied a full opportunity to go one-on-one with them to answer any remaining questions."

Kizer said the chamber must have forgotten that Scottsdale's \$54.3 million Indian Bend Wash flood control and recreation project was mostly paid by others and that the city and its citizens contributed only about 25 percent of its total cost, the rest paid for by federal, state and county funds.

Kizer said the Chamber's decision not to endorse the added property tax was surprising and does not reflect the attitude of Scottsdale residents.

"A survey completed earlier this year that looked for areas of voter strength for Rio Salado showed that on a per capita basis, Scottsdale came out on top of all Valley cities in support of the project," Kizer said. "The residents don't share the attitude of their Chamber."

# Rio Salado backers lack funds

## Supporters seeking \$300,000 for effort

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Leaders of the campaign for the Rio Salado Project on Friday claimed that they are out of money and made a plea for supporters to donate at least \$300,000 to promote voter approval of a property tax to help fund the project.

A budget of \$650,000 for the campaign was projected by Smith and Haroff, a Washington, D.C., public-relations firm hired by the Citizens for Rio Salado. But the citizens group has raised only \$200,000 since January, and that money has been spent, said Jay Smith, a partner in the firm.

"Unfortunately, there is a dark cloud hanging over us," Smith said.

"While we have a strong indication through our polls that people want the Rio Salado Project, they have not been willing to donate money for the campaign."

Joan Manly, a member of Concerned Citizens Against the Rio Salado Project, said she is glad to hear that contributions by the project's backers have not been as plentiful as expected.

"We've been without money all along," Manly said of her opposition group.

Republic  
9-17-87

# SALADO

Continued from A1

"I think the lack of financial contributions to the Rio Salado campaign indicates that people are informing themselves about the project and are realizing that the project has been poorly designed."

At issue in a Nov. 3 special election is a ballot proposition asking Maricopa County voters to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to help fund the Rio Salado Project. The project, estimated to cost nearly \$3 billion, would transform 17 miles of the Salt River through Phoenix into a public-recreation area lined by private development.

Smith and Burton Barr, finance manager for the Citizens for Rio Salado, made the plea for campaign donations at a meeting Friday with editorial writers and reporters for *The Arizona Republic* and *The Phoenix Gazette*. Smith said he hoped that the newspapers, "with their power in the community," could reach potential financial backers and persuade them to loosen their pocketbooks.

Barr, former Arizona House majority leader and an unsuccessful candidate for governor, said his appeals for donations have been turned down daily by those who "traditionally support important community projects."

"I don't have the answers to why they aren't contributing," he said.

"But I'm worried. I think it's serious. Either the project isn't important enough or it's something there're just not interested in."

The donations are needed, Smith said, to buy radio and television time for commercials supporting the tax. He added that the upcoming six weeks are the most critical for the campaign.

"We've got the commercials produced," Smith said. "The pictures are so pretty your heart will break at the thought of never having the Rio Salado Project."

Smith said he believes the problem is apathy.

"I think a lot of people are just busy and don't really know that the election is just right around the corner," he said.

"We want to get the word out that if you want this project, we need money to campaign for the election. I find that my phone calls may not get returned, but people respond to a newspaper article."

If voters approved the tax measure, revenues from the property tax would be used to help build a public-recreation area along the Salt River and help develop private homes, businesses, hotels and industry nearby.

About half of the nearly \$3 billion cost of the project would be paid for with the property tax, with the remaining costs paid for by the private developers.

Supporters claim the Rio Salado Project would generate 74,000 jobs and spur economic growth for the entire state. Critics say the largest economic gains would be bestowed upon the communities along the river, Phoenix, Tempe and Mesa.

"Something is wrong," Barr said. "If this is something we shouldn't do, then tell me, so I don't spend all day long badgering my head out there asking for money."

Manly, in an interview later Friday, said the project simply does not have as many backers as its proponents think.

"As planned, the Rio Salado Project is going to be enormously expensive; people's land will be taken and resold at a huge profit to the Rio Salado Development District; the master plan does not call for the removal of one of the at least 60 landfills in that river; and the district board of directors is appointed rather than elected," she said.

"These are serious concerns even for those who think the idea is a nice one."

A major disappointment of the Rio Salado's campaign managers has been the donations by the Phoenix 40, which is largely made up of the chief executive officers of large Valley corporations.

After several months of debate about the proposed property-tax rate, Phoenix 40 members agreed to donate \$40,000. A second request to the group, Smith said, brought in only "an insulting" \$400.

"We've been very disappointed in some of the individual members of the Phoenix 40," Smith said. "There's no doubt in our minds that they could pull in more contributions."

Another organization that refused to donate was the Salt River Project, whose general manager is a member of the Phoenix 40.

Thursday, September 17, 1987 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress 5

## Chamber to sponsor forum on Rio Salado

A forum sponsored by the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce to discuss the Rio Salado project will be at 7:15 a.m. Friday at the Sun-Burst Resort Hotel, 4925 N. Scottsdale Road.

Proponents will answer questions about the \$3 billion project to clean up and develop a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River channel through the Valley.

Maricopa County voters will

decide Nov. 3 whether to approve the project and impose a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. The owner of a \$100,000 home would pay about \$20 per year to support Rio Salado.

The cost of the forum is \$5 per person for Scottsdale chamber members or \$6 for non-members. For more information, contact Anne Brown, chamber government affairs manager, at 945-8481.



Suzanne Starr/Republic

## Two-fisted picket

Filomena Durazo joins demonstrators in front of Rio Salado Project campaign headquarters on Central Avenue. About 400 Rio Salado backers had gathered there Monday to kick off activities to generate support for a Nov. 3 property-tax vote in Maricopa County to fund the estimated \$3 billion project.

*Az Republic Tuesday 9-1-87*

### Rio Salado backers 'need therapy'

Carolina Butler, a citizen activist, thinks supporters of the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project need group-therapy sessions.

"These people have a bad case of compulsive buying," Butler said of the project's backers. "And they are asking the taxpayer for a credit card with a \$3 billion spending limit."

Butler, a longtime opponent of the development project, told members of the Nucleus Club, a fund-raising organization for the Democrats, that "you

## LEGISLATURE

# Remove Rio Salado Obstacle

**W**ITHIN the next few days, Gov. Evan Mecham will decide what topics the Arizona Legislature will address in its special session scheduled to convene June 29. The paramount issues — tinkering with the tax code to return an estimated \$117 million to taxpayers, and modifying statutes to enhance state efforts to lure the \$4.4 billion federal atom-smasher project — are sure to get the attention they deserve.

The governor should not overlook another critical matter, one holding promise of economic vitality for Maricopa County, enhanced livability and recreation for the public, and the instillation of a sense of community among our fragmented municipalities. The Rio Salado project, designed to transform the ugly bed of the Salt River into an inviting development and recreational oasis, needs help.

Only a minor legislative change is called for, but without it major obstacles could be erected for the Nov. 3 vote, barriers that might shatter the dream of Rio Salado.

Sand-and-gravel companies, which own a majority of the riverbed slated for development, want the opportunity to develop their property in accordance with Rio Salado's master plan. Eliminating the need for condemnation by the Rio Salado Development District and subsequent riverbed property sales to developers would reduce project costs to the benefit of taxpayers. Further savings would be realized through the promise of sand-and-gravel owners to pay for maintenance of public amenities.

The Rio Salado board has no objection to the Legislature curbing its power of eminent

domain. It has embraced the idea advanced by the Arizona Rock Products Association, and it is willing to lobby lawmakers to see that the change is made.

Why, then, is there a problem where none seemingly exists?

There's a show of distrust on the part of the ARPA toward Rio Salado. It's grounded in the belief that sand-and-gravel company concerns have never been taken seriously. These riverbed property owners want an iron-clad guarantee that they will have the right to develop their property.

A written promise by the Rio Salado District to do precisely that apparently isn't good enough. ARPA is threatening to oppose the referendum if its proposed legislation is not passed and signed into law.

A united front on Rio Salado is the best guarantee of the project's ultimate success. Sand-and-gravel operators are principal players. Their concerns merit legislative consideration and resolution.

The governor can do his part by including Rio Salado in the special session call no matter how he personally might feel about the project. Inclusion would constitute a willingness on Mecham's part to smooth rough waters, nothing more and nothing less. It could not be construed as an endorsement.

The Legislature, which has its share of Rio Salado opponents waiting to bushwhack the project, should follow suit by sticking to the condemnation issue. Temptations should be resisted to delve into a full-blown debate of the merits of Rio Salado. Let the voters make that determination at the ballot box.

# Phoenix 40 reverses stance on Rio Salado

## Backs tax boost, will help finance election campaign

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Less than a month after a surprise refusal by the Phoenix 40 to endorse a tax increase for the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project, the group of Phoenix business and corporate leaders gave unanimous approval to supporting it.

Members of the Phoenix 40 voted 21-0 to support the plan and to donate \$40,000 to help fund the election campaign.

The club's donation, however, is conditional. A task force was set up to work with the Rio Salado Development District on changing the details of the district's master plan to transform the Salt River bed into a 17-mile-long public recreational area flanked by private development.

The \$40,000 will not be released to the district's fund-raising arm, the Citizens for Rio Salado Committee, unless changes are worked out and adopted by the district by June 30, according to Richard Snell, chief executive officer of Ramada Inc. and chairman-elect of the Phoenix 40.

The conditions include consideration of a smaller project, swapping state-owned land for private land instead of buying it and lowering the proposed tax of 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation in Maricopa County in the beginning to only 10 cents, eventually building up to the 25 cents.

The Rio Salado proposal, scheduled for a countywide vote Nov. 3, would increase property taxes by 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, or about \$20 a year on a \$100,000 home.

Dennis Mitchem, chairman of the pro-Rio Salado committee and a member of the Rio Salado district board, said that he is "very gratified" by Tuesday's vote.

"This is just another step in our many stages of negotiations," he said.

"I believe we can work out the agreement with little difficulty. It was important, in that the people who make up the Phoenix 40 are among those who would be major contributors to the campaign."

Mitchem said the committee has raised nearly \$100,000 and has pledges of \$50,000 toward a goal of \$650,000.

On April 14, the Phoenix 40 refused to endorse the tax plan for Rio Salado. One of the chief opponents of the proposed tax hike was Keith Turley, chairman of the Arizona Public Service Co., the state's largest utility and property owner in Maricopa County.

But Snell said Tuesday that Turley "has indicated that he can live with this position."

Turley was in Hawaii and could not be reached for comment.

The Phoenix 40's endorsement is considered critical. Last week, the Salt River Project refused to help fund the campaign, just weeks after the Phoenix 40 rejection.

Some members of the Phoenix 40 said they believe Tuesday's vote may help change the minds of the SRP board of directors.

# Backers defiant as Rio Salado deals unravel

By MARY JO PITZL  
The Arizona Republic

Agreements designed to ward off organized opposition to the Rio Salado Project eroded further Thursday, and some project backers suggested that pursuing the deals is not worthwhile.

Meanwhile, a report released Thursday to the Rio Salado Development District Board said that the project would have more parkland, at a lower price tag, because of the demise of a proposed dam.

Disputes over how to acquire land for the project threaten to

break a tentative accord reached last month between project backers and sand-and-gravel company operators.

The sand-and-gravel operators want to retain the right to develop their riverbed land in accordance with the Rio Salado plan and thus reap the profits.

Board members Thursday approved an agreement to assure private landowners along the river that their land would not be condemned for the project. But a representative of the sand-and-gravel operators, for whom the

agreement was designed, said it wasn't enough.

Board member Phil Gagle, who also is executive director of the Arizona Rock Products Association, voted for the agreement. But he said that until association members get legislation to ensure that their land cannot be condemned, many of them cannot support the Rio Salado plan.

Some board members said the board has done all it can to appease the sand-and-gravel operators.

"From a public-relations point of view, it would do us better to have

them on the other side," board member Jose Ronstadt said.

Bill Ream, a board member and a Tempe city councilman, agreed.

"I don't think we have to bend over backwards for the sand-and-gravel people ever again," Ream said.

"I don't think they're that strong. I don't think they can defeat this project."

The Maricopa Audubon Society and the sand-and-gravel operators had agreed to remain neutral on a Nov. 3 special tax election to help

— Rio Salado, B2

## RIO SALADO

Continued from B1

finance the project. Project backers had hailed the move because the two organizations are believed to be the only ones with enough money and manpower to mount an opposition campaign.

But earlier this week, representatives of the Audubon Society said the agreement with them also was in jeopardy over where to allow development in the river bottom.

They fear that building in the flood plain would lead to renewed efforts to build a dam on the Verde River, which could flood nesting sites of desert-nesting bald eagles.

In the special election, Maricopa County voters will be asked to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to help pay for the project. The maximum tax would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home an extra \$20 a year.

The money would be combined with private contributions to pay for the project, which would turn 17 miles of the Salt River bottom into a recreation area bordered by

private development.

Also Thursday, in a move that would increase the recreation area by 2,045 acres, board members unanimously approved a revised plan that calls for a total of 5,530 acres of parks, lakes and streams.

The increased recreation area would be created in the expanded flood plain designated after federal officials agreed not to build Cliff Dam east of Phoenix on the Verde River.

The \$316 million dam was to have been built as part of the Central Arizona Project. However, Arizona congressmen killed the dam in June in exchange for an agreement from environmentalists not to oppose other parts of the CAP. Without the dam, more land downstream is prone to flooding.

Members also approved a \$2.9 billion budget for the project, \$124 million less than the original estimate. The lower cost is possible because project directors anticipate a more evenly paced construction schedule.

## Forum will focus on Rio Salado Project

"Rio Salado — Vision for the Future" will be the topic of a public forum Sept. 3 at the Pointe at Squaw Peak, 16th Street north of Glendale Avenue.

The forum, sponsored by the Valley Leadership Alumni Association, will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a

film depicting what the Rio Salado Project would look like.

Afterward, federal, state and local perspectives of the project will be discussed by District 1 Congressman Jay Rhodes, former state Sen. Alfredo Gutierrez and Phoenix City Councilman Paul Johnson.

## Nature group may oppose Rio Salado tax

By MARY JO PITZL  
The Arizona Republic

A tentative agreement for the Maricopa Audubon Society to remain neutral in the election on the proposed Rio Salado Project this fall is being threatened by a disagreement over where buildings would be constructed along the Salt River.

The society's dispute with Rio Salado backers over limits on development in the river's flood plain raises the possibility that the environ-

— Rio Salado, B8

## RIO SALADO

Continued from B1

mental group may oppose a property tax to help fund the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project.

Tentative agreements between the project's backers and the Audubon Society and private landowners along the Salt last month had virtually ensured that there would be no major organized opposition for the Nov. 3 election.

Maricopa County voters will be asked at the special election to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 in assessed valuation to help pay for the transformation of a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River into a series of parks and private developments. A defeat at the polls would mean that the project would not be built by the Rio Salado District Development District as planned.

The Audubon Society wants the development district to commit to construction of buildings only outside the existing 100-year flood plain. The flood plain is the area along the river that probably would be inundated by a flood so heavy that it is likely to occur only once in every 100 years.

Bob Witzeman, an Audubon spokesman, said the group's concern is that any buildings inside the current 100-year flood plain would sit on land that was prone to flooding.

This could raise the possibility of building another dam on the Verde River to protect against flooding. The dam would flood nesting sites of bald eagles, the society claims.

"We have asked that they never be given the option of moving into that no man's land (along the Salt)," Witzeman said.

The project's backers say that they have no quarrel with the 100-year flood plain and that the flood plain will be narrowed in 1995, when Roosevelt Dam will be raised to provide additional flood control on the Salt River.

The district, however, wants the option of changing the boundaries of the development in case new dams are built upstream, said Aaron Kizer, executive director of the district.

This would allow some flexibility for future Rio Salado development while still keeping construction out of floodwaters that could threaten lives and property, Kizer said.

Witzeman said his group wants a written commitment from the Rio Salado district's board that development would be excluded from the current flood plain. The group also wants the district's board to seek legislation that would ensure that development would not move into that flood plain.

Az. Republic  
8-13-87

## Real Benefits For Public In Rio Salado

*Editor:*

R. David McCuen of Phoenix (letter, July 24) makes a good point when he says the recipients of the benefits of Rio Salado should pay for it.

What he apparently doesn't know is that the recipients of the benefits will pay for it.

About half of the cost of the project will be paid for by those who develop along with the project itself. They will pay an assessment based on the increased value of their property that is due to the construction of the parklands and public facilities in Rio Salado.

That assessment, coupled with profits made by the Rio Salado Development District from land sales and leases will pay for about half of the capital construction and land-acquisition costs of the project, and will pay for maintenance and operation of the district into perpetuity.

The other half of the capital cost of the project will be paid by the maximum 25-cents per \$100 of assessed valuation property tax voters will decide on Nov. 3. That tax will cost the owner of a

\$100,000 home about \$20 a year.

What benefits will the taxpayers of Maricopa County receive for their investment? About \$5 billion in new tax revenues to the county and municipalities in the county; 74,000 new jobs in the center of the Valley; 16,000 new homes; and a world-class park with recreational facilities that can satisfy every need imaginable.

All of the facilities of Rio Salado will be public facilities, something that would not be the case were the entire project to be funded from private sources. I can hear the screams from citizens protesting the provision of the Salt River as a playground for the rich had that eventuality come to pass.

For about the cost of taking a family of four to the movies — but no popcorn or soft drinks, please — every resident of Maricopa County will have a playground of immense proportions, cleaned-up toxic wastes, and a stabilized riverbed no longer subject to course changes every time it floods.

Pretty good benefits, I'd say.

**CHRIS BRABAND**  
Mesa

Ariz. Republic  
8-12-87

# 100 to join Rio Salado committee

## Valley leaders vow to help run project

By SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

One hundred prominent Valley residents, including four mayors, a Maricopa County supervisor and some labor leaders, have agreed to serve on a steering committee for the Rio Salado Project campaign.

The civic leaders have agreed to lend their names as supporters and advise the campaign committee "on how best to approach and communicate with their communities," said John DeWitt, a spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado, the group campaigning for the project.

Maricopa County voters will be asked in a Nov. 3 special election to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to help fund the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project. The project would turn 17 miles of the artificially dry Salt River bed into a belt of parks, recreational facilities and new commercial, residential and industrial developments.

In another development, the Phoenix 40, a group of influential business leaders, has made a \$40,000 contribution to the Rio Salado campaign, which it had tentatively agreed to in May, assuming that some conditions were met.

Those conditions — concerning the way the property tax for the Rio Salado Project is imposed and the way property owners along the Salt River can develop their land — have been approved in principle by the Rio Salado Development District, which would oversee the project.

The tax would be phased in, starting with 10 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation and rising to a maximum of 25 cents. At the 25-cent level, the tax would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home about \$20 a year.

Dennis Mitchem, chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, said the steering-committee members come from 15 communities.

"The steering committee is designed to help us take the Rio Salado message into every neighborhood in the Valley," Mitchem said in a prepared statement.

The list of citizens includes Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard, Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell, Mesa Mayor Al Brooks, Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater, Maricopa County Supervisor Ed Pastor and Valley labor leaders Mike Bielecki and Pat Cantelme.

It also includes Valley car dealer Lou Grubb, former state legislator Alfredo Gutierrez, Phoenix Newspapers Inc. general manager William Hogan, former state Superintendent of Public Instruction Cardyn Warner and Lincoln Ragsdale, president of Valley Life Insurance Group.

Another committee member is Maurice Tanner, chairman of the Tanner Cos. and member of the Phoenix 40 who had helped convince other members of the Phoenix 40 to initially oppose giving funds to the Rio Salado campaign.

The funds were given after the Rio Salado district's board agreed in principle to phase in the property tax by setting it at 10 cents for each of the first two years of the project, 15 cents during the third year, 20 cents during the fourth year, 25 cents between the fifth and 20th years and 5 cents for the last five years.

The other part of the agreement with the Phoenix 40 would enable property owners along the Salt River to develop their own property in accordance with the Rio Salado master plan so long as they pay an assessment to help build and maintain the public parks in the project.

## RIO SALADO

# Neutralizing The Opposition

**R**ARE are major political campaigns that fail to provoke organized opposition. The 1985 freeway referendum in which Maricopa County voters authorized a half-penny jump in the sales tax enjoyed that luxury.

The upcoming public vote on the Rio Salado Project may duplicate that feat. If so, the development project's chances of success would be immeasurably improved. No organized opposition reduces the budget and makes for a positive, not negative, campaign.

Little by little, backers of the project to transform 17 miles of the dry and ugly bed of the Salt River into a linear oasis of mixed use development and recreational amenities are working to neutralize opposition. Consider:

- Although no final decision has been made, chances are good Arizona Public Service Co., the county's single largest property-tax payer, will not contest Rio Salado.

- The Phoenix 40, a group of civic boosters, is prepared to donate campaign funds once the Rio Salado Development District board ratifies an agreement to phase in the property tax levy of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

- In the wake of Cliff Dam's demise, positive discussions are under way with environmentalists to limit development encroachment in the flood plain in return for a promise from those groups to drop any planned opposition.

But the biggest hurdle to an opposition-free Rio Salado public vote on Nov. 3 — and to Rio Salado itself — has not yet been cleared. Sand and gravel companies, through their trade group — the Arizona Rock Products Associa-

tion — have a large proprietary stake in how the riverbed is developed. They own a majority of the riverbed slated for development.

The group has not officially decided whose side it will be on despite the acceptance by the Rio Salado board of ARPA's demand that current landowners be allowed to develop their property in accordance with Rio Salado's master plan. Such an agreement eliminates the need for condemnation and sale of the property to developers. Taxpayers would be the beneficiaries of lower project costs.

Sand-and-gravel companies, harboring concerns that Rio Salado officials may not keep their word, want ironclad assurances their property cannot be taken. That is why they, in partnership with Rio Salado officials, have lobbied legislative leaders to make a minor statutory change. Lawmakers have been receptive to the notion of a special session, but Gov. Evan Mecham thus far has not acquiesced.

If there is to be another special session this year, the inclusion of Rio Salado would put to rest sand and gravel worries. There would be a united front to take the cause to the voters.

ARPA's decision to support or not support Rio Salado, however, should not be tied to a special legislative session. Rio Salado officials have gone the extra mile to ameliorate ARPA concerns. If sand and gravel companies truly are interested in developing their own property in an exciting Rio Salado, there is no reason to withhold their support. Should they decide to contest the election, the events of the past months will be viewed as little short of a hollow and misleading deception.

## Critic picked for board of Rio Salado

Associated Press

Gov. Evan Mecham has appointed an executive of the Arizona Rock Products Association, a trade group battling the Rio Salado Project over development in the Salt River, to the project's board, participants say.

Phil Gagle, the association's executive director, and gubernatorial aide Sam Steiger confirmed that Gagle will replace Milt Lee on the 12-member board.

Lee said he had not been formally notified of his replacement but said he had asked Mecham, a Republican, to replace him.

"I was very close to (former Democratic Gov. Bruce) Babbitt," Lee said.

He added, "It would be a disappointment if they placed another rock-products person on the board."

To date, the only voice of the sand-and-gravel industry on the board has been Ed Belt, general manager of Phoenix Redi-Mix Co., who has battled other directors since his appointment a year ago.

In a speech Tuesday to real-estate developers, Belt criticized the board members as "blatant supporters" of a project he believes will harm landowners.

The project would create a greenbelt along a 17-mile stretch of the Salt. Maricopa County voters will be asked Nov. 3 to tax themselves to fund the project.

Although the rock-products interests have not tried to kill the project, they have differed with other planners over the width of the flood plain and the amount of land to be taken out of production.

Mecham has opposed Rio Salado.

## Fuzzy Thinking

*Editor:*

Larry Lochner of Fountain Hills (letter, June 1) displays some of the fuzzy thinking and misinformation typical of those who oppose Rio Salado.

Who will really use the project? How about the millions-plus Valley residents who will have a 17-mile-long string of parks, trails, picnic areas and other recreational areas right through the middle of the metropolitan area. Those will all be public facilities, not private.

What about the 74,000 job opportunities that will be created by the project — building the hotels, condos, parks, golf courses and then managing them? Those people will all be Valley residents, too.

And, if Lochner thinks out-of-state visitors get out of Arizona without paying sales taxes, hotel-occupancy taxes and hotel-room rates that most certainly include property taxes, he's living in a dream world.

Rio Salado will be the best thing that ever happened to the Valley.

JOSEPH J. HENRY  
*Phoenix*

City Republic  
8-8-87

# Ratliff, backers of Rio Salado agree on ballot

By SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff and the backers of the Rio Salado Project agreed Friday to include wording on the project's election ballot that had originally been proposed, plus some elaboration by Ratliff.

The agreement was reached during a 40-minute meeting at the Maricopa County Elections Department that was marked by a sometimes heated discussion about the merits of the project.

The negotiations were ordered by the county Board of Supervisors after Ratliff, a Sun City Republican, last week protested the original language, saying it was slanted and too flowery.

At issue is the language that will be printed on ballots for a Nov. 3 special election on whether a countywide property tax should be levied to help build the Rio Salado Project. The \$3 billion project would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a series of public parks and waterways surrounded by private development.

The new ballot language is scheduled to be considered Monday by the Board of Supervisors, which has the final say on it under a 1986 state law that ordered a special election on the proposed tax.

Ratliff told the group he has incorrectly been portrayed as an opponent of the Rio Salado Project.

"I am not an opponent of Rio Salado, but I'm an opponent of the way it has been handled," he said.

For example, Ratliff said, he thinks the public has been misled to believe that the tax increase would cost only \$20 a year if they owned a typical house. In fact, he said, all county residents would have to pay higher prices for all goods so that the owners of businesses could pay the higher property taxes that would be imposed on their properties.

Dennis Mitchem, chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, disagreed,

Elections Department to rewrite the ballot language last week after rejecting the original language because it was written by an attorney for the Rio Salado Development District, which is charged with overseeing the planning and development of the project.

The new language includes all of the wording proposed by that attorney, Fred Rosenfeld, plus two paragraphs requested by Ratliff that explain the effect of voting "yes" or "no" on the measure.

The new language explains that a yes vote would raise property taxes by up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation and that a no vote would prevent the tax increase.

If voters approved the tax increase, the owner of a \$100,000 home would pay up to \$20 more a year.

The ballot's title was also changed, at Ratliff's request, from "Tax Authorization for the Improvement of the Rio Salado Project" to "Rio Salado Tax Authorization Measure."

Ratliff wanted that change because Rio Salado doesn't exist.

The meeting was attended by county officials and representatives of the Rio Salado district and Citizens for Rio Salado, which is heading the election campaign for the project.

saying, "I think the voters of the county are sophisticated enough to know that taxes are passed back to the people."

Ratliff also objected because people "can't tell what's in the (project's) master plan" from information on the ballot and information distributed so far.

Mitchem said that people who want to know details about the plan can visit the district's office, 141 E. Palm Lane, in much the same way that voters who want to know details about a jail they're asked to approve would have to visit a government office to get that information.

Ch. Republic  
8-3-87

## **No Gain For Public**

*Editor:*

If the Rio Salado Project — the proposal to get voters to approve forcing owners of land, homes and buildings to help pay for a blue-sky scheme in and along the Salt River and to keep the bureaucrats in the Rio Salado Project District employed — had any real merit, money would run to it in the same way water flows downhill.

But there is no profit in the Rio Salado Project for those of us who would have to pay a property tax of 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. Arguments about all the jobs and other alleged benefits Rio Salado would bring are as phony as the project itself. Every dollar taken in taxes to support another elitist/government program is money that would be used more creatively by the people who earned it.

On Nov. 3, vote "no" to the Rio Salado Project. If it had merit, it would be privately financed without this attempt to get property owners to help pay for it.

EARL ZARBIN  
Phoenix

City Republic  
8-1-87

# Language of Rio Salado ballot voided

By SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

Bowing to concerns raised by a state legislator, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors on Friday refused to use ballot language in the upcoming Rio Salado Project election that was written by the project's backers.

The supervisors said they want the county attorney's office to write the ballot language for the Nov. 3 election to assure voters that it was written by an objective third party.

Voters will be asked to approve a

countywide property tax and bonds to help finance the \$3 billion project, which would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River into a public-recreation area flanked by private developments.

"Our people should be drawing this up," supervisors Chairman Fred Koory said in opposing the acceptance of language proposed by the Rio Salado Development District's board.

"The ballot language should not be an issue in the campaign. I can see that there are some buzzwords

in there that could be objectionable."

Other supervisors at first were reluctant to reject the district's language, but Koory persisted and persuaded them to do so. The supervisors were given the authority to hold the election, including responsibility for the ballot language, under a 1986 state law.

The supervisors' move came in response to a strongly worded letter to Koory on Wednesday from House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City. Ratliff, a longtime Rio Salado

opponent, called the proposed ballot language "a transparent attempt to fix the election."

Ratliff asked the supervisors to scrap the district's language on grounds it included such language as "optimum development of lands" and "achieve social and economic benefits."

The Rio Salado district's language also said voters would be asked to raise property taxes by 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, or about \$20 a year on a \$100,000 home. But Ratliff said

possible hidden effects of the tax — higher prices for utilities, goods and services — also should be mentioned.

Ratliff objected to the fact that the ballot measure was written by a lawyer working for the Rio Salado district, a governmental body that would oversee the project.

The attorney, Fred Rosenfeld, attended the supervisors' meeting, as did Dennis Mitchem, a member of the district's board and chairman of Citizens for the Rio Salado, which is running the campaign for

the project.

Mitchem said he would have liked to see the supervisors adopt Rosenfeld's wording because it was objective, factual and based on state statutes pertaining to Rio Salado. But he said he had no quarrel with the supervisors' decision.

Koory said he wants the ballot language written in such a way that it will be "legal, objective, clear, concise and non-objectionable to both sides," a goal Supervisor Tom Freestone said will amount to "mission impossible."

Ariz. Republic  
7-30-87

# Proposed Rio Salado ballot wording challenged

By STEVE YOZWIAK  
The Arizona Republic

House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff, a longtime opponent of the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project, on Wednesday called the proposed language for a Nov. 3 tax referendum "a transparent attempt to fix the election."

In a strongly worded letter to Fred Koory Jr., chairman of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, Ratliff has asked the supervisors to scrap the ballot language.

The supervisors are scheduled to consider the wording Friday.

Koory said he will ask Elections Director James A. Riggs to develop some language that is both legal and meets the concerns of Ratliff, the development district and other interested parties.

The challenged wording was recommended earlier this month by the Rio Salado Development District's board of directors.

Ratliff said the proposed ballot question includes flowery language, such as "optimum development of lands" and "achieve social and economic benefits."

The 17-year lawmaker said the ballot presented to Maricopa County voters should

include a complete discussion of how a proposed tax increase of up to 25 cents per \$100 in assessed property value would affect taxpayers.

Proponents of the plan say it would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home about \$20 a year in additional taxes.

But Ratliff said that possible hidden effects of the tax — higher prices for utilities, goods and services, and the authority granted in the proposal to confiscate land — also should be mentioned in the ballot language.

The proposal would provide the financing needed to transform a 17-mile stretch of the

mostly dry Salt River bed through metropolitan Phoenix into a series of lakes bordered by parks, homes, businesses and industries.

"It's all apple pie and ice cream," Ratliff, a Sun City Republican, said Wednesday.

"It's just a very rosy picture in their language."

John DeWitt, spokesman for the Citizens for Rio Salado campaign, denied that the proposed ballot language is biased. DeWitt said the language was lifted almost verbatim from the 1986 legislation that called for the election.

— Rio Salado, B4

## RIO SALADO

Continued from B1

### BALLOT LANGUAGE

The following is the language of a Nov. 3 Maricopa County ballot proposal on the Rio Salado Project recommended to the county Board of Supervisors by the Rio Salado Development District's board of directors:

"Shall the Rio Salado Development District be authorized to provide funds to assist in the solution of flood control problems in riverbeds, as indicated in the District Master Plan, to encourage the optimum development of lands along the river courses within the jurisdiction of the District, to promote the development of roads and bridges and of regional parks, lakes and other outdoor recreational facilities and to combine flood control with environmental design to achieve social and economic benefits for the County and its population and thus enhance the general welfare of the State through the levy of a secondary property tax, such tax not to exceed a rate of 25 cents per 100 dollars of assessed valuation?"

"I see no reason to change it," DeWitt said. "We are simply restating what the Legislature has already passed as the mission of Rio Salado."

But Ratliff called "highly objectionable" the fact that the Rio Salado Development District board submitted any language at all.

"It is highly inappropriate for a group advocating a particular outcome of an election to be recommending ballot language," Ratliff wrote in his letter.

"This action violates the integrity of the election process and may jeopardize the validity of the election."

DeWitt said the language was developed by the Phoenix law firm of Gust Rosenfeld Divilbess & Henderson, which has developed ballot-proposition language in previous elections.

The law firm was hired by the development district to produce the language, which was accepted by the development-district board July 7 and recommended to the supervisors for adoption, DeWitt said.

Az. Republic  
7-30-87

## COMPROMISE

# Milestone For Rio Salado

**T**HE arrival at a consensus on plans to develop the Rio Salado Project is a welcome milestone in the sometimes sputtering drive to win passage of the proposal at a Nov. 3 special election. From this point on, the road should be smoother, the going easier.

Until now, there has been a threat that major barricades would be raised to impede progress in the campaign to convince voters of the worthiness of the project.

Organized opposition to the plan loomed in the form of environmentalists, who raised objections because of the dangers of flooding, and private property owners, who were concerned about the development of their land.

The milestone was reached when the Rio Salado Development District came to a tentative agreement with its two strongest critics on where to go from here on the project.

The accord with environmentalists, led by the Maricopa Audubon Society, calls for the district to keep buildings outside the Salt River's existing 100-year floodplain, reducing the chances of damages during heavy flooding.

That concession satisfies the Audubon Society's concern that the project, in its pre-compromise form, would require upstream flood control. Building outside the 100-year floodplain, the society has argued, would lessen the

need for upstream safeguards such as the proposed Cliff Dam, which environmentalists fought to a standstill.

The agreement with the private landowners, including the 13 sand-and-gravel companies that are members of the Arizona Rock Products Association, would allow them to develop their property in accordance with the project's master plan.

The months-long dispute between the district and ARPA has centered on the rights of landowners, such as the sand-and-gravel companies, to develop the property they owned within the district. The landowners had objected to a plan that would have allowed the district, a governmental body, to condemn the land, then sell it at a profit to developers.

The three-party agreement, as noted, is tentative, but it is expected to be formalized at the district's board of directors meeting Aug. 13. When that happens, the campaign to win approval of a tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to help build the \$3 billion project should be faced with little more than token opposition.

Even so, it would be a mistake to let up now. The encouraging, newfound harmony should serve as a stimulus to backers of the Rio Salado Project to push even harder for its passage.

By Republic  
7-29-87

# Rio Salado backers, key foes reach accord

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Backers of the Rio Salado Project have reached tentative agreements with two major critics that virtually eliminate any large organized opposition to the district's property-tax election in November.

An agreement with environmentalists would keep buildings outside the Salt River's existing 100-year-flood plain, reducing the chances of damage during heavy flooding. The other would allow private landowners to develop their own land in accordance with the Rio Salado

plans and thus reap the profits, instead of facing the loss of their land through condemnation.

The agreements are the result of down-to-the-wire negotiations designed to head off a major campaign against the project. Maricopa County voters will be asked at a Nov. 3 special election to approve a tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 in assessed value to help build the \$3 billion project, which would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a series of public recreational areas surrounded by

homes, businesses and industries.

Although there is a loosely knit, citizens group that opposes the Rio Salado Project, environmentalists and sand-and-gravel companies have been considered by Rio Salado backers to be greater threats because they have the money and members to mount a major campaign against the project.

The flood-plain agreement is intended to mollify environmentalists by saying that no buildings would be constructed inside the river's existing 100-year-flood plain. There is a 1 percent chance of a

100-year flood's happening in any year, and there is a 40 percent chance of a flood that size or larger in any 50-year period, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Environmentalists, led by the Maricopa Audubon Society, have been concerned that politicians could be pressured to build a dam upstream if buildings were located where the flood risk was high and were damaged by flooding.

Such a dam has been strongly opposed by environmentalists be-

— Rio Salado, A2

## RIO SALADO

Continued from A1

cause it would have to be built on the Verde River, where it would destroy one of the state's only remaining sections of wild river and flood the habitat of desert-nesting bald eagles.

Bob Witzeman, a spokesman for the Maricopa Audubon Society, said the group will not oppose the election in light of the agreement.

"Our agreement is a handshake and a pat on the back," Witzeman said. "I think the people know it's right not to build in a river's flood plain. If they (the Rio Salado backers) suddenly change their mind and get greedy, I think the public will understand that that is wrong."

District officials have tentatively agreed with the society to build only outside the existing 100-year-flood plain — that area along the river that would be inundated by a flood of such intensity expected only once in about 100 years.

The district will continue to use

those boundaries for development even after Roosevelt Dam upstream on the Salt River is raised, providing additional flood control on the Salt and narrowing the official flood plain.

"This means that by staying out of the existing 100-year-flood plain, they will reduce the chance of that kind of flooding from 40 percent to 20 percent after Roosevelt is completed," Witzeman said.

The development agreement has been sought by the Arizona Rock Products Association so that its 13 member sand-and-gravel companies and other private landowners would not lose their land to condemnation by the Rio Salado Development District. The district, a government agency, had planned to condemn the land, then sell it at a profit to developers who would build the homes, businesses and industries.

Under the tentative agreement, the landowners would be able to develop their own land in accor-

dance with district plans and pay the district an annual fee to help maintain the public portions of the Rio Salado Project. The fee would replace the profits the Rio Salado district would have reaped from the resale of the condemned land to developers.

Although the association and the district reached a similar agreement two months ago, the association had demanded legislation waiving the district's right of eminent domain over that property for 10 years. The issue, however, did not make it to two special legislative sessions, and the association threatened to oppose the election unless the matter was resolved.

The district's attorneys, however, concluded in a legal opinion that the district and association could accomplish the same thing by getting the district, Valley cities and Maricopa County to approve a contract with that condition, said Aaron Kizer, the district's executive

director. Association attorneys are reviewing the opinion.

"We're optimistic," said Phillip R. Gagle, executive director of the Arizona Rock Products Association.

"If the opinion holds solid, then we've got some good opportunities to come together. In all honesty, we're really trying."

Though the sand-and-gravel companies had not yet organized in opposition to the Rio Salado tax, the environmentalists had lined up a speakers bureau and a public-information campaign against the project.

The district's board of directors is scheduled to discuss and review both agreements Aug. 13.

Az Republic  
7-29-87

### **Rio Salado Vision**

*Editor:*

On a trip to Germany, we cruised on the Rhine and Mosel rivers. We had a vision of what the Rio Salado would be like if it became a reality — a real paradise for all to enjoy.

VINCENT AND ELOISE ORTIZ  
*Phoenix*

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### WHERE WOMEN WORK

CHICAGO (AP) — Nearly half of America's working women are employed in sales, administrative and technical pursuits.

by cracking down on income-tax cheaters, he said.

But Babbitt spokesman Michael McCurry said it is unrealistic to think that beefing up enforcement of tax laws could solve the budget crisis.

"To raise \$100 billion from tax cheaters would require an IRS agent in every person's bedroom," McCurry said.

Other candidates have proposed different deficit-reduction programs. Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware has proposed raising an estimated \$5.8 billion by boosting taxes on cigarettes and alcohol, and Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri has talked of imposing a levy on oil imports, which would raise only a few million dollars more than Biden's proposal.

Attempts late Monday to get comment from other candidates on Babbitt's proposal were unsuccessful.

Babbitt plans to unveil his pro-

posal publicly Thursday in a speech to the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. He detailed the plan Sunday, however, in campaign appearances in Webster City and Eldora, Iowa. The first presidential caucuses will be held in Iowa on Feb. 8.

McCurry estimated that a 5 percent consumption tax would raise about \$58 billion in the first year, 10 times the amount raised by proposed tax hikes on cigarettes and liquor.

Estimates of how much such a tax would cost an average family were unavailable.

Taxes on consumption are considered regressive, hitting the poor the hardest. Babbitt, however, said the poor could be protected by exempting medical and shelter costs from the tax or by providing income-tax credits or deductions for the poor.

Such protection, however, would reduce the expected revenue.

## Panel's offer may trim Rio Salado opposition

By BETTY BEARD  
The Arizona Republic

A board overseeing the proposed Rio Salado Project and owners of much of the land that would be developed by the \$3 billion project stepped closer Thursday to an agreement that could forestall some landowners' opposition to the project.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado Development District, proposed a special assessment on property owners that would help pay for building, maintaining and operating the project's parks and recreation areas.

In return, the district would agree to allow sand-and-gravel companies and other owners of property along the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix to keep their land and develop it as part of the project, instead of condemning the land and selling it to private developers.

The Arizona Rock Products Association, whose members own a substantial portion of the land, has balked at supporting the project to build 14 miles of parks

and private development along the river because the district originally had proposed to condemn their land.

The association threatened to oppose a countywide property tax to help fund the project at a special election Nov. 3 if an agreement could not be reached on the condemnation issue.

Details of the proposed assessments still have to be negotiated, and the issue is expected to be discussed further at the Rio Salado board's Aug. 13 meeting.

Ed Belt, the association's legislative lobbyist and a member of the district's board, said he is willing to discuss the assessments but still hopes the Legislature will have a special session before Nov. 3 to pass a law to further protect the land.

"I still believe this will be in a special session before November 3," he said.

However, the condemnation issue was not on an agenda announced Thursday by Gov. Evan Mecham and legislative leaders for a special session that probably will be held July 20.

Az. Republic

6-12-87

## Salt's Dangers

*Editor:*

Rio Salado boosters who would use Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash to sell the Rio Salado need to take geography, hydrology and toxicology lessons to learn the differences between the Salt River and Indian Bend Wash.

The Salt River is a 12,000-square-mile watershed. Indian Bend Wash is only 200 square miles. The largest flood in the Salt was 300,000 cubic feet per second, but only 20,000 in Indian Bend Wash.

The price tags on the two projects differ greatly with Indian Bend Wash at \$54 million and Rio Salado officially at \$3.1 billion. The Rio Salado will quickly go bankrupt or back to the taxpayers for more money. The 25-cent property tax covers only \$1.3 billion of the project's \$3.1 billion cost.

The Rio Salado District foolishly pretends that private developers will be anxious to buy the flood-prone, landfill-polluted land.

One wonders how eager developers will be to pay the district top dollar for "scenic" frontage on a riverbed to which the government assigns a 40 percent flood risk during a 50-year occupancy.

It also takes a special sort of courage for a developer to want to build along a riverbed studded with toxic landfills emitting carcinogens and explosive methane gas.

The Salt River, unlike Indian Bend Wash, is peppered with scores of unknown dumps. If there are any developers unscrupulous enough to take these sorts of risk, they are the type who would get in, build fast, sell and get out before the law of averages catches up.

MARILYN DEPREST  
Mesa

Arg. Republic  
6-1-87

## Rio Salado Project

*Editor:*

In spite of some speculation in the press that there might be a delay of the Rio Salado election, I hope everyone noticed that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has called the election for Nov. 3.

That means that after 20 years of talking, dreaming and planning, Maricopa County voters will finally have a chance to vote to obliterate a scar across our Valley and replace it with a beautiful, useful and economic project that will benefit every county resident.

It is also gratifying to see nearly all the major Valley civic groups rallying around the project. Perhaps following the lead of their East Valley Partnership brethren, even the Phoenix 40 has come around.

I am looking forward to the campaign. I think that once voters are educated about the recreational, aesthetic, environmental and economic benefits of the projects almost all will support it.

CHARLES W. HUNT  
Scottsdale

*Editor:*

Before we decide who is going to pay for Rio Salado, why not take a long, hard look at who will really use the project if it ever becomes a reality.

Certainly not the majority of property owners. They are out there working five or six days a week to make the house payments that keep getting larger because it's so easy to add to the property tax and collect it. They surely don't have the money for a large campaign fund to fight the tax, and probably many won't be able to get the time off to vote against it.

So, who'll use the Rio Salado?

It will be the thousands of visitors who have the leisure time and can afford the hotels, condos and golf courses that will be available for a not-so-modest price.

So, why not a tax that would include all of these people?

LARRY LOCHNER  
Fountain Hills

Ariz. Republic  
5-20-87

# Lack of legislation leaves Rio Salado in bind

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Supporters of the Rio Salado Project ran up against a stumbling block Tuesday in their bid to reach agreement with the companies that own 90 percent of the land targeted for redevelopment by the project.

The problem emerged when the Legislature adjourned Tuesday without passing legislation needed to cement a deal between the Rio Salado Development District and the Arizona Rock Products Association to allow sand-and-gravel companies to develop their own land instead of facing its condemnation by the district.

Despite the problem, negotiators remain

optimistic that they can persuade Gov. Evan Mecham to add the measure to a special session later this year, in time for its passage before a Nov. 3 election at which the district plans to ask Maricopa County voters to approve a property tax of as much as 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to help build the \$3 billion project.

District officials are seeking the agreement to avoid having the association oppose the tax, which would be used to help transform 17 miles of Salt River bottom and banks into parks and private development.

If the legislation is not passed by lawmakers before fall, the sand-and-gravel companies are likely to bring their financial clout

to bear in opposition to the tax, which now is opposed by a loose coalition of environmental and taxpayer groups that lacks the financial resources to wage a major campaign.

"It would be hard for us to support the election or to even remain neutral," said Ed Belt, president of the rock-products group.

Although the association asked Thursday that the Rio Salado district postpone the election until spring if the necessary legislation is not passed, the district's board members agreed to push ahead with the Nov. 3 election, which was formally scheduled Monday by the county Board of Supervisors.

"We see no alternative to going to the people this year," said Aaron Kizer, the

district's executive director. "We're not backing off. We're united in our efforts to have the election this fall."

The district's board fears that it will not gain from the Legislature the necessary funding to keep the district alive through 1988 and that delaying the vote would postpone the project indefinitely, he said.

"The election will be held," Kizer said. "It may be likely that we will not have the support of, and we may have the opposition of, the landowners."

Belt, who serves on the district's board, said delaying the election by a few months while an agreement is worked out should not hurt the project's chances with the voters.

*Az. Republic*  
5-19-87

## **Rio Salado levy vote scheduled**

A special election on property taxes to fund the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project has been formally set for Nov. 3 by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisors Fred Koory, Ed Pastor, Tom Freestone and George Campbell voted Monday for the date, which was requested by the Rio Salado Development District.

Supervisor Carole Carpenter, a Democrat who represents the northwestern part of the county, abstained from voting.

She said she doesn't believe enough grass-roots support has been gathered for the project and suggested putting off the election until next year.

Maricopa County voters will be asked to approve a property tax to fund land acquisition and park development for the project, which would revitalize a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix.

# Backers adrift as Rio Salado stirs opposition

## Split over putting \$3 billion plan to vote, may downsize project

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
The Arizona Republic

Supporters of the Rio Salado Project, stunned by recent opposition, are split over whether to go ahead with a planned Nov. 3 election on the \$3 billion project or to scale back its size and cost before taking the issue to the voters.

One camp argues that it is "do or die" time for the system of public parks and waterways and private development, which has been on the drawing board since 1964. The other camp wants to win at the polls even if it means abandoning the grander plan.

The disarray in the ranks of supporters and a faltering start for the campaign, which lost one major financial contribution and nearly lost another in the past month, threaten the project's chances of gaining voter approval in November.

At the election, tentatively scheduled for Nov. 3, Maricopa County voters would be asked to approve a property tax to fund land acquisition and park development for the project, which would revitalize a long-neglected, 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix.

Among those pushing for a final decision on the project's future, win or lose, is Jim Pederson, chairman of the Rio Salado Development District, which was created by the Legislature in 1981 to develop a master plan for the project and to develop its parks and waterways.

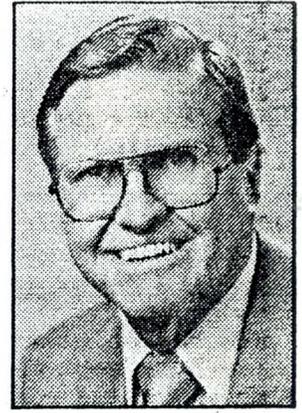
"Our polls show there is a strong grass-roots support for this thing," Pederson said.

"It's time to make it work or put it to rest. It's time for those who support the Rio Salado Project to be counted. If we don't win, well, we'll know we tried."

Other Rio Salado supporters say they want to do whatever it takes to get the project under way, from scaling back the existing plan to postponing the election for a year.

"My attitude is, the fewer enemies, the better," said Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado district.

"We can only stand so many assaults, and you never know which one will be the straw that will break the



Jim Pederson (top left) is at odds with Maurice Tanner and Keith Turley (left) over the proposed Rio Salado Project. Pederson says that polls indicate there is "strong grass-roots support for this thing," but Tanner and Turley oppose the development for financial and business reasons.

camel's back."

Rio Salado backers had expected that the project's "enemies" would include environmentalists and taxpayer groups, who have long criticized the project as destructive and unnecessary.

But they had barely launched their election campaign when, to their surprise, they came under attack on several fronts, notably the Phoenix 40's highly publicized rejection last month of an appeal for \$40,000 in seed money for the campaign, which hopes to raise a total of \$650,000.

The business group's opposition was led by Keith Turley, chairman of the Arizona Public Service Co., and Maurice Tanner, chairman of Tanner Cos.

Turley resisted the tax measure because, he said, the proposed property tax for Rio Salado would result in an immediate \$2.7 million tax hike that the electric utility would have to pass on to its customers.

Tanner, whose company owns a large sand-and-gravel operation along the river, opposes plans for the project to buy land from his and other companies and sell it at a profit to developers who would build hotels, homes and businesses on the land.

Dennis Mitchem, a member of the Phoenix 40 and  
— Adrift, B2

Ariz. Republic  
5-18-87

*[Handwritten initials]*

# ADRIFT

Continued from B1

chairman of the Citizens for Rio Salado Committee, the campaign's fund-raising group, was shocked by the Phoenix 40's rejection and by the strong opposition voiced by Turley and Tanner.

"The thought of Keith Turley donating money to help the environmental opposition is a scary one," he said.

After a month of behind-the-scenes negotiations between project supporters and dissenters, the exclusive group of Phoenix business and corporate leaders agreed Tuesday to donate \$40,000 to the election campaign and to endorse the project, but only if certain conditions are met by June 30.

One condition, which reportedly calmed Turley's concerns, was that the tax, which had been pegged at 25 cents per \$100 of assessed value, instead would begin at 10 cents and gradually increase to 25 cents over 25 years.

Another condition, which pleased Tanner, was a compromise that would allow sand-and-gravel companies to develop their land in accordance with the Rio Salado district's plans, instead of having the district condemn the land and sell it to developers. In turn, the sand-and-gravel companies would agree to help pay the costs of maintaining the project's public parks.

A third condition calls for the district to swap state-owned land for private land instead of buying it, thus reducing the amount of money needed to build the project by an undetermined amount.

"What is important is that the conceptional plan has been accepted by Keith Turley and the sand-and-gravel operations," said Jack Pfister, a member of the Phoenix 40 and general manager of the Salt River Project.

"I think everyone is confident those details will be worked out. It is very likely that in the fall, we will have a successful election for the project."

Rio Salado backers also lost their bid for a \$25,000 campaign contribution from the SRP on May 4.

However, Pfister said he will consider taking the contribution request back to the utility's board once the details of the Phoenix 40 agreement have been worked out.

Turley, a Rio Salado supporter, is less certain than Pfister about having a fall election. He said that if the conditions cannot be met by the deadline, the election should be postponed.

"It would be a shame to force the election before we're ready and risk defeat," he said. "I believe it would kill the Rio Salado Project for a long, long time."

Although the district has not formally considered the conditions, district board members, including Pederson, have said the conditions can be met while still keeping the Rio Salado election on schedule for Nov. 3.

However, officials of the Arizona Rock Products Association, the trade group for the sand-and-gravel industry, say the election should be postponed until next spring so the compromise can be finalized first.

"Since we are this close to an agreement, I think the very least the board can do is consider delaying this election for a few months," Ed Belt, president of the association and a member of the district board, told the board Thursday.

William J. Ream, vice mayor of Tempe and a member of the district board, said he opposes postponing the election because there is no guarantee that the Legislature will agree to fund the district for 1988. The district's funding runs out at the end of this year.

"Let's face it," Ream said. "We're all afraid that the sand-and-gravel companies will lobby against the election. I don't think we should be intimidated."

Pederson said he also believes that the project must go before the voters this fall even if agreements with the rock association and the Phoenix 40 cannot be worked out in time.

"It's do or die," Pederson said. "We are asking those who support this idea to finally stand up and be counted."

Az. Republic  
5-7-87

## REJECTIONS

# Salt In Rio Salado's Wound

**T**HE directors of the Salt River Project have displayed a frustrating lack of vision with their decision not to lend a financial hand to the Rio Salado Project.

The decision, which smacks of special-interest parochialism, parrots the equally disappointing vote last month by the Phoenix 40, a group of movers and shakers usually in the vanguard for worthwhile projects designed to enhance the community.

In each case, they have talked glowingly about the idea of transforming the ugly and scarred bed of the Salt River through the Valley into a system of linear parks, and commercial and residential developments. But what seems to stick in their craw is the proposed funding mechanism that calls for a new countywide property-tax levy of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

It is worth noting that a majority of the SRP board members are major landowners. And in the case of the Phoenix 40, the principal opponents were Keith Turley, chairman of Arizona Public Service Co., and Maurice Tanner, chairman of the Tanner Co. APS is the largest payer of property taxes in Maricopa

County, and Tanner's firm operates a sand and gravel quarry in the riverbed.

These twin rejections have caused Citizens for Rio Salado Inc. to limp out of the starting gate in the drive to convince voters of the merits of the Rio Salado Project. The refusals to offer a helping hand also serve to point out that much more education and coalition building must be done on behalf of the project if voters are to embrace it in the countywide election tentatively set for Nov. 3.

The Rio Salado development offers much. It will inject a sense of community into the Valley and reverse the growing balkanization that tends to perpetuate community fiefdoms. Economic opportunities will abound. Social and recreational benefits will be available for all.

The dream of a showcase riverbed greenbelt in the Valley of the Sun is supported by most residents in Maricopa County. Without question, Rio Salado is in the public interest.

Rather than pouring more salt in Rio Salado's wound, it is hoped that the Phoenix 40 and the SRP board of directors will reconsider their shortsighted decisions and take appropriate actions for the good of the community.

# SRP votes to deny Rio Salado funding

By FRANK TURCO  
and SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

The election campaign for the Rio Salado Project was dealt another financial blow Monday when the Salt River Project board failed to approve funding for it.

"I'm very disappointed," said SRP General Manager Jack Pfister, a longtime supporter of Rio Salado and the author of the recommendation that the utility donate \$25,000 to the Citizens for Rio Salado.

The money would have gone toward the campaign to win voter support for a property-tax increase that would be used to fund development of a system of parks and waterways along the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix.

The proposal, scheduled for a vote in Maricopa County at a Nov. 3 special election, would increase property taxes by 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, or about \$20 a year on a \$100,000 home.

The SRP board's rejection was the second time in less than a month that Rio Salado supporters have lost an attempt to get financial support from a major organization in the Valley. The Phoenix 40, a group of influential business people, voted against financially supporting the group on April 14 but is scheduled to reconsider the matter on May 12.

The motion for the SRP to contribute funds to the campaign drew a 7-7 vote, killing the measure. One member, Thomas P. Hurley, abstained because he owns two parcels of land along the river.

Several SRP board members opposed to the measure said they would rather see Rio Salado funded by an increase in sales taxes, and others warned of "political problems" that could develop over which lands would be developed first.

Pfister said it is doubtful an increase in the sales tax could be passed and added that there should be no concerns about politics because Rio Salado Development District board members, who would direct the project, are responsible people.

Dennis Mitchem, chairman of the citizens group and a member of the Rio Salado board, said he was "stunned and amazed" by the board's vote.

"In my view, when people vote against the campaign, they're voting to kill (the project), or at least postpone it indefinitely," said Mitchem, a partner in the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen & Co.

At a press conference Monday to kick off the campaign, Mitchem said Citizens for Rio Salado has raised nearly \$100,000 and has pledges of \$50,000 toward a goal of \$650,000.

Ariz. Republic  
4-17-87

## RIO SALADO

# Phoenix 40: Business As Usual

ONE might have hoped that a new era had dawned for Phoenix 40, the oft-criticized group of powerful business leaders.

The organization recently has tried to broaden its base, reaching out to segments of the community heretofore unrepresented in what traditionally has been a white-male mover-and-shaker enclave. Often it appeared more than coincidental that what was said to be best for the Valley was also best for some members of Phoenix 40.

A dozen years ago, the late Gene Pulliam, publisher of *The Arizona Republic*, said in a front-page editorial on the founding of Phoenix 40 that "a vacuum of leadership has left major urban projects unfulfilled." Phoenix 40's founding president was quoted in the same editorial as saying the organization must be willing to make sacrifices in order to provide the vision and leadership the Valley requires.

Sadly, it doesn't appear Phoenix 40 has moved beyond the special-interest parochialism that unfortunately has characterized some of its memberships. The group voted this week not to support the Rio Salado Project. To be fair, a majority did vote in favor of the plan to turn the ugly scar of the Salt River running through the Valley into an 8,800-acre ribbon of parks, commercial and residential developments. The group was unable, however, to muster the 75 percent vote required to support the project.

The rejection came despite the fact that the chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, Dennis Mitchem, is also a member of Phoenix 40.

Opposition to Rio Salado was voiced by Arizona Public Service Co. chairman Keith Turley and Maurice Tanner, chairman of the Tanner Co. APS supports Rio Salado in

principle, but opposes the financing plan — to be submitted to the voters Nov. 3 — to pay for the \$1 billion, 25-year development through a property-tax levy. APS, the largest property-tax payer in Maricopa County, favors the sales tax — an automatic pass-on to rate payers — thus saving APS from seeking Corporation Commission approval to pass on the property tax.

Tanner's interest appears more direct, in that the Tanner Co. operates a sand and gravel quarry in the river bed.

Rio Salado has received nationwide acclaim. The development will make a significant contribution toward overcoming the "balkanization" of the Valley so frequently bemoaned by community leaders. Despite some opposition, the consensus of the business community, the Rio Salado board and the citizens committee is that a property-tax levy is the best funding scheme for the project.

At the same time Phoenix 40 was voting not to lend its support to Rio Salado, the East Valley Partnership, a broader-based group of 270 community leaders, issued a ringing endorsement of the project.

It long has been fashionable for some Phoenix movers and shakers to look down their noses at the East Valley as a collection of provincial small towns orbiting the big city of Phoenix. It was the leaders of the East Valley, however, who overcame narrow interests to endorse a project which will benefit all the citizens and communities of the Valley.

We hope this ill-advised and shortsighted action of the Phoenix 40 will be reconsidered when the group meets again in May, and that the organization's considerable influence will be given Rio Salado.

Ariz. Republic  
4-17-87

## APS chief backs Rio Salado plan despite fighting fund-raising bid

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
and SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

Arizona Public Service Co. Chairman Keith Turley said Thursday that he remains a strong supporter of the Rio Salado Project even though he led a fight to block a group of influential Phoenix business leaders called the Phoenix 40 from helping fund an election campaign for a property tax to finance it.

"There are a lot of us who disagree that the property tax is the best way to go," Turley said.

"An eighth-of-a-cent sales tax would raise the same amount of money and would be more fair to everyone because it would apply to statewide residents who would visit the park and to our out-of-state visitors."

Turley was referring to a special election scheduled for Nov. 3 at which the Rio Salado Development

District will ask Maricopa County voters to approve a property tax of 25 cents per \$100 in assessed valuation. The tax, which would continue for 25 years, would fund the Rio Salado Project, a \$3 billion system of parks and waterways along the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix.

Turley dealt a major financial blow to the property-tax campaign Tuesday when he led the opposition to a motion calling for the Phoenix 40 to endorse the project and pledge its financial support to the campaign.

The measure was defeated when it failed to gain the support of 75 percent of those voting, as required by the group's rules. The vote was 18-8, two votes short.

Dennis Mitchem, a Phoenix 40 member and chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, described the vote as "a major setback" to the campaign. He said the project's backers were

counting on a substantial sum of seed money to launch their campaign for the project.

A second motion to endorse the project but not help fund the campaign was tabled, according to Richard Snell, chief executive officer of Ramada Inc. and chairman-elect of the Phoenix 40.

Snell and Mitchem, a partner in the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen & Co., said they plan to lobby Phoenix 40 members before the group meets next month.

Turley said he opposed the motion because he disagrees that the property tax should be used to buy up private land needed for the project and then sold "at a profit to the developers."

The tax would cost the owner of a \$75,000 home an additional \$15 a year in taxes.

Another group of business leaders, the East Valley Partnership, endorsed the project Tuesday.

## Phoenix 40 rejects Rio Salado fund bid

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
and SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

The election campaign for the Rio Salado Project took a major financial blow Tuesday evening when members of a group of influential Phoenix business leaders refused to help fund it.

"I was totally surprised and very disappointed," Dennis Mitchem, a Phoenix 40 member and chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, said Wednesday. "This could be a major setback for our efforts. We were counting on a substantial sum of seed money to begin our election efforts."

The setback came, Mitchem said, when a motion for the Phoenix 40 to endorse the project and pledge the business group's financial support failed to gain the support of 75 percent of those voting, as required by the group's rules. The vote was 18-8, two votes short.

The motion was strongly opposed by Keith Turley, chairman of the Arizona Public Service Co., and Maurice Tanner, chairman of the Tanner Cos., Mitchem said. Turley and Tanner were unavailable for comment Wednesday.

A second motion to endorse the project but not help fund the campaign was tabled, according to Richard Snell, chief executive officer of Ramada Inc. and chairman-

elect of the Phoenix 40.

Snell and Mitchem, a partner in the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen & Co., said they plan to lobby Phoenix 40 members before the group meets to discuss the issue next month.

Maricopa County voters will be asked at a special election Nov. 3 to approve an additional property tax of 25 cents per \$100 in assessed valuation for 25 years to fund the development of a system of parks and waterways along the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix.

The public project, which would be built by the Rio Salado Development District, would be integrated with private industrial, commercial and residential development.

Mark DeMichele, president and chief operating officer of APS, said Turley was speaking for APS when he voiced his opposition to supporting the ballot proposal.

DeMichele said APS, the county's largest property-tax payer, is not opposed to the project but opposes the property-tax increase because the company doesn't want to have to pass the additional taxes on to its customers.

Another group of business leaders, the East Valley Partnership, endorsed the project Tuesday. The partnership's board of directors will meet again to decide how to campaign for the project.

City Republic  
4-16-87

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### **Rosy Picture Of Rio Salado Misleading**

*Editor:*

I feel that through editorials such as that which appeared in the March 29 *Republic*, you are doing your readers a distinct disservice to the point of providing misinformation in the matter of the cost of the Rio Salado Project.

Your rosy picture that adoption of the plan would post a tax increase of only \$15 to \$20 per year for the average household may be a good ballpark figure for the first year of program development, but

fails even to touch upon the obvious fact that these amounts can grow dramatically with increased property valuations throughout the anticipated 25-year term of project development.

Further, to liken Rio Salado to Scottsdale's Indian Bend is also misleading as the latter does not encompass the substantial building installations included in Rio Salado. This, too, should be publicized.

**SHIRLEY G. EMERY**  
*Phoenix*

## Rio Salado Project would benefit entire area, E. Valley group says

By MIKE PATTEN  
The Arizona Republic

The board of directors of a 270-member coalition of business and community leaders from the east Valley has endorsed the proposed Rio Salado Project, calling it a project that will benefit the entire Valley.

The East Valley Partnership's board said the project would create jobs and improve the Valley's recreational opportunities, according to Jim Patterson, president of the coalition. Members of the partnership are from Apache Junction, Mesa, Chandler, Tempe and Guadalupe.

Maricopa County voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to form a Rio Salado development district to tax property owners for the

project. If approved, property owners would be taxed up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to raise money for the project.

The Rio Salado Project calls for the development of more than 4,500 acres of parks, recreational areas, open space and water features in and along a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River. In addition, nearly 4,300 acres would be developed for industrial, residential, commercial and office uses.

Chris Coover, chairman of an East Valley Partnership committee that studied the issue, said Rio Salado would create jobs and bring more people to the Valley.

It will do more than just benefit "one or two communi-

ties," he said.

Coover said the group's board will meet again to decide how to campaign for the project. He refused to predict how voters will respond.

"We're too far away from election time to anticipate what the outcome will be," he said.

Patterson said the area currently is a "real scar" on the Valley.

"It could be turned into a real positive thing aesthetically and economically," he said. "We must try to encourage the people of Maricopa County to support the Rio Salado Project."

"It is a very important and critical thing to Maricopa County."

## Rio Salado: Opportunity ... Pitfalls

*Editor:*

I hope that every resident of Maricopa County is afforded the opportunity to become fully aware of the Rio Salado Project and the positive impact it will have on this area, as well as the state of Arizona. I would hope that anyone who is interested in the Rio Salado Project would contact the Rio Salado District Office for information.

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to change a magnificent vision into reality. Some 4,500 acres will be transformed into cultural and recreational oasis, and will create new business and job opportunities. The transformation will make the character of the Phoenix area one of the nation's most distinguished.

There has been considerable questioning and changing of positions over the past several years. I believe this is the crucible in which this project is being tempered, and that from these fires, agreements can be concluded that will meet the challenge of this region's daring to be great! Compromise is a rational solution. The issues and concerns about the project can be resolved with legislative and community support. Environmental objections can be met, financial differences can be reconciled and water needs can be accomplished.

The plan calls for a construction period of 25 years. I am confident that during those years, our leaders will continue to resolve the controversial elements of development as they surface.

As a resident of Scottsdale, I consider it a privilege to contribute, through my taxes, to the retirement of the Indian Bend Wash construction bonds which funded that project. I consider my contribution to the construction of the Rio Salado Project small payment for the beauty and benefits it will bring to the Valley.

OREN D. THOMPSON  
Scottsdale

*Editor:*

Congratulations to both Neal Peirce and Mary Gindhart for their recent articles wherein they carefully dissected many of the pitfalls of the tax-and-dam Rio Salado District version now being proposed.

Valley citizens are becoming aware that this bureaucratic version, with its divisive countywide property tax and forced relocations, is not the best vehicle to accomplish this important beautification.

Tempe has had its own Rio Salado Commission for eight years, gathering citizen input, and can move forward without the development district, the Cliff Dam or the property tax. Nor must Phoenix necessarily wait for someone else to do our planning or pick up our tab.

If we in Phoenix decided to do our own Rio Salado planning, we might make some fresh judgments concerning the Salt River beautification. The district, for example, has overlooked the open-space value of the riverbed, and the potential for a greenbelt of water-conserving desert vegetation. The district would destroy the desert-greenbelt potential and line the entire river bottom with thousands of acres of water-wasting Bermuda grass and ornamental lakes.

Thoughtful city planning in conjunction with private development, not the district's taxpayer-subsidized scheme, can give us a Rio Salado now. Phoenix, along with the other Valley cities along the riverbed, already has the planning and zoning authority to encourage riverbed desert planting in conjunction with river bank development. This would increase the value of river bank development while giving the public a stunning expanse of Sonoran Desert greenery.

Let's beautify the riverbed, but let's do it the simple, safe, inexpensive, open-space way.

BILL PARKS, M.D.  
Member, City Council  
Phoenix

# Rio Salado backed by 63% in survey

By MARY A.M. GINDHART  
and SUSAN LEONARD  
The Arizona Republic

Nearly two-thirds of Maricopa County residents would like to see the Salt River bed transformed into a public park, and almost half said they are willing to pay property taxes to help build the \$3 billion Rio Salado Project, according to an Arizona Poll released Wednesday.

Rio Salado supporters said the poll and others show growing support for using tax money for the project. A leading opponent said that she is not surprised the polls indicate property owners would pay taxes to help build the planned public recreational areas but that they don't understand the issues.

Meanwhile, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors on Wednesday tentatively scheduled the Rio Salado tax election for Nov. 3, despite Supervisor Carole Carpenter's concerns that the date would not give Rio Salado proponents enough time to convince voters of the project's benefits.

Carpenter, who represents the northwestern part of the county, said she would go along with the date even though she thought it was too early.

"I think you need further time to build grass-roots support," she said. "I realize that some polls indicate that support is there, but in my area, many people think that perhaps developers have not put enough money into it."

The Rio Salado Development District's board requested the Nov. 3 date because the district loses its state funding after this year and because it wants the issue to be considered independently of other political campaigns. The state will pick up the \$1 million cost of the election.

The Arizona Poll, conducted for *The Arizona Republic*, found that 63 percent of county residents would like to see the Rio Salado Project construct a series of public parks and waterways along the Salt River that would be bordered by private development. Twenty-three percent were opposed.

When asked whether they would vote for a property tax to help finance the project, 47 percent said yes and 43 percent said no.

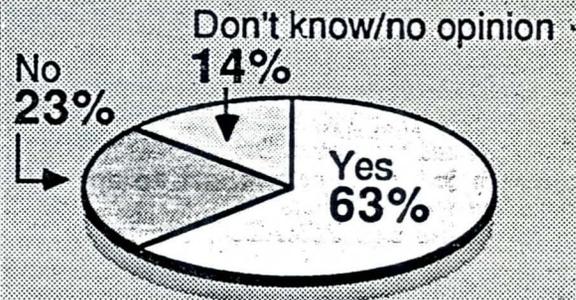
At the election, voters will be asked to approve a property tax of 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation for 25 years to pay about half of the \$3 billion project's construction costs. The tax increase would cost the owner of a \$75,000 home an additional \$15 a year, according to a revised estimate by the Rio Salado district, which earlier had estimated a \$13 increase.



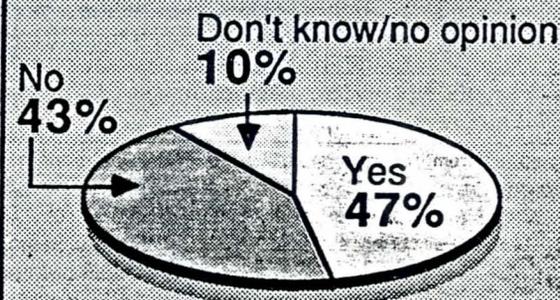
Arizona  
Poll

## Rio Salado

Do you support construction of a series of public parks and waterways along the Salt River in metropolitan Phoenix that would be surrounded by private development?



Would you vote to authorize a property tax to help pay for the \$1 billion Rio Salado project? The tax is estimated to be \$13 a year on a \$75,000 home.



Based on telephone interviews March 7-10 with 607 Maricopa County adults. Margin of error is 4 percentage points.



... as ment rally. All ... students gathered today, ...  
after an anti-govern- opposition to the ruling Democratic Liberal Party.

... will lead to  
where many people injured in crashes will  
have thousands of dollars of medical bills  
but have no way to pay them.

*Phoenix Gazette 4/19/90*

From A1

## ■ WATER

*DS*

From A1

od, improvements necessary. The figures do  
ey. not include estimates for routine mainte-  
ose nance and repairs.

ote The transportation department would  
fall \$6 billion to \$7.1 billion short of what  
it deems necessary for road improve-  
ments, according to the report.

ti- County shortfall estimates ranged from  
ne \$875 million to \$2 billion, although the  
of report's authors suggested county engi-  
neers underestimated their needs.

nd Cities were expected to be from \$1.6  
of billion to \$2.6 billion short on funding for  
nd necessary road improvements.

### is heavy rain strikes city

— late Wednesday when two homes col-  
en lapsed. Three others were electrocuted  
he when they leaned on light posts as they  
he ... according

as as

An acre-foot of water is about 325,850  
gallons and would cover one acre with a  
foot of water.

The utility pumped about 54,000 acre-  
feet of ground water in 1989, an amount  
near the levels pumped in eight of the  
past 13 years.

This year, however, SRP officials pre-  
dict they will pump only slightly less than  
the 391,627 acre-feet of water withdrawn  
in 1977.

This year's pumping by SRP also will  
exceed amounts of water withdrawn in  
the other years the utility has gone to its  
wells in a big way: 1981, 1982 and 1984.

"When we saw the weather was not  
going to do anything for us this year, we  
made the decision" to increase pumping,  
Eldot said.

Increased pumping of ground water also  
will heighten concerns over pollutants in  
the Valley's drinking water supply.

"Ground water in the Valley is natu-

rally higher in salts and nitrates, and it  
sometimes contains contaminants such as  
organic compounds which were left be-  
hind from past land use practices," said  
Gary Small, manager of SRP's environ-  
mental management services.

The utility will blend purer river water  
with the ground water to dilute salts,  
nitrates and pollutants and to keep its  
water safe for human use.

SRP will use 150 to 160 of its 244  
ground-water wells to produce the extra  
water needed during the summer, Eldot  
said. The utility has closed 27 of its wells  
after discovering high levels of contami-  
nants. Other wells need repairs.

Water from the wells, 144 of which  
contain high concentrations of nitrates,  
will be blended with river water to reduce  
the nitrate concentrations.

SRP supplied 61 percent of Phoenix's  
water supply in 1988.

Phoenix Gazette

C-0 Fri., Dec. 11, 1987

## Paper work crowding office space

By Mike Padgett  
The Phoenix Gazette

The cliché about being buried in paper work is no joke at Maricopa County, where a new study shows that valuable office space is being used to store unneeded documents.

Meetings are scheduled next month to begin discussing plans to hire a consultant to help the county adopt a policy to deal with managing records. It will vary depending on the needs of the various county courts, finance, planning and other departments.

Without a policy, county workers may find themselves losing more valuable office space to filing cabinets and boxes, says LaDonna Fields, aide to Fred Koory Jr., 1987 chairman of the county Board of Supervisors.

Because county offices appear to save most of the paper work they generate, the board should adopt a policy allowing them to destroy documents as soon as possible, such as after they are microfilmed, Fields says.

Fields, who conducted a 14-month study, says she found records stored in cabinets and boxes that occupy more than 186,000 square feet in offices and warehouses and cost the county nearly \$1.5 million annually in storage costs. Even if all of the present records were removed from offices and stored in warehouses, the costs could be lowered by about \$400,000, Fields says.

The county supervisors endorsed a plan Wednesday to form a specific policy on the types of documents that should be microfilmed for storage, such as contracts, court records and other confidential papers and financial reports.

Fields estimates that records storage today costs the county payroll about \$8.6 million annually for about 500 county workers who file and maintain them.

Supervisor Tom Freestone says the county should be storing only those records required by law, such as contracts, court records, tax records and other legal documents.

Fields also says the most frequently reported method of destruction of county records is shredding, which Koory and Freestone say raises questions about the use of shredders.

Koory and Freestone say shredders should be used only for confidential documents, which Fields says generally comprise a small percent of the overall volume of county records.

Fields says shredding, which may be performed by county departments with their own shredders or by private companies under county contract, is the most expensive form of destruction.

P.G. 10-30-87

## Nice, sunny day set stage for evening of destruction

By Scott Craven  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

It is always calmest before the storm, according to an old saying, and that could not have been more true Thursday when wind and rain cut a path of destruction across the Valley.

The sunny weather Thursday afternoon set the stage for the storm, a National Weather Service spokesman said.

A storm can be created when warm air near the ground begins to mix with cool air aloft, leading to unsettled conditions, the spokesman said.

A low-pressure front also had pushed a lot of moisture in Arizona, making it very easy for a thunderstorm to occur.

"October has been fairly warm, and so the ground-level air is a little warmer than usual," the spokesman said. "But

we still have cold air aloft. The sunny afternoon warmed the lower level of air even more, making conditions very unsettled."

Although the storm seemed to come out of nowhere, forecasters had been tracking it for days and predicted a 60 percent chance of showers for the Valley by Thursday evening, the spokesman said.

He said the severity of the storm was a little surprising.

"It was unusual, but not unlikely," he said. "There have been thunderstorms like this in the Valley as late as early November.

"The conditions for one exist here most of the time. When we get a storm like this, there are usually conditions present to make it severe."

PHOENIX  
GAZETTE  
10-30-87



Nancy Engebretson, *The Phoenix Gazette*

A man takes a quick peek through a broken window at the Valley Bank Center Thursday afternoon after a window washer's rig smashed through the third floor. High winds whipped the rig around the building, from the north to the east side, where it smashed through the glass. No one was injured.

P.B. 10-30

## 2,000 lack electricity after evening storm

By David Hoyer and Scott Craven  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

About 2,000 Valley residents were still without power today after a brief but brutal storm ripped through the area, overturning mobile homes, uprooting trees and power poles and causing millions of dollars in damage.

Spokeswomen for Arizona Public Service Co. and Salt River Project said 50,000 customers were without power at the outage's peak. They predicted power would be restored to

most by late today, although some of the hardest-hit areas could remain in the dark until Saturday.

An APS official estimated it would cost the \$2 million to repair storm damage; SRP put damages at \$500,000.

"This has been one of the hardest storms we've seen in years," SRP spokeswoman Heather Clisby said today. "We're restoring power as fast

See ■ Storm, A-4

# ■ Storm

From A-1

as we can, but it could take more than today" to complete repairs.

The storm blasted the Valley with winds that gusted to 86 mph and dropped various amounts of rain and hail as the evening commute began. Rainfall ranged from trace amounts at Sky Harbor International Airport to 1.18 inches in Scottsdale.

Jean Nelson was driving home when power poles snapped and trapped her in her car near McCormick Ranch in Scottsdale.

"There was an explosion, and then sparks, and then my car was rocking and glass was shattering," she said. "Next thing I know, I looked back and saw a pole sticking through my back window and cables lying over my car.

"All I felt was fear," she said. "I thought I was going to die. I thought something could happen at any moment."

Rural/Metro Fire Department spokesman Frank Hodges said 16 vehicles carrying up to 20 people were trapped by downed lines near Scottsdale Road and McCormick Parkway. Most passengers got out on their own, but about five were trapped for up to 90 minutes.

Hodges said one motorist who tried to avoid hitting downed power poles careened over a sidewalk and into a lake at McCormick Ranch. He was not injured.

Peoria police spokesman Mike Branham said downed power lines trapped motorists in their cars for 90 minutes along 75th Avenue between Orangewood and Northern avenues. He said about 30 people whose vehicles were surrounded by a maze of wires were taken by city vans to Peoria High School to wait for rides home.

Also hit hard were the town of Wickenburg, Luke Air Force Base, and other West Valley sites.

The wind tipped over 12 mobile homes and injured a number of residents living in an 8-square-mile area near Tonopah, said Ben Owens, a battalion chief with Rural/Metro.

Owens said most of the injured suffered bumps and bruises, but one unidentified young girl was transported to Thunderbird Samaritan Hospital with possible internal injuries and broken ribs.

Along Interstate 10 near Tonopah, he said, "There were cars and trucks everywhere. I must have counted five tractor-trailer rigs on their sides. There were cars in the median. It looked like a war zone."

Owens said emergency crews were surprised not to find more people injured.

"We didn't have the injuries we were geared up for. It was absolutely amazing. We're all still dumbfounded by it," he said.

Downed power lines and poles in those areas were expected to keep several intersections closed most of

today and force the cancellation of classes at Pendergast Elementary School, 91st Avenue and Camelback Road.

APS spokeswoman Maria Arellano said the utility was making repairs using "every resource," including crews brought in from Prescott and possibly non-APS crews hired just to fix storm damage.

Hodges said Rural/Metro responded to 98 emergency calls throughout its Maricopa County service area during the storm.

Phoenix Fire Department dispatchers were deluged during the storm, logging 470 calls in a 24-hour period, spokesman Steve Jensen said. The total broke the previous one-day record for calls, 424.

In downtown Phoenix the wind blew a window-washer's scaffold through a third-floor window at the Valley National Bank building, Jensen said.

The storm also paralyzed the Arizona State Fair shortly after 5 p.m., as a downpour forced rides and exhibits to close temporarily and sent thousands of fairgoers scurrying for cover.

Nurseries at several hospitals were bursting with babies after the storm passed.

"We had fifteen admissions last night," said Debbie Mullan, a charge nurse at the nursery at St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center. "Our normal is about six."

At Good Samaritan Medical Center, the busiest delivery center in Arizona, there were 30 deliveries Thursday. The normal is 15.

Some people believe that when barometric pressure drops, it makes the water sac in pregnant women near term more likely to break, inducing labor.

Dr. Walter Cherny, head of the residency training program for obstetrics and gynecology at Good Samaritan, said the theory "may just be a good story. Scientific documentation is very sparse."

But he said pregnant women near term can induce labor when "they are reacting to a perceived threat" — such as a severe storm.

Two storm systems are expected to bring clouds into Arizona in the next few days, leading to showers in the southeast part of the state.

Meanwhile, the upper-level trough responsible for Thursday's unusually strong storm is steadily moving eastward, according to the National Weather Service.

Tonight in the Valley, some high clouds are expected, along with light and variable winds. The low should be in the mid-60s.

On Saturday, clouds should increase with a high in the mid-80s. It should become a little warmer.

Also contributing to this story were Tony Natale, Diana Balazs, Brad Patten and Susan Felt.

# PHOENIX GAZETTE

12-17-87

## Peoria believed tied to hazardous waste dumping

By Mike McCloy  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Following an "anonymous" tip, state officials have dug up 30 containers of hazardous waste apparently buried by the town of Peoria.

"It was something that transpired back to a previous parks and recreation director," town clerk Richard Gomez said Wednesday. "It was mostly empty containers, and basically fertilizer."

The oozing drums contained "everything from pesticides to paint and paint thinner," said Phil King, emergency and remedial manager for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. "The materials are potentially hazardous."

The waste was buried in soil scheduled to be removed for a flood-control project in Skunk

Creek at 83rd Avenue and Bell Road. The soil was to be used in construction of the nearby Outer Loop freeway.

"One of the barrels was marked 'hydrochloric acid,'" said Paul McGonigle, spokesman for the Arizona Department of Transportation. "We could have uncovered this accidentally."

The waste was removed without incident after a tipster telephoned Peoria officials Monday. Chemical Waste Management Corp. was hired by the State Emergency Services Division to remove the containers and contaminated soil to a hazardous-waste site in California at a cost of several thousand dollars.

"The indications are that the drums were buried there at least five years ago," King said. "You could make an argument that it was not an authorized activity."

The Arizona Attorney General's Office is determining who is responsible and whether to bring criminal charges for illegal dumping.

Someone dug a hole and buried the containers "very neatly and orderly" along Skunk Creek, adjacent to the Peoria Sports Complex at 83rd Avenue and Bell Road, King said.

Gomez said Peoria officials were aware of the dumping several years ago.

"I think it came up two or three years ago," he said. "They (town parks and recreation department) had done it and wanted to dig it out again, but it was determined that it wasn't dangerous."

Peoria Fire Chief Mike Fusco noted that his department has a hazardous-materials squad that specializes in proper handling and disposal.

Phoenix Gazette  
8-3-87

# Riverbed law may flood courts

## Titles to 80,000 acres in doubt

By Jack Lavelle  
The Phoenix Gazette

Arizona's often-dry streams are meandering toward a flood of litigation whose aftereffects could cloud the titles to 80,000 acres of land.

The rivers in question, the Verde, Gila and Salt, lie at the center of a key constitutional issue: Can the state of Arizona — for \$25 an acre — give title to the stream beds to individuals and corporations without violating a ban on state subsidies?

In April, over the objection of environmentalists and Attorney General Bob Corbin,

Gov. Evan Mecham signed a law that permits interested parties to purchase quitclaim deeds to the property in the riverbeds.

The law sought to override a claim — raised in a 1985 lawsuit by the attorney general against a Verde Valley sand-and-gravel company — that the state held title to land in the riverbeds because the streams were navigable at statehood in 1912.

The Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest filed a lawsuit in Maricopa County Superior Court last week asking Judge Ruth Hilliard to block the state Land Department from granting any deeds while litigation is in

progress. The center also is asking that the courts rule the law unconstitutional.

A hearing is set for Sept. 11.

The state usually is represented in such cases by the attorney general, but since Corbin agrees that the law is flawed, land commissioner M. Jean Hassell must hire private counsel to defend his position.

Supporters of the legislation say it is crucial that the law — or something like it — be upheld.

At risk are millions of dollars a year in commerce related to the sand, gravel and concrete business. Also at issue is the very essence of property ownership for farmers and ranchers who have operated for years

under the assumption the land belongs to them.

"The stakes are just so big," said Ed Belt, secretary of the Arizona Rock Products Association. He said there are so many parcels of land that cross the Salt, Gila or Verde riverbeds that no one can provide a credible estimate of the number of people affected.

"Even the title insurers said it is impossible to measure. They can't put it in a computer file," Belt said.

The companies extracting sand and gravel for highways, concrete and home building in Arizona have operated for decades with what

See ■ Riverbed, B-2

they feel are valid deeds to the property, Belt said.

Should the lawsuit prevail, "We'll just go back to the Legislature and get it done," Belt said, adding there is no other choice.

If the law were struck down, Rep. Herb Guenther said, riverbed residents would face a visit from someone who may tell them: "I'm sorry, I realize you thought you owned your home. But you're going to have to vacate it or buy it again — at full market value."

Guenther, D-Tacna, is considered to be one of the most knowledgeable about the stream issue. He said there are probably between 60,000 and 80,000 acres in the three river systems that are clouded by the lawsuit.

Property owners might be unaware of the dilemma, Guenther said. But they are in for a surprise once they decide they would like to do something with their property, he said.

"I wouldn't buy property if I knew the individual didn't have (clear) title," he said.

Moreover, the land cannot be

used as collateral for crop or construction loans, he said.

Gaining clear title for each parcel — in the absence of a state law outlining the process — is an almost unimaginable task. "A person's working lifetime could be expended" on riverbed title cases alone, Guenther said.

During legislative hearings on the bill, the counsel for the Land Title Association, William Perkins, said the issue has "astronomical" consequences.

The attorney general's claim — and the ensuing lawsuit — are based on the "equal footing doctrine," which Guenther said was developed to "protect public thoroughfares" on the nation's rivers from individuals who might like to bar access.

But due to the normally dry nature of the streambeds, "In Arizona, you'd really be stretching that doctrine" to claim that public commerce or travel depends on state ownership of the property, Guenther said.

Resolving the problems raised by the lawsuit are not going to be easy,

he admitted. One of the claims — that \$25 an acre is too little to charge for title — would be relatively simple to address. The Legislature could increase the fee.

But another element of the lawsuit — the environmental aspect — will be more nettlesome.

The public-interest law group alleges the "riverbeds provide critical habitat for a wide variety of endangered species" and the state has a duty to protect the ecologically unique lands from acquisition by individuals.

Guenther said it may prove impossible — short of putting the government in charge of all environmentally significant river land — to satisfy the opponents of the stream bed law on this score.

"We'd have to find some pretty fine thread" to stitch together a compromise on such a divisive issue, he conceded.

Funds will improve flood control

# County commits \$20 million for Bell Road

By Mike Padgett  
The Phoenix Gazette

Maricopa County will spend \$20 million over the next five years for its share of flood control projects to protect Bell Road, which is to be widened into a six-lane divided urban street from Surprise to Scottsdale Road.

The county Flood Control District's share is part of the total of \$100 million to pay for new retention basins and other flood-control facilities to protect the widened road and businesses and residential properties north and south of the road. The county's share of the flood-control measures were approved Monday by the Board of Supervisors.

Phoenix, Peoria, Glendale, Surprise and the county are drafting intergovernmental agreements for construction of the 25-mile road and flood-control facilities and for purchases of rights of way, Harry Keller, assistant county engineer, said.

Howard Pilkington, supervising engineer at Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, the

consulting firm coordinating design and construction, said figures for the road are incomplete, but costs for widening and repairs of Bell Road may be in the range of \$35 million to \$50 million, depending on how much of the roadway can be salvaged.

He said some sections may be salvageable but other sections may need complete reconstruction at a cost of about \$2.5 million per mile.

Traffic studies show that from 30,000 to 50,000 vehicles use the road daily, depending on the intersection, Pilkington said.

Keller said construction tentatively is set to begin in 1988, but Flood Control general manager Dan Sagramoso said it may be 1989. The plan includes widening the road to six lanes, installing single and double left turn lanes at major intersections, and installing raised and landscaped medians.

Pilkington said the road — which has become

a major east-west thoroughfare in the northern part of the county — needs to be widened or rebuilt because of rapid growth in the area and because the road was built piece by piece over several years.

"There's not too much of the road that was paved in a single unit, other than perhaps the segment through Sun City," Pilkington said.

He said the cities and the county want a major thoroughfare with improvements that are consistent along its length from Grand Avenue in Surprise to Scottsdale Road, which is the city limits of Scottsdale.

Pilkington said the new Bell Road will be about two miles south of the northern leg of the Outer Loop, the planned freeway to be built near the Beardsley Road alignment. At its western end, the east-west freeway will turn south and cross Bell at 83rd Avenue on the Glendale-Peoria border.

## Site south of Buckeye suggested for landfill

By Mike Padgett  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

A new landfill handling solid waste from Maricopa County's southwest communities for the next 50 years should be moved to federal land south of Buckeye, a consultant's report says.

The 3.6-square-mile site is east of state Route 85 and three miles south of the Gila River. The proposal is scheduled for public discussion in July in Avondale and Buckeye.

The site, the largest of seven proposed locations studied in the county's southwest region, is preferable because it was rated high in ground-water protection, future land use and traffic.

The major drawback to the location is that turning the 3.6 square miles of federal land into a landfill involves buying or challenging 64 mining claims on it. The location includes a small amount of state land, said A. Wayne Collins, county highway engineer.

Its location also means a greater hauling distance than would be involved in another of the proposed sites.

During development of the western part of the site, landfill operations will be visible to hikers using parts of the Buckeye Hills Regional

Park, one-half mile west of the site across the state highway.

Development of the site also means disturbing the environment of two protected wildlife species in the area — Gila monster and desert tortoise, according to the report.

The consultant's second choice for the regional landfill is a 2.2-square-mile parcel one-quarter mile west of the Buckeye Military Reservation and 2.5 miles north of the intersection of Oglesby Road and Interstate 10.

There are no proposed land use plans for the site south of Buckeye. The nearest residence is two miles north of the location.

A new landfill will be needed because the county is growing rapidly and landfills are nearing capacity. The landfill at 27th Avenue and Lower Buckeye Road is expected to be full by 1990, and capacity in the landfill north of Glendale Avenue at 115th Avenue is being retained for the use of Glendale residents, according to the report.

It also says the Hassayampa Landfill near the intersection of Salome Highway and Baseline Road is inadequate in size and location for a major regional facility.

# Reach Four flood-control canal supported in 'final' study

By Ray Schultze  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Phoenix officials have received what is supposed to be — for them — the final word on whether the proposed design of the Reach Four flood-control canal makes sense, and that word is, "Yes."

After three weeks of study, the Phoenix engineering firm of SEA Inc. has confirmed the accuracy of the technical information on which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers based its design for the east Phoenix floodworks.

"There's no evidence to support (any claim of) a flaw in the Corps' work," said city engineer James Attiebery, who will recommend to the City Council Tuesday that it

endorse construction of the project, a focus of intense neighborhood opposition.

The SEA Inc. study is the fifth on the subject, first analyzed by a citizens group appointed by the council in June 1985.

Reach Four is planned as the easternmost segment of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, a 17-mile ditch that would lie just north of and parallel to the Arizona Canal and would catch storm water and divert it to Skunk Creek.

The 4.2-mile Reach Four section would extend from Dreamy Draw through the exclusive Biltmore neighborhood to the Cudia City wash, near 40th Street and Camelback Road.

The citizen opposition has been led by Rostland Arizona Inc., which operates the Arizona Biltmore Hotel.

The Corps based its design on the need for the canal to handle peak flows from a 100-year storm that Corps engineers estimated at 6,700 cubic feet per second. A 100-year storm is one of such intensity that there is only a 1 percent chance of it occurring in any given year.

However, opponents have contended that a much smaller canal, combined with detention basins, is all that is needed; in April, the engineering firm of W.S. Gookin and Associates, hired by the opposition, completed a study concluding

that the peak flows during a 100-year storm at Cudia City would not exceed 4,200 to 4,400 cubic feet per second.

In response, the city hired George Sabol, a Colorado engineering consultant, to review the Corps' analysis, and he supported it, discounting Gookin.

Reach Four opponents cried foul, and in May the council ordered another independent study that the city and the opposition were to arrange together and share the costs.

The result is the SEA Inc. report, which concludes that the peak flow for a 100-year storm at Cudia City would probably be 6,800 cubic feet per second.

One of the opposition's leaders, Vern Schweigert — Rostland president — said of the report: "Obviously, I'm not happy with it, but it's fair to say I'm happy with the process. I think they (the SEA engineers) did a very good-faith and very professional job."

He also said, "We've committed to the mayor and City Council not to pursue it (the issue) any further with the city, and we certainly stand by our commitment."

However, he said that doesn't mean the opposition will fade away. Opponents may continue to attack the project on the federal level and may file a lawsuit to try to stop its construction.

6-17-87

# Proposed demise of Cliff Dam criticized

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

"This is a disaster!" Central Arizona Project Association director Bill Wheeler said today when he learned of a tentative agreement to sacrifice Cliff Dam.

"That is bad! Pulling Cliff Dam out of Plan 6 will probably cause the whole Plan 6 program to come unglued."

The program includes a 1985 agreement under which Valley cities, the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, Maricopa County Flood Control District and Salt River Project are paying \$373 million up-front to the U.S. Department of Interior.

The early repayment is based on Interior's promise to speed construction in the next decade on the CAP-related New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and Cliff Dam on the Verde, and modification of Stewart Mountain and Roosevelt Dams on the Salt.

The up-front funding also was required by the Reagan administration before it requested congressional approval of a record \$275.8 million in the coming year for work on the dams and the CAP aqueduct, which is scheduled for completion to Tucson in four years.

"I told (Rep. Jim) Kolbe (R-Ariz.) if they kept Cliff Dam in there it would endanger Plan 6 and the whole CAP," said Frank Welsh, head of Citizens Against the Project. "I think they are getting the message that Cliff is endangering the rest of their plan."

But Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (Valley cities), said, "It completely jeopardizes and probably scuttles the Plan 6 cost-sharing agreement."

"If the cost-sharing agreement falls out, how is the (Reagan) administration going to view this whole thing

(completion of the \$3.5 billion CAP)?"

The \$385 million Cliff Dam, a proposed earthen structure 300 feet high and one mile long, would have provided storage for enough water to supply about 150,000 Valley residents annually.

In exchange for a share of the water, Valley cities agreed to pay \$63 million of the construction cost up-front.

"So far we've paid \$4 million," said George Britton, Phoenix water and environmental resources manager. "It's kind of embarrassing if we get back nothing."

Salt River Project, whose unsafe Horseshoe and Bartlett Dams would be protected by Cliff, had no comment.

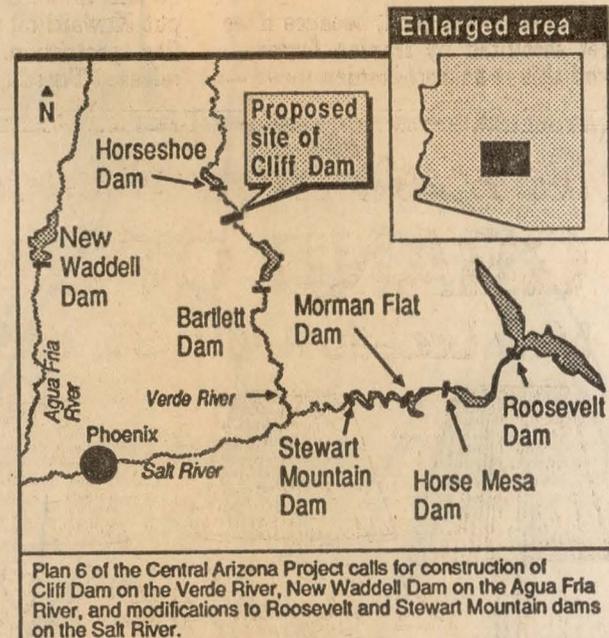
"We are in a wait-and-see mode until we've had an opportunity to review the terms and conditions of an agreement that's being negotiated," Mike Rappoport, SRP Washington lobbyist, said.

While Welsh charged that the entire CAP was a waste of taxpayer money, the Maricopa Audubon Society sued the Bureau of Reclamation to halt plans for Cliff Dam because it would destroy a nest used by endangered bald eagles.

"The proposal is not exactly everything that the environmentalists wanted, but we're cautiously optimistic," Herb Fibel, Maricopa Audubon president, said. "Hopefully, this is going to result in a satisfactory resolution of the lawsuit."

Rod McMullin, president of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (the agency that runs the CAP), predicted that no concession would appease the environmentalists.

"You can't satisfy them," he said. "I don't know what



they've (Arizona congressional delegation) done that makes them think they can satisfy them."

Wheeler said the demise of Cliff Dam also could harm prospects for the \$1 billion Rio Salado Project, for which Maricopa County voters will be asked Nov. 3 to approve a property-tax increase of as much as 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

But John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado, said: "We are proceeding apace. Rio Salado can be built without upstream flood control. It is a perfectly viable project."

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6-12-87

E-4 Fri., June 12, 1987

The Phoenix Gazette •

# Water recharge plan not likely until 1990s

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

Despite a law requiring state ground-water recharge programs in 1990, Alan Kleinman, Arizona Water Resources Department director, says he plans to operate no such project at least until 1995.

"As far as the department involving itself in an augmentation effort, we don't see that for a number of years," Kleinman told the Save Arizona's Future Economy meeting Thursday. "I don't think we'll be using that (state tax power) for actual projects until the mid-'90s."

The 1980 Groundwater Management Act, aimed at balancing pumping with replenishment in the Valley by 2025, requires the director to have a recharge program by 1990 and allows him to levy a tax as high as \$2 for every acre-foot pumped.

An acre-foot covers an acre to the depth of 1 foot and is enough water for a family of five for one year, or one-fifth of an acre of cotton.

Valley cities have been lobbying for state funds to recharge the ground water while agricultural interests have opposed the idea, contending they would be saddled with the most pump tax and the least benefits.

Phoenix plans to spend \$6 million to recharge up to 80,000 acre-feet per year to provide for city growth, said Bill Chase, municipal water adviser.

"But that's not recharge for the benefit of the basin," he said. "That takes a taxing basis broader than the city. If the department is going to sit for five years on \$2 million a year, that's \$10 million worth of water that can't be put into the ground. It's crazy not to take it."

Kleinman said a 10-year management plan for the Valley's ground water, beginning in 1990, probably will contain a pump tax for an overall water-augmentation program, but not for direct recharge projects.

Deputy state water director Herb Dishlip told a reporter later: "Programs are not projects — what they'll be is grants or loans. We're talking about seed money and cost-sharing money."

He said Chase's estimate of \$2 million in annual revenue from a pump tax in the Valley is about 100 percent too high. Even at the maximum \$2 per acre-foot, the tax would raise only about \$1.1 million annually, Dishlip estimated.

Sam Steiger, aide to tax-hating Republican Gov. Evan Mecham, told Chase: "The tendency to always look somewhere else for something you want to do is, probably for the immediate future, not a very good place to look."

"To wait until the Department of Water Resources intends to hand it to you ... that ain't going to happen."

## Charges fly over 'computer waste'

By Mike Padgett  
The Phoenix Gazette

Charges of a slanted bid, policy violations and wasted tax dollars punctuated a three-hour meeting Thursday of representatives of several computer companies and Maricopa County officials.

Joseph Martina, director of the county Department of Technology and Information Systems, says several county offices are violating a 1985 policy requiring them to coordinate computer needs with him, instead of installing a patchwork system of units used independently of the main computers.

Martina said the result is unnecessary costs and a fragmented system. He said it could take millions more to overhaul the computers into one system.

Martina is fighting to streamline the county's computers and make his department responsible for purchasing and operating them. County Treasurer Glenn Stapley, speaking for county departments, accused Martina of wanting to dictate the county's computer needs, not respond to them.

Fred Koory Jr., chairman of the Board of Supervisors, said department heads want control of their systems because their needs differ and they fear

unauthorized access to sensitive data. Koory said the answer is somewhere in the middle.

Meanwhile, the computer industry, which is about to start bidding for county contracts worth millions, is keeping close watch on the turf battle.

The lengthy meeting ended with the Board of Supervisors agreeing to let Koory form a committee to update the 1985 policy. Koory said the panel also will investigate allegations that a county request for bids was unfair because it favored one company.

Adolfo Echeveste, director of county Health Services, told the board he believes the wording of a request for bids sent to computer companies May 15 favors technology available from one maker. He didn't name the company, but Koory later identified it as IBM.

Joseph Warnas, materials management director, and Dennis Hogan, one of his buyers, denied that their request for bids favors any company over another. They said about 25 computer companies will be invited to attend a June 11 meeting where computer representatives may voice concerns about the county's request for bids for a county computer contract Hogan said is worth about \$4 million.

# Dam, larger lake bring flood of questions

By Mike Padgett  
The Phoenix Gazette

Storm clouds are brewing over what will be an enlarged Lake Pleasant because the state owns the land around it, federal money is paying for a new dam and county parks officials say their role in operating the park may be in doubt.

These elements and others have raised a variety of questions involving the federal Bureau of Reclamation, the county, two water districts, the state, and possibly two

utility companies if hydroelectric power is generated at the new dam.

Fred Koory Jr., chairman of the county Board of Supervisors, Supervisor Carole Carpenter and deputy county attorney Joe Duke are meeting this week in Washington with Arizona's congressional delegation and others to discuss the county's questions.

"There seem to be some real questions about who has what rights when the New Waddell Dam,

is built," Koory said. "This is a complicated legal question."

When completed in about 1991, the \$400 million dam 35 miles northwest of downtown Phoenix will make Lake Pleasant the second-largest lake in Arizona after Roosevelt Lake, said Bill Richwine, county parks and recreation director. It is projected to grow from its current maximum of 3,000 acres to 10,000 acres.

Koory said water backing up

behind the new dam will submerge the old dam, built in 1927 and owned by the Maricopa County Municipal Water Conservation District. Water is sold by the district for irrigation. But the new dam is being built by the federal government, leaving the county water district wondering what will happen to its water rights, Koory said.

With the federal government becoming the new owner of the

See ■ Park, B-2

## ■ Park

From B-1

dam, Koory said the county is fighting to remain the park operator. "They haven't yet given us assurances we are going to be the operator, so we're working on that," he said.

Koory and Richwine said they learned late last month there could be a move by the federal government to shift the responsibility for operating the park from the county to the state. Another unexpected development occurred when the state land surrounding the lake was reappraised, which led to an in-

crease in the state's lease from the current \$126,000 to \$1.1 million, beginning July 1.

Richwine said the Bureau of Reclamation may buy the state land and lease it back to the county. But if that occurs, it may not be until after the dam is completed in several years, leaving the county facing the higher lease until then. He said his budget of \$3 million cannot afford the \$1.1 million annual lease.

And before the county begins

spending money for improvements to the larger park, "we want to make sure we have a management agreement in hand," Richwine said.

Duke said other issues to be resolved include whether the county water district could be replaced by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, and whether electricity will be sold to customers by Salt River Project, Arizona Public Service or the county, if power is to be generated at the new dam.

# Groundwater bill sent to Senate

## Measure cracks down on private artificial lakes

By Anthony Sommer  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

A bill that would ban the use of groundwater in privately owned artificial lakes has been sent to the full Senate by the Natural Resources Committee.

On a 7-1 vote, the committee approved a measure late Wednesday much tougher than the artificial lakes bill that helped jam up the end of last year's legislative session before being killed.

Unlike last year's bill — which allowed developers building on former farmland a 10-year phase-in period and those who had spent substantial money to build lakes to go ahead — this year's version would be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1987.

Also unlike last year's measure, this year's bill is being pushed by a threatened initiative drive backed by Phoenix developer John F. Long — who lobbied strongly for enactment in 1986 — that would put the artificial lakes ban on the November 1988 ballot.

The Natural Resources Committee defeated two amendments that would have allowed a phase-in period and granted an exemption to developers who have made "a substantial capital investment" toward building lakes.

Noting the issue was sure to be back this year after being killed last year, committee chairman John Hays, R-Yarnell, said: "I'm not sure we owe anybody, after

the warning we've given, any leeway. It's almost immoral to be pumping that water into lakes."

Sen. Pat Wright, R-Glendale, was the sole vote in opposition, although she said she probably would end up supporting the bill on the floor.

Halting lake-building projects that already have begun "is taking without compensation," she said.

As approved by the committee, the bill limits the size of artificial lakes that can be built and restricts the type of water used to effluent, storm runoff and other non-potable water. It applies to lakes completed and filled after Jan. 1, 1987.

Exemptions were allowed for publicly owned lakes and golf course lakes approved by the Department of Water Resources.

Kathy Ferris, former Arizona Department of Water Resources director and now an attorney in private practice, told the committee on behalf of Long that Long is prepared to go ahead with an initiative drive if the Legislature fails to pass a strong bill banning use of groundwater in artificial lakes.

Long, an advocate of water conservation, is embroiled in a legal battle over ownership of effluent. A lawsuit he filed against the city of Phoenix and Arizona Public Service Co. over the sale of Phoenix effluent to cool the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station is under consideration by the Arizona Supreme Court.

In addition to the language in the existing bill, Long wants provisions that would allow private citizens to initiate enforcement action and a heavy surcharge on owners of existing lakes using groundwater.

Phoenix Gazette  
12-14-81

PG-12-4-81

## 'New Waddell' flood control still possible

By Mary A.M. Perry  
Republic Staff

The New Waddell Dam proposed for the Agua Fria River would provide storage for Central Arizona Project water, but it easily could be designed to include flood protection, according to federal, county and state officials.

Representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Flood Control District of Maricopa County will meet next week to discuss the possibility of incorporating flood control into the design.

The so-called New Waddell is a component of a plan selected in November by Interior Secretary James Watt. The package will provide CAP water storage and flood control for the Phoenix area. Currently, New Waddell is designed only for storage, with dams on the Salt and Verde rivers designed to provide flood protection for most of the Phoenix area.

Flood-control features in New Waddell would provide protection for residential areas adjacent to the Agua Fria River west of Phoenix. There are no technical problems that would prevent the inclusion of flood control, but the redesign would require economic justification in order to get federal approval.

"This (flood control) is something I am going to insist upon," said Bill Mathews, director of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County. "I want it to be made part of the program up there (on the Agua Fria)."

Mathews said that 1980 census figures show that a population of 185,100 people living adjacent to the river will double in 20 years. He said the area "does not have 20 years to wait" for a flood-control solution.

According to corps figures, the communities of El Mirage, Youngtown, Sun City, Litchfield Park and Avondale — all downstream from the

Waddell on the Agua Fria — suffered nearly \$5.5 million in flood damage in December 1978. In February 1980, the same areas experienced \$7.6 million in damage.

The New Waddell would be built just south of the current Waddell Dam below Lake Pleasant. The 263-foot-high structure would contain 143,000 acre-feet of storage for Colorado River water. The water is scheduled to flow through CAP aqueducts into the Phoenix area by 1985 and into the Tucson area by 1989.

A preliminary draft of the *Agua Fria River Study*, an \$80,000 study authorized and financed by the county, shows that the county flood-control district can justify nearly \$78 million for downstream modifications to help control flood damage from the river, Mathews said. The study by Willdan and Associates, a Phoenix engineering firm, was completed Friday.

— Waddell, D2

Phoenix Gazette  
12-14-81

# Waddell

Continued from D1

State Water Resources Director Wes Steiner said he also would like to see the concept of flood control in New Waddell investigated.

"It ought to be looked at to see if it's feasible," Steiner said. "The idea is a good one."

Adding flood protection to the structure would "cost more money" and might need financing other than under the 1968 CAP authorization, Steiner said.

At one time, the federally directed Central Arizona Water Control Study group looked at a dam at Calderwood Butte just south of the Waddell site as a so-called Orme Dam alternative, said Tim Henley, CAWCS study manager.

The Calderwood site was considered as an alternative to the controversial Orme site at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers. The idea was abandoned by CAWCS when the upstream New Waddell site was determined to be more cost-effective.

Corps figures show that a Calderwood Butte dam would reduce the Aqua Fria flow to 25,000 or 30,000 cubic feet per second from flows of 135,000 cfs from the existing Waddell Dam.

One solution to flood problems identified by the county's study is a dam at the Calderwood Butte site. It would cost \$45 million to \$50 million, including land rights, site investigation, engineering and construction, according to the study.

The study says that a dam at Calderwood Butte would do the job of providing flood control and eliminate the need for any of the \$78 million downstream modifications.

"If we built a dam, we would have to do nothing else to take care of the flood-control problems on the river," Mathews said. He said the Agua Fria River channel, with no further modifications, could handle a 25,000- to 30,000-cfs flow "without any significant" effect.

"Take that \$78 million and compare it to the \$50 million, and it looks like we would be wise in not looking at modifications downstream but looking for that upstream-storage alternative," Mathews said.

Flood control on the Agua Fria was not considered until the final stages of CAWCS since it wasn't until the 1978-80 floods that the Corps found a flow of any significance in the Agua Fria, Henley said.

Until those recent storms, there was no historical information of any flooding problem, he said.

"We didn't have any flood control identified for New Waddell," Henley said. "Late in the study, we analyzed those recent flows, and I think the corps saw there could be a possible need for some flood control (at New Waddell)."

Henley agreed that looking at flood control at New Waddell is a potential economical solution for the flood-control district.

"No matter what they do," Henley said. "It's probably less expensive for them to go to New Waddell and make that a multipurpose structure than to build a separate structure downstream."

The flood-control district "backed off" their investigation of an upstream solution, Mathews said, when it became apparent that the federal Central Arizona Water Control Study was looking at the New Waddell proposal.

"The pursuit of a Calderwood Butte Dam, with a (new) Waddell going up, became rather academic," he said.

"I think we're in the position now to take a serious look at the need for this flood control," he said. He said that work done in the *Agua Fria River Study* is what the corps or bureau would have to prepare to justify flood control.

The flood-control district's study will be evaluated to see if a redesign of New Waddell economically can be justified as part of the federal project, Henley said.

Flood-control benefits have to offset the additional cost of the extra storage space in the dam to accommodate flood control.

If the county's study is complete, it can be incorporated into the CAWCS plans, Henley said, and there would be no project delay.

The only thing that could delay the project would be that if by raising the New Waddell Dam to provide flood-control space, there was a "significant" change in the plan's environmental impact statement, Henley said.

"Significance doesn't necessarily mean that we make the dam 50 feet taller or increase the cost by \$500 million," he said. "It does mean, however, that we've done something that changed it so that maybe another decision (by Watt) would have been made — like relocation of people or some environmental effect."

A significant change would require a supplemental EIS and the project's completion would be slowed by about four or five months, Henley said. Currently, the final EIS is scheduled for completion in December 1982. If the project stays on schedule, the New Waddell plan would be on line in the early 1990s.

Phoenix Gazette  
11-26-81

# Agua Fria Flood Options Given

By EDYTHE  
JENSEN

Gazette County Reporter

Protecting as few as 13 families from the Agua Fria River could cost the county flood control district \$2.75 million if it fails to set priorities, Richard Perreault, project engineer for the district, said.

Perreault Wednesday unveiled a study completed this week by the engineering firm of Willdan and Associates that outlines Agua Fria flood plain alternatives and their costs.

PG 11-26-81  
He told the district's representatives during their monthly meeting the study will be a crucial tool in future flood plain efforts.

"THE study has already helped us zero in on the most dangerous areas along the Agua Fria and will help us in our efforts to protect people, not things," Perreault said.

The towns of Avondale and El Mirage, because of their concentrated populations and susceptibility to flood

damage, will be key areas of concern, he said.

In rural areas with only a few families, the flood control district would find it more economical to relocate the residents than protect them from flooding, he said.

ONE SUCH area is called the Rosegarden Development, a 20-year-old community of mini-farms near Beardslly Road populated by 13 families.

"It would cost us about \$1.5 million to buy them out and move them. But it would cost us anywhere from \$2.75 to \$6 million to protect them from the river," Perreault said.

"When there are only a few people in a flood-prone area, there is no sense in spending a lot of money. Instead, we should encourage flood plain management, which involves developing policies that prohibit people from building in the flood plain," he said.

ALTERNATIVE flood protection remedies become complex as areas become more populated, he said. The town of El Mirage is currently involved in a

civil lawsuit because two commercial locations in the flood plain have threatened the town's ability to maintain flood insurance, Perreault added.

The study, which cost \$70,000, proposed 30 alternative projects for the river and protection of citizens living in or near it, the engineer said. It also used county assessor's records to determine the "buy out" values of 2,200 parcels along the flood plain, he added.

Perreault said copies of the study have already been sent to communities along the river, soliciting feedback that will be included in a final report in January.

# REVERSES POSITION

# State Water Czar Opposing Orme

96 10-1-81

By RICHARD DeURIARTE and JACK LAVELLE  
Gazette Reporters

Reversing a position he has held for 13 years, state water czar Wes Steiner said today he no longer supports construction of an Orme Dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers.



Instead, Steiner Gov. Bruce Babbitt's closest adviser on flood control and perhaps the most influential Arizona figure on water issues —

favors building a new Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River, an enlarged Roosevelt Dam, a refortified Stewart Mountain Dam and a Cliff Dam on the Verde River.

Steiner's preference is Plan 6 of eight alternatives now under consideration by the Central Arizona Water Control Study.

"IT'S HARD TO back away from the Orme Dam," Steiner told surprised members of the Arizona Small Business Council today. "We've been strong supporters of the Orme Dam for years.

"But the time has come to do so," he told the business group.

Steiner said the long-favored Orme

proposal contained so many legal, environmental and political problems that other alternatives must be considered.

The new Waddell site is one of seven flood-control alternatives. The eighth option is a "no action" stance.

The study is expected to make a recommendation late this month on a plan to bring permanent flood control to the Salt River Valley.

Referring to Plan 6, Steiner said: "There is a very reasonable alternative that accomplishes the same thing.

"THE BENEFITS are so close and the negatives are so much greater with Orme, I believe that it isn't really

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## • ORME DAM OPPOSED

(Concluded from Page A-1)

reasonable to continue to ... include a structure at Orme Dam," Steiner said.

"I don't believe it (Orme) is a salable position," he added. "We can't expect the Congress or the (Reagan) administration to force an Orme Dam decision."

The Orme Dam solution, which also includes a Cliff Dam below Horseshoe Lake on the Verde, reconstruction of Stewart Mountain and Roosevelt dams, is being backed by the Phoenix City Council (which also supports

mentation will be one of the key factors in Interior Secretary James Watt's final decision, which is expected next March.

MEANWHILE, Mesa Republican Stan Turley found himself in an unusual minority position Wednesday during the final public hearing on flood-control and water-storage alternatives conducted by the CAWCS at Mesa Centennial Hall.

Turley was the lone speaker of 32 to come out in favor of construction of a confluence dam.

PHOENIX CAMEBACK 1217 East Cameback Rd	NE PHOENIX & PARADISE VALLEY Northern Verde Plaza 12th Street	SCOTTSDALE McDowell Papago Plaza Scottsdale	MESA Tascher Center Country Club Southern 500 West Southern	INDIAN SCHOOLS Indian Sch 5416 W
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Phoenix Gazette  
8-31-81

P.6 8-31-81

# 4-Cent Tax Hike Needed To Cover Error

By EDYTHE JENSEN  
Gazette County Reporter

Maricopa County will have to raise its tax rate by 4 cents to \$1.78 per \$100 assessed valuation to make up for a computer programming error, Tom Freestone, chairman of the Board of Supervisors, said today.

The board will formally vote on the increase Sept. 8.

But County Manager Robert Mauney said the change will amount to "only a few pennies" on citizens' tax bills.

"Most property owners will notice a drop in their tax bills from last year. The \$1.78 rate is still 20 cents below last year's \$1.98 levy," Mauney said.

**THE LAST-MINUTE** change won't affect the mailing of tax bills, which are due to go out Sept. 21, said Sherman Gardner of the county treasurer's office. "It will be a difficult job, but we intend to meet the challenge," he said.

Advice on whether the rate could be raised after it had been formally set was sought by Mauney last week after he was told a computer coding mistake inadvertently lumped some expensive residential properties with more heavily taxed railroad properties.

Because of the error, taxable property valuations were overestimated by \$800 million, Mauney said.

Some school district tax rates will also be changed, but Mauney said many will remain the same and some will be lowered.

**THE MANAGER** said it appears from figures gathered by the county's finance department that school districts showing a need for increased tax rates are those in which the mistakenly assessed homes are located. Those showing a proposed rate decrease are those in which there are lower percentages of the higher priced homes, he added.

The largest increases are shown in the Scottsdale Unified School District, \$4.03 to \$4.11; Cave Creek, \$4.40 to \$4.58; Mesa Elementary, \$3.49 to \$3.67; and Fountain Hills, \$3 to \$3.09.

Significant tax rate decreases have been proposed for Buckeye, \$1.45 to .90; Glendale, \$1.68 to \$1.27; Liberty, \$2.78 to \$1.97; Phoenix Union High School District, \$2.34 to \$2.11; Tempe #3, \$2.19 to \$1.92; Tempe, \$2.09 to \$1.86; Balsz, \$2.60 to \$2.22; and Litchfield Park, \$1.76 to \$1.67.

Mauney said the Flood Control District Levy, which affects all county residents, will be raised from 32 cents to 34 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

**TOTAL ASSESSED** valuation for all county lands was changed from \$18,809,538,273 to \$18,050,599,654, Mauney said.

Freestone said today both he and the county manager originally had

questioned the higher valuation figure when it was brought to them by County Assessor Milt Novkov.

Mauney said Novkov explained the figure by saying it could be attributed to new construction placed on the rolls. However, Novkov denied giving Mauney that explanation.

"I feel the error was the fault of Mr. Novkov, but our main concern now is not to place blame, but to get it corrected and be sure it doesn't happen again," Freestone said.

Novkov blamed the county's computer department for the mistake, saying it failed to adequately analyze the assessor's request for a program change.

Mauney said he has instituted a new directive to the computer department not to accept requests for program changes that are incomplete or vague.

# Adobe Dam Aquatic Park Plan Opposed

PG. 6-19-81

Construction of a dig-surf-like facility in the desert northwest of Deer Valley would ruin the area because of crowds and policing problems, the Maricopa County Planning Commission says.

The commission voted unanimously Thursday to oppose the facility, but that action was simply advisory since the panel has no jurisdiction in the matter.

"OUR (COUNTY) planning commission will not be asked to consider the issue, because it is within the Phoenix city limits, but we are going to submit a letter of disapproval to the Board of Supervisors," said Commission Chairman Harold McCall.

McCall said an aquatic park proposed for the Adobe Dam Recreation area would be operated by a private business on county land within Phoenix city limits.

Citing access problems, policing difficulties and environmental concerns, McCall urged other commission members to take a stand against the facility. "I have talked with the Tempe police and understand the biggest problem in their area is Big Surf. I also don't think there are adequate roads leading to the area to accommodate the large crowds expected," McCall said Thursday.

LAST MONTH, the county Parks and Recreations Commission voted to request authorization to advertise for bids to construct the \$4 million wave-making facility, which was proposed by a Dallas-based recreation-consulting firm.

The Board of Supervisors ap-  
Turn to • TRAFFIC, Page B-2

## ● TRAFFIC

(Concluded from Page B-1)

proved in concept a plan to develop the Adobe Dam Recreation area, including an aquatic facility, at its April 20 meeting.

Bob Milne, county parks department director, said private enterprise would construct and operate the facility and the county, which owns the land, would get a percentage of the profits.

However, McCall said Thursday that private firms have turned down alternative locations, "because it seems like they want someone to give them the land; they don't want to buy it."

The chairman said private operators have proposed aquatic use fees of \$7 to \$10.

"I would like to see the area stick to recreation such as golf, tennis, and trails and remain county-operated," McCall said.

ADOBE DAM is being built as part of a county flood control project, intended to check drainage on north Skunk Creek. While the dam will be completed in October, development of the recreation area is not expected for several years.

Feasibility studies indicate the facility could draw as many as 500,000 people a year. Phoenix Deputy Planning Director Warner Leipprandt said huge crowds could create traffic problems.

Art Hallinan, chairman of the Deer Valley Planning Committee, said development of an aquatic park could be a serious deviation from the master plan for the area.

P. C. 530-81

## 2 County Executives Dismissed

Two executives with the county's Flood Control District have been fired for alleged dishonesty and conversion of government property for their personal use.

According to letters of dismissal filed with the clerk of the Board of Supervisors, John L. Savicky and Jim A. Roney were terminated for "dishonesty" in connection with their management of properties acquired in the county's channel diversion projects from 40th Street and Camelback to 75th Avenue and Dunlap.

They were accused in the letters of taking county-acquired property for their own use.

Savicky served as chief of the land management division, and Roney was a land management specialist.

William Mathews, chief engineer and general manager for the flood control district, said he could not reveal details of the allegations, since personnel matters — except for letters of dismissal or suspension — are confidential.

# Damaged Dam Goes Unclaimed

By EDYTHE JENSEN  
Gazette County Reporter

A dam nobody owns is going to cost millions of dollars to repair, Flood Control District Engineer Bill Mathews told the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

The board voted unanimously Monday to fund a study to estimate repair costs on McMicken Dam north-

west of Phoenix. The dam, built with un-budgeted federal funds at the urging of the late Sen. Carl Hayden, was damaged in 1977.

Although it was built on county land, neither Maricopa County nor the federal government will claim it, Mathews said.

**THE STUDY**, which is expected to cost about \$100,000, may help prod the federal government into footing repair bills, Mathews added.

McMicken Dam was built near 115th Avenue and Pinnacle Peak Road across the Trilby Wash in 1956. Its unorthodox beginnings are blamed by Mathews for the dam's predicament.

"It was funded under Air Force general maintenance funds after the late Sen. Carl Hayden appealed to Congress for the dam. The senator made a plea for McMicken on the basis that Luke was a strategic base during the Korean conflict and could be damaged by flooding," Mathews said.

**SINCE** construction funds were not budgeted by the Air Force, the Air Force today refuses to claim the dam. The county still owns the land on which it was built, but Mathews told the board local government would be in better shape today if it had given that land to the Air Force after the dam was completed.

"Can we give it to them for a Christmas present?" board Chairman Tom Freestone asked jokingly.

Although McMicken cost approximately \$1.7 million to build, it will cost more than \$3 million to repair, Mathews said, adding damage to the dam in 1977 resulted in flooding of hundreds of acres near the Air Force base in 1978 and 1979.

"MUCH OF the

PG. 5-12-81  
damage was to irrigation districts, affecting farmers in the area," Mathews said. One irrigation district has agreed to help pay for repair costs, he added.

Supervisor Hawley Atkinson said he has been in contact with Rep. Bob Stump D-Ariz., and has been

informed the county has a right to seek federal funds for the dam repair.

Atkinson said he hoped the study would give Luke Air Force Base the ammunition to ask for the funds in order to protect its facility from flood damage.

Phoenix Gazette  
5-5-81

# 1980 Flood Cost Valley \$63.7 Million

PC 5-5-81

By CLAY THOMPSON  
Gazette Reporter

Damages from the near-record floods that swept through the Valley in February 1980 totaled \$63.7 million, according to the official Army Corps of Engineers tally.

Roads and bridges along the Salt, Gila and Agua Fria rivers accounted for the largest single damage total — about \$22 million, according to the corps report received Monday.

Other damages included residential, \$1.89 million; commercial, \$3.1 million; industrial, \$1.8 million; public property, \$13.3 million; agricultural, \$5 million; business and income, \$5 million; public and private emergency costs, \$1.6 million.

ACCORDING to the corps, transportation delays caused by Salt River flooding cost about \$8.5 million, including \$6.5 million in additional driver time, \$1.6 million in additional distance traveled and \$280,000 in operating costs.

Other damages along the Salt River flood plain accounted for \$41.1 million of the total. Gila River damage was about \$6.5 million and \$7.6 million in damages were reported along the Agua Fria River.

The hardest hit area, apparently reflecting the concentration of roads, bridges, businesses and industries, was along the Salt River between 35th Avenue and 48th Street. Damages in that sector totaled \$23.16 million, the corps said.

The report also listed damages from nine other flood plain areas including 115th Ave to 35th Avenue, \$4.3 million; 48th Street to Country Club Drive, \$11.2 million; Country Club Dam to Granite Reef Dam, \$2.46 million.

ON THE Gila River, the sectors included U.S. 80 to Watson Road, \$3.1 million; Watson Road to Perryville Road, \$1.28 million; and Perryville Road to 115th Avenue, \$2.09 million.

On the Agua Fria, damages included \$5 million from the confluence with the Gila to Indian School Road, \$1.07 million from Indian School Road and \$1.5 million from Bell Road to Waddell Dam.

The corps also reported the area received about \$21 million in federal aid and \$98,200 in Red Cross assistance as a result of the floods.

At the height of the flooding, the Salt River flow hit 170,000 cubic feet per second at Granite Reef Dam. The Agua Fria peak was 66,000 cfs. The Salt River record is 300,000 cfs. set in 1891.

# Avondale OKs Proposal

By **RUSS HEMPHILL**  
Gazette Reporter

A \$5 million aid offer for flood control improvements on the Agua Fria River has been accepted by the Avondale City Council.

The action apparently ended a dispute which could have delayed construction of Interstate 10 from 115th to 95th avenues.

**LEGAL ACTION** had been threatened by city officials over construction of a drainage channel along I-10 that could dump up to 10,000 cubic-feet of water per second into the Agua Fria River upstream of Avondale.

And highway officials, working under a 1986 deadline to complete or have under contract construction of I-10, opted not to confront city officials in what could have been a lengthy court battle. Instead, they offered a \$5 million "contribution"

*P.G. 4-7-81*  
to flood control on the sometimes truant Agua Fria River.

The city council Monday night accepted the \$5 million aid offer, but attached several conditions to insure highway officials will take full responsibility for any problems flow from the drainage channel would cause in the Agua Fria.

If state and federal highway officials accept the city's list of stipulations included in their okay, a \$5 million fund would be made available to the Maricopa County Flood Control District to make flood-control improvements on the river.

The money, which had been earmarked for a retention basin in the Agua Fria River bottom to handle the flow from the drainage channel, does not necessarily have to be used for flood control improvements in the Avondale area.

Phoenix Gazette  
3-25-81

# Clearing Near For Salt-Gila

P. G. 3-25-81

By **RUSS HEMPHILL** *Southwest*  
Gazette Reporter

Clearing of vegetation from a 1,000-foot-wide channel in the Salt-Gila River from 123rd Avenue to Gillespe Dam southwest of Buckeye could begin as early as the end of the year, reducing the flood potential of the river.

William D. Mathews, chief engineer and general manager of the Maricopa County Flood Control District, said the channel clearing will begin after completion of an environmental impact statement requested by the federal Game and Fish Commission.

The privately owned portion of the riverbed, from 91st Avenue south of Phoenix's sewage treatment facility to about 123rd Avenue, was cleared about two months ago, with the consent of the private landowners, Mathews said.

**THE CLEARING** project will give the river an unobstructed channel. "Vegetation has grown up in the Gila River to the extent that it blocks flow," Mathews said.

But before the flood control district can proceed with clearing the portion of the riverbed on public lands it must deal with concerns raised by the game and fish commission over the loss of wildlife habitat the clearing operation would cause.

At issue are large stands of salt cedar that clog the riverbottom. The cedar, not native to the Gila River, was imported to stabilize river banks, Mathews said. But because it grows best where the most water is, over the years it invaded the riverbottom.

"They (the salt cedar) start off almost looking like baby tumbleweeds," Mathews said. But "in a matter of five years, you have an impenetrable growth."

**"WHEN WE REMOVE** vegetation growth, we remove what they call habitat. To us it's an impediment," he said, "to them, it's a home for the birds, bugs and bunnies."

Mathews added, however, that in the clearing work on private lands, Audubon Society members went through the riverbed with flood control district officials marking "valuable" habitat areas, mostly concentrated areas of cottonwood trees, which were then spared.

Before initiating an environmental impact statement, the flood control district had contracted with a private consulting firm, Benham, Blair and Associates Inc., to produce an environmental assessment report describing the environmental effects of the 1,000-foot-wide clearing.

The game and fish commission intervened and asked for the more demanding environmental impact statement, Mathews said.

**THE IMPACT STATEMENT** will require the flood control district to explain how it plans to "correct or mitigate" the environmental effects of the clearing operation. The assessment report only required the district to describe the effects.

Additional funds for the preparation of the impact statement — \$14,246 tagged on to \$88,740 already allocated for the assessment report — was approved last week by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

The impact statement is expected to be complete by June or July, Mathews said, with public comment solicited after that.

Phoenix Gazette  
3-11-81

P.G. 3-11

# Highway Flood Aid

By RUSS HEMPHILL  
Gazette Reporter

A \$5 million Agua Fria River flood aid offer made to the Avondale City Council is receiving "favorable" review, Avondale City Manager Carlos Palma says.

Palma says the consultants hired by the city to study the proposal have "looked upon it very favorably." But, he added, the consultants are not finished with the study and their outlook could change.

Palma declined to predict if the council would accept or reject the highway officials' aid offer.

**HE DID SAY**, however, "We don't want to become entrenched" in a battle with highway officials over the proposed drainage channel.

A report from the consultants is due before the City Council at its next regular meeting on March 16.

Made by highway officials last month, the proposal is an effort to

Certainly are being... absolutely no information from federal offices. We won't know anything until Reagan submits his final budget."

Last year the Legislature placed a 7 percent budget limitation on utilities, transportation and special education programs. Utility rate hikes during the past year, the most recent a 12.8 percent hike by Salt River Project, have posed serious problems for districts trying to budget future operational costs. Schools will have to make a conscious effort to cut down on energy consumption in order to meet higher prices.

**THE RECENT FEDERAL** deregulation of gasoline prices has affected school transportation costs. With rising gas prices, schools will have to eliminate the number of miles driven for transportation of students. For some districts, this could mean eliminating or shortening some bus routes.

Miles driven by district employees also will have

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Undaunted and u Nina jumped back i

# U.S. May Cut Flood Aid To 'Ignorant' County

By EDYTHE JENSEN  
Gazette County Reporter

A federal Emergency Management official says he is seriously considering cutting off future disaster aid funds to Maricopa County because the board of supervisors may be granting too many variances that would allow construction in flood plain fringe areas.

Dale Peterson, federal Emergency Management administrator in San Francisco, said in a telephone interview the supervisors' recent granting of variances for flood plain construction is "foolishness, unwise, ignorant and stupid. It makes me angry just to think about it."

Yavapai County lost its disaster relief last year because of its failure to pass flood plain management regulations, Peterson said.

"And if the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors doesn't want to do their part, the American taxpayer shouldn't have to bail them out," he said.

RECENT variances granted by the board, including one approved on a 3-2 vote Monday, concern lowering of required building elevations.

Peterson said granting such variances for economic reasons is unacceptable and unwise. "What the homeowner doesn't realize is he will have to pay in the end, whether it's for increased construction costs, increased insurance costs or replacement costs," he said.

Residents who are granted variances and build against the advice of flood management engineers could

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## ● FLOOD AID FACING CUTS

(Concluded from Page B-1)

wind up having to pay up to \$7,500 a year for flood insurance, Peterson said.

In delineating flood plains, the government has warned citizens that buildings in the fringe areas, even if they are built to recommended elevations, stand a 26 percent chance of being damaged by floods during the 30-year life of most mortgages, Peterson said.

"WHEN YOU allow variances, it's like playing Russian roulette with a four-chambered gun," he said.

When people argue their property was not flooded in the past — an argument that is heard at almost every board variance request — the federal administrator answers, "Do you know how many people who applied for disaster aid during the last flood said this was the first time their property was ever flooded? A lot."

Board Chairman Tom Freestone said he has voted in favor of granting variances because the areas in question previously have not been flooded and because nearby homes already are built below required heights. "I feel the federal govern-

ment can get over-regulatory," Freestone said.

Peterson said if his office determines the board knowingly allowed building below flood elevations in cases which were not "extraordinary hardships," he could put a stop to all county flood disaster aid — even help that would go to individuals who followed all building rules and did not request variances.

ONE MEMBER of the board has consistently voted against variances: Hawley Atkinson.

Don McDaniel, county planning director, said, "Mr. Atkinson has a good understanding of our flood program but contended other members do not appear to vote consistently either for or against variances.

The planning director said he expects the board's actions to have an impact "some time in the future, but how and when is difficult to assess."

Bill Mathews, county flood control director, said the repercussions of variances are "very hazardous," but added, "If you start pounding on this issue, it will make people very mad."

On all requested variances, Mathews makes a recommendation to McDaniel, who makes his recommendation to the board. All requests to build in flood plain fringes at heights below those delineated by flood control maps are recommended for denial, yet the board has granted most of them, records show.

MATHEWS said he fears not only loss of disaster aid, but also loss of eligibility for flood insurance for Maricopa County residents. "Under federal guidelines, you must give assurances you are going to enforce your flood control ordinances. Variances are supposed to be allowed only under the most stringent conditions."

The flood control director said normally minor changes in landscapes — such as a farmer grading his field — could mean serious repercussions for flood plain fringe homes.

"There could be instant floods," he said.

Peterson said if a claim were made against a flood insurance policy by a resident who obtained variances in violation of federal guidelines, "We could and would refuse to pay that claim."

Peterson, in citing repercussions of building variances, said:

"We know these are hazardous areas, and I think your board of supervisors are a bunch of guys who just don't care."



Phoenix Gazette  
(no date)

# Plug may be pulled on Cliff Dam

By Sean Griffin  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

WASHINGTON — Arizona's congressional delegation, faced with mounting opposition in Congress, appears ready to pull the plug on controversial Cliff Dam.

The proposed dam, intended to be built between Bartlett and Horseshoe dams on the Verde River east of Phoenix, anchored the \$1.1 billion Plan 6 component of the Central Arizona Project.

A coalition of environmental groups declared war on the dam in 1986, filing a lawsuit that challenged the federal Bureau of Reclamation's compliance with environmental law when it approved Plan 6.

The latest assault surfaced Friday when Rep. Larry Coughlin, R-Pa., sent colleagues a letter urging support for his amendment to delete the dam from the Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill.

Coughlin offered a similar amendment in 1986, but lost in a 20-7 committee vote.

This time, however, Coughlin vowed to wage a challenge to all of Plan 6 on the House floor if the Appropriations Committee failed to back his amendment.

Several members of the delegation, including House Interior Committee chairman Morris Udall, D-Ariz., doubt they could win a floor fight on the issue.

"We have not had a real test on a major water

project in two or three years," said Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., a newcomer to the Appropriations Committee.

Kolbe predicted Cliff Dam's demise.

He said the political landscape has changed since the last water battle because of Gramm-Rudman deficit-reduction requirements and because there are many of new members of Congress.

"I don't think there's any question about it," Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., said when asked if Cliff Dam would be sacrificed in a deal.

"I'd just as soon fight it out, but there's a doubt in some peoples' minds that we could win on the floor."

Stump said a deal might be struck if environmentalists could be persuaded to drop further opposition to

Plan 6 and to accept enlargement of Horseshoe Dam upstream from the Cliff Dam site.

Enlargement of Horseshoe could help keep intact a complex cost-sharing agreement that binds local beneficiaries of Plan 6 — including Phoenix, other Valley communities and utility districts — to pay about one-third of Plan 6's costs in advance.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said he wasn't convinced Cliff Dam would be lost.

"It's too soon to tell, but in the next few hours we could arrive at an agreement. Whatever, we certainly plan to protect the interests of the state," McCain said.

Today, as the Appropriations Committee settled on

See ■ Cliff, A-4

# ■ Cliff

From A-1

water project figures for 1988, Coughlin agreed to withhold his amendment for a few days to see if environmentalists and the Arizona delegation could reach accord.

Coughlin said he would introduce his amendment when the appropriations bill comes to the floor — perhaps as early as next week — if negotiations fail.

Kolbe told the committee he anticipated a compromise “that will resolve a whole range of issues dealing with several provisions of Central Arizona Project Plan 6.”

The committee approved \$230 million for CAP construction in fiscal 1988, including \$73.9 million for non-Indian water distribution systems. The total is \$28 million more than Congress approved last year, but \$37 million less than President Reagan’s budget request. The administration sought to give priority to large projects nearing completion, including the CAP, but lost much of its water project support by proposing to mothball scores of projects.

Much of the money diverted from the CAP will be used to resurrect the Garrison Diversion Project in North Dakota. The administration requested only \$2.5 million for that project, effectively putting it on hold. The committee today took a major step toward reviving the North Dakota project by approving \$35 million.

Phoenix Gazette  
8-13-87

# Demise of Cliff Dam lowers Rio Salado price tag

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

The proposed Rio Salado project would be cheaper by more than \$100 million and larger by about 2,000 acres because of Cliff Dam's demise, according to figures released by the Rio Salado Development District.

A new study by the district revises the total cost of Rio Salado down to \$2.9 billion from \$3.09 billion. Its size increases from slightly more than 9,000 acres to slightly more than 11,000 acres along a

17-mile stretch of the Salt River between Country Club Drive in Mesa and 35th Avenue in west Phoenix.

The new study has been in the works since Cliff's demise in June. It takes into account modifications forced by the elimination of new upstream flood control structures that would have been necessary on the Salt and Verde rivers.

Cliff Dam, proposed on the Verde as part of Plan 6 of the Central Arizona Project, was scrapped by Congress as part

of a legal settlement with local environmentalists who had sued to block construction of the structure.

Dennis Davis, deputy director of the Rio Salado district, said the recalculation of the project's size and cost now provides planners with more accurate data than was available from the existing master plan, which was based on the existence of Cliff Dam and is more than two years old.

"This shows you can do it for almost the same cost, but with a different mix of

things," Davis said. "It still works."

The project without Cliff Dam has fewer water features — a necessity due to the lack of upstream flood control — but contains more public park space because the size of the flood plain is greatly expanded.

The revised plan has slightly increased land acquisition costs due to more flood plain land that must be purchased. In addition, development and operating costs rise somewhat because more localized

channeling and flood control measures are needed and more post-flood cleanup is likely without a new upstream dam.

Those cost increases are more than offset, according to Davis, by a significant decrease in the project's financing costs.

The 1985 master plan calls for two separate bond issues to finance the project — a pre-Cliff Dam issue for riverbank development and a post-Cliff Dam issue for river bottom features.

Phoenix Gazette  
7-23-87

## Valley cities to resume payments

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

Now that they have been offered a money-back guarantee, spokesmen for Valley cities say they will resume their up-front payments for construction of federal dams related to the Central Arizona Project.

"We're pretending that Cliff Dam-type activity will be continued," George Britton, Phoenix water and energy resources manager, said Wednesday. "If it isn't, those funds, plus interest, would be automatically refunded."

Phoenix, Chandler, Tempe, Mesa, Scottsdale and Glendale withheld their \$350,000 July payment when the Arizona congressional delegation dropped Cliff

Dam from the \$1.1 billion Plan 6, scheduled for construction in the next decade.

In return for the delegation's action, a coalition of environmental groups agreed to drop a lawsuit against construction of Cliff Dam on the Verde River, New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River, and modification of Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt.

The Valley cities had paid the U.S. Department of Interior more than \$1 million in advance for Cliff Dam in hopes of receiving an estimated annual supply of 30,000 acre-feet of water — enough for 150,000 people.

The Phoenix City Council agreed Wednesday to release its July quarterly payment of \$247,772.

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## Murder plot nets

A woman who planned to pay for the murder of her husband with money from his life insurance policy is in court today in contest to a felony charge in the alleged murder.

Sandra Parsons, 40, of 1529 W. Townley Ave., is charged with 1 1/2 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine for using a check to pay for the murder of her former husband, Groce Merrill.

Sentencing is scheduled for Sept. 14.

Parsons paid an undercover FBI agent \$5,000 to give the agent a key to the man's residence and to take photographs of him, according to a Feb. 26 criminal complaint.

The woman promised to give FBI agent another \$5,500 after Merrill was dead and she had cashed two life insurance policies worth \$400,000, Chandler police said in a complaint.

### One factual error

Your otherwise perceptive editorial of June 19, "Cliff Dam crumbles," has one factual error which should be corrected.

Many factors have contributed to the general unraveling of the old public works consensus on projects like the Central Arizona Project. But the voting pattern of my Arizona GOP colleagues (while markedly different from mine), is no great surprise, and did not play a role.

I wish my four Republican colleagues in the House would change their misguided ways and vote like Democrats, but I don't expect that any time soon. And key members on water policy are too big to be bothered with the kind of petty revenge referred to in the editorial.

**Morris K. Udall**

U.S. Representative  
District 2, Arizona  
Washington, D.C.

*Editor's note: The editorial maintained that Arizona Republican Reps. Jon Kyl and Jim Kolbe were refusing to "go along and get along."*

## Dam fund cuts get tentative OK

By Sean Griffin  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

WASHINGTON — The House tentatively agreed today to delete funds for the construction of Cliff Dam, formalizing an agreement hammered out last week by Arizona's congressional delegation and a coalition of environmental groups opposed to the dam.

By voice vote, the House unanimously adopted an amendment to the energy and water development appropriations bill striking all funds for construction and assuring Congress that no funds will be sought for Cliff Dam in the future.

The amendment retained \$400,000 to complete

studies of endangered fish species in the Verde River and bald eagles nesting at the Cliff Dam site.

In testimony submitted for the record, Udall said those studies were essential even without the dam.

Cliff Dam was a key component of Plan 6, a \$1.1 billion part of the Central Arizona Project providing conservation storage, regulatory storage and flood control for Phoenix and other Valley communities.

The dam was opposed by environmental and conservation groups because its reservoir would drown nesting sites of the endangered, desert-nesting bald eagle and because it was perceived as a development scheme to raise property values in the Salt River flood plain.

The House also tentatively allocated \$230 million for construction of other components of the Central Arizona Project, including the Tucson aqueduct, New Waddell Dam, modifications to Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams and water distribution systems.

The amount was \$37 million less than the Reagan administration requested for the coming fiscal year. If enacted, the appropriation would be the largest CAP allocation in the project's 19-year history. Congress approved \$202 million for CAP construction for the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30.

The bill also allocates \$7.1 million to modify the spillways at Stewart Mountain Dam on the Salt River. The spillways were damaged during floods in 1980 and will be enlarged and strengthened.

The House is expected to complete action on the appropriations bill today. If passed, which is believed all but certain, the bill will go to the Senate for action.

## Cliff Dam crumbles

This must be some sort of record. Cliff Dam on the Verde River collapsed years before it was built.

And the dam's crumbled political foundation jeopardizes other key portions of the \$1.1 billion Central Arizona Project's Plan 6. Arizona's congressional delegation, relying heavily on the influence of House Interior Committee Chairman Rep. Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz., scrambled for a last-minute compromise to salvage Cliff, a \$385 million earthen dam designed to provide both water storage and flood control for the Phoenix area. The effort failed.

A lot is at stake. Cliff Dam was the most essential feature of Plan 6 as far as cities are concerned. Now that Cliff Dam is no more, Valley cities are almost sure to pull out of a historic Plan 6 funding agreement among municipalities, the federal government and local water interests.

The collapse of that funding arrangement in turn threatens other components of Plan 6, including New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and structural improvements to Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt River. As CAP Association director Bill Wheeler exclaimed: "This is a disaster!"

Unlike flooding, this political disaster is man-made. The environmental groups traditionally opposed to Cliff Dam, partly because they say it would disturb nesting eagles, proved how relentless they can be. If Cliff Dam

is somehow resurrected later, the environmentalists will be back again for another fight.

For years, Arizona water interests were protected and championed by formidable insiders like Carl Hayden, Barry Goldwater, John Rhodes, the Udall brothers and Eldon Rudd, the latter strategically placed within the water and energy subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. Most are gone now. Rudd and Rhodes are CAP lobbyists, but the political landscape is different today.

Conservative Republicans, among them Arizona Republican Reps. Jon Kyl and Jim Kolbe, are refusing to "go along and get along" in the old horsetrading tradition of Congress and are challenging spending proposals often categorized as pork barrel.

Theirs is a courageous and noble effort, but their "no" votes resulted in retaliatory opposition to Arizona water projects. There was a price for their conservative independence and Cliff Dam appears to be it.

Arizona's delegation feared congressmen from the South, Midwest and Northeast would join the environmentalist opposition to CAP and was afraid to put it to a test on the floor of Congress.

Having fought so many battles for so long on the CAP, Arizona finds itself, like Custer, outnumbered and surrounded. The only hope now is that Arizona can come up with a plan to go it alone, without federal help, on Cliff Dam.

# Agreement lays Cliff Dam to rest

By Sean Griffin  
The Phoenix Gazette

WASHINGTON — Cliff Dam finally has collapsed under the weight of controversy, sweeping away a decade of political effort and jeopardizing a \$271 million local cost-sharing agreement between the federal government and Valley communities and utilities.

Arizona's congressional delegation and representatives of a coalition of 11 environmental groups opposed to the dam agreed late Thursday to settle their three-year battle over the \$385 million Verde River dam.

The main provisions of the seven-point agreement called on the delegation to

abandon all thoughts of building a storage dam on the Verde River. In exchange, the Coalition to Stop Cliff Dam agreed to drop its lawsuit challenging the legality of Plan 6.

Other provisions require the coalition to support safety repairs at Horseshoe and Bartlett dams on the Verde River. The repairs would have been unnecessary had the \$385 million, mile-wide earth dam been built.

The parties also agreed to ask the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct flood-control studies of the Verde River.

The 1968 measure authorizing the CAP called for the construction of a regulatory storage dam at the confluence of the Salt and

Verde rivers. When Indians and environmental interests killed Orme Dam a decade ago, Arizona water interests substituted Plan 6 for Orme.

The new framework included New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River, Cliff Dam and major modifications to increase the impoundment capacity of Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt River.

The Reagan administration endorsed Plan 6 in 1984, days after the discovery of nesting eagles in an area that would be inundated by Cliff Dam's reservoir. The National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation and

other groups targeted Cliff Dam as a major threat to an endangered species.

Environmentalists claimed a major victory in their three-year effort to erode support for Cliff Dam.

The dam, opposed by the coalition chiefly because it would endanger bald eagle nesting sites and habitat, "was an albatross around the neck of Plan 6," said Liz Raisbeck, National Audubon Society lobbyist involved in the flurry of negotiations this week.

National Wildlife Federation representative Ed Osann said, "I've always been confident Cliff would not be built. We were

See ■ Dam, B-2

## ■ Dam

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prepared to press the matter for as long as it takes."

At a news conference late Thursday, some members of Arizona's congressional delegation tried to put the best face on the dam's demise, describing it as a victory for Arizona water interests.

"I liken it to the home run that's hit with the bases loaded in the ninth inning of the seventh game of the world series," said Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Rep. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., sticking to the analogy, said, "I think we were only two runs behind and probably this is only really a triple in the minds of some, but it was enough to win the game."

Other members of the delegation, some of whom joined the agreement reluctantly, were less effusive.

"It's probably the best we could hope to come up with at this time," Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., said.

Freshman Rep. Jay Rhodes, R-Ariz., said: "The Central Arizona Project will work without Cliff Dam. There are those who may say it will not work well without Cliff Dam and that may well be true. But it will do what it was designed to do, which is to bring water from the Colorado River to central Arizona."

House Interior Committee chairman Morris Udall, D-Ariz., said, "We've had to swallow a lot of things we

didn't like." But he expressed confidence that a major impediment to completing the \$3.6 billion CAP had been removed.

Udall said the delegation remained committed to finding additional water supplies for Phoenix and other Valley communities and for the Fort McDowell and Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian reservations.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said he had spoken Thursday with former Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., and said Goldwater agreed with the delegation's decision.

McCain said the agreement was necessary because "Plan 6, including New Waddell, the cost-sharing requirement, even the reauthorization of the Central Arizona Project itself was at stake here. By coming to this agreement we will preserve Plan 6 and be able to see the Central Arizona Project completed in our lifetimes."

Arizona's delegation met 13 times during the week trying to reach accord among themselves and with coalition representatives.

Their efforts were triggered by a threat from Rep. Larry Coughlin, R-Pa., to fight Plan 6 on the floor of the House when the Energy and Water Appropriations bill is debated next week.

# Cliff Dam sacrificed in trade-off

Analysis: Salvage

A-4

By Sean Griffin  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

WASHINGTON — Arizona's congressional delegation tentatively agreed today on a plan to sacrifice Cliff Dam in exchange for a cease-fire with a coalition of environmental groups.

At a meeting today on the third floor of the Capitol, the only remaining item of contention was how much time should be accorded to make sure Arizona's water interests were informed of the deal.

Several congressmen expressed dismay when they learned that key Arizona water interests, including Central Arizona Project Association director Bill Wheeler, knew nothing about the week-long negotiations until contacted Wednesday by *The Gazette*.

Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., was the sole member objecting to the pact this morning, according to sources present at the meeting. But Stump was expected to drop his objection when the delegation meets again late this afternoon.

Cliff Dam, a \$385 million component of the Central Arizona Project, has been the target of environmental groups since 1984, largely because its reservoir would inundate nesting sites for the endangered, desert-nesting bald eagle. The dam is a key component of Plan 6, a \$1.1 billion regulatory storage and flood

See ■ Cliff, A-4

## ■ Cliff

control portion of the \$3.6 billion CAP.

Under the tentative agreement, a coalition of environmental groups challenging the dam would drop their lawsuit challenging Plan 6, agree to dam safety repairs to Horseshoe and Bartlett dams, located upstream and downstream from Cliff Dam respectively, and drop all further opposition to Plan 6 features.

Environmentalists also would drop further opposition to the completion of the CAP, a source close to the negotiations said today in Phoenix.

Key aspects of the agreement also include a provision allowing Valley cities first crack at claiming up to 100,000 acre-feet of unallocated CAP water destined for municipal and industrial users, the source said.

The secretary of the interior would make the water available to compensate Valley cities who will lose 15,800 acre-feet of conservation water that was to be available from Cliff Dam, the source said.

In addition, the agreement calls for the Army Corps of Engineers to replace the Bureau of Reclamation as the federal agency in charge of building flood control structures on the Verde River, the source said.

"All the conservation groups said you can build any amount of flood control you want on the Verde as long as you take it out of the hands of the Bureau of Reclamation and put it into the hands of the Army Corps of Engineers," the source said.

Flood control structures would not endanger eagle habitats in the same way as a water conservation dam such as Cliff, the source said.

"A flood control structure on the Verde River would only flood a bald eagle habitat 12 days in 100 years," the source said.

The delegation has been meeting quietly since Monday in hopes of reaching a compromise with environmentalists that would stave off a threatened fight about Plan 6 on the House floor.

Members and their staffs have kept unusually quiet during the negotiations, failing to return telephone calls from reporters and sometimes declining to discuss the matter when confronted in person.

The threat came from Rep. Larry Coughlin, R-Pa. who let his colleagues know Friday that he would introduce an amendment to delete funds for Cliff Dam from an appropriations bill.

He introduced a similar amendment on behalf of environmental groups a year ago, but lost in a 20-7 vote by the Appropriations Committee.

"This year they made it clear they didn't care what happened in committee," committee member Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., said. "They were going to carry the fight to the floor."

House Interior Committee chairman Morris Udall, D-Ariz., advised other members of the delegation Monday that they were unlikely to win a battle on the

From A-1

House floor because the political base of support for Western water projects had largely evaporated in recent years.

"The way Mo put it was that it's better sometimes to give up a little bit in order to get the whole," freshman Rep. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said.

The 1968 legislation authorizing the Central Arizona Project — a \$3.6 billion system of aqueducts and pumping plants transporting Colorado River water 330 miles uphill to Phoenix and Tucson — also called for construction of Orme Dam "or suitable alternative" at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers.

Plans for Orme Dam were abandoned in the 1970s in the face of opposition from Indian tribes and environmentalists.

In 1984, Secretary of Interior William Clark approved Plan 6 — consisting of Cliff Dam on the Verde River, New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria and enhancements to Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt — as the suitable alternative authorized in the CAP legislation.

Within days of Clark's action, bald-eagle nesting sites that would be inundated by Cliff Dam's reservoir were discovered.

In September 1985, a coalition of environmental groups led by the National Audubon Society filed a lawsuit in federal court.

Additional information by *Gazette* reporter John Dougherty.



Phoenix Gazette  
7-29-87

### Slick marketing in Tucson

A public relations firm has been hired at undisclosed public expense to convince Tucsonians that an extravagantly priced treatment plant is needed to disinfect CAP water.

My question is this: If a chemical treatment plant is such a great idea, then why is it necessary to hire a public relations firm to toot the horn of chemical treatment? Could it be that slick marketing is needed to cover up gross shortcomings of the proposed treatment plant?

**Elizabeth Hilliard**  
Tucson

# CAP hits new hurdle

By Sean Griffin  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

WASHINGTON — Proponents of the Central Arizona Project, reeling from the recent demise of Cliff Dam, have been presented with another possible bureaucratic hurdle.

The federal government's General Accounting Office is urging the Interior Department to seek congressional permission before building the Plan 6 component of the Central Arizona Project.

In a opinion released today, the GAO reversed its Feb. 20 opinion, when it considered a range of issues involving the \$3.6 billion CAP.

In its earlier holding, the GAO concluded that Plan 6 — consisting of Cliff Dam, New Waddell Dam and enlarging

Stewart Mountain and Theodore Roosevelt dams — was not a suitable alternative to Orme Dam. The 1968 act authorizing the CAP called for construction of Orme Dam "or suitable alternative" and reflected Congress' uncertainty that Orme Dam could be built because of Indian concerns.

Nevertheless, the GAO held, "Congress has for three years known of Plan 6 and has in each of those years appropriated additional funding for the Central Arizona Project." By appropriating funds, GAO concluded, Congress had given Plan 6 de facto authorization.

In the June 9 report released publicly today, acting Comptroller General Milton Socolar cited the legislative record and court cases in concluding: "We do not think that

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## ■ Plan

From A-1

Plan 6 was authorized as a result of the appropriations process. Therefore, we think that the Department of the Interior should obtain congressional authorization for Plan 6 prior to commencement of construction."

Both opinions were requested by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, a frequent critic of the \$3.3 billion CAP.

Members of Arizona's congressional delegation said they expected the unfavorable opinion and said it was a factor earlier this month when they agreed to drop Cliff Dam, Plan 6's most controversial element.

The decision was part of an agreement with the dam's environmental foes and is reflected in language attached to the Energy and Water Appropriations bill that passed the House Wednesday. The language also declares the remnants of Plan 6 — New Waddell Dam and the modifications to Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams — to constitute "a suitable alternative to Orme Dam within the meaning of the Colorado River Basin Project Act."

House Interior Committee Chairman Morris Udall, D-Ariz., said the GAO report "illustrates what we were facing if we hadn't made this agreement."

Udall said the agreement, by putting Congress on notice that abbreviated

Plan 6 is Orme Dam's suitable alternative, "makes this thing moot."

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said, "I'm sorry GAO feels that way, but I don't see that as anything more than another shot fired in the battle between us and people like Sen. Metzenbaum, who as you know is an extremist — at least on this issue."

McCain said Metzenbaum's opposition has in large part reflected his base of support among environmentalists.

"The environmental community has for all intents and purposes signed off on the remaining portions of Plan 6. I would hope (they are) not only neutralized but to some degree supportive," McCain said.

Bill Wheeler, executive director of the Central Arizona Project Association, considered the report another dose of bad news.

"We just are in a state of shock around here now about the bad news we had last week," Wheeler said, referring to Cliff Dam's demise. "All this commotion tends to prove that Orme Dam was a heck of a good solution. It's a shame that it got knocked out."

Salt River Project lobbyist Michael Rappoport said any GAO opinion "is based on an interpretation of a set of facts. And there's always another point of view."

# Water district raises property tax to legal limit

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

The Central Arizona Water Conservation District has increased its property tax from 7 cents to the legal limit of 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation in Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties.

Tom Clark, district manager, blamed a weak electric power market for the increase that will cost each owner of a \$100,000 house \$3 next year.

The board runs the Central Arizona Project, a \$3.5 billion system of aqueducts, pumping plants and dams that delivers Colorado River water to the Valley and Pinal County and is scheduled for completion to Tucson in 1992.

Once the CAP is completed, the district must use water, power and tax revenue to

repay an estimated \$2.2 billion of the construction cost over 50 years with 3.3 percent interest.

Low oil prices have created a weak electric power market in the Southwest, forcing the district to rely on property taxes instead of revenue from surplus CAP capacity at the Navajo Generating Station in Page, Clark told the board Thursday.

"We might have made \$200,000 or we might have even lost," Clark said when asked about power sales so far. "We don't know yet."

Water revenue is not a source of repayment funds until the CAP is complete, Clark said, explaining that proceeds of interim water sales go directly to the Bureau of Reclamation to offset costs.

If no favorable agreement can be made

with Southwestern power interests on marketing electricity from the Page plant, Clark said the district might be forced to ask the Legislature for an increase in its 10-cent levy limit.

"It probably would be the appropriate thing to ask for some more authority," he said when questioned by board member Hanna Cortner.

Clark acknowledged the district's 1985 agreement to pay \$175 million to the Bureau of Reclamation up-front for New Waddell Dam could leave the district short of funds needed to begin repaying the cost of the entire CAP in 1993.

However, the board reaffirmed its decision to keep making up-front payments. In addition, it agreed to make its \$5.3 million October payment up to five months early in

order to keep contractors working on Pinal County farm distribution systems.

"We're obligated, no matter what anybody else does," board president Rod McMullin said.

Valley mayors voted Wednesday to stop making payments on their \$63 million up-front funding obligation for CAP-related dams because Cliff Dam on the Verde River was scrapped in the face of a federal lawsuit by environmental groups.

Phoenix was depending on Cliff Dam for 30,000 acre-feet of water annually.

"We're going to make it up," Rep. Jay Rhodes, R-Ariz., told his former CAWCD board colleagues by speaker-phone. "The Department of Interior has pledged that. We've already got some lines on some other water."

# Phoenix links CAP payments to Cliff Dam

## \$800,000 held due to change

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

Phoenix is refusing to make its next up-front payment on the Central Arizona Project until Congress replaces Cliff Dam.

"We're essentially freezing our payments at this point until we find out what's going to happen to Plan 6," city water adviser Bill Chase said Tuesday. "We're not about to send another \$800,000 check in."

The Arizona congressional delegation sacrificed the planned \$385 million Cliff Dam on the Verde River last week so an environmentalist coalition would withdraw its U.S. District Court lawsuit to stop Cliff Dam and work on three other dams, comprising the CAP's \$1.1 billion Plan 6 component.

However, Valley cities, the Salt River Project, Maricopa County Flood Control District and the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAP operating agency) had agreed in 1985 to make \$373 million in up-front payments to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to assure speedy construction of Plan 6, including Cliff Dam.

"There is no cost-sharing agreement now," Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association (Valley cities), said at a gathering Monday of the parties making up-front payments.

"Withholding payments — that's what I think most of the cities are going to do," he said. "The agreement is a package."

president, said Tuesday that he is having second thoughts.

"I don't know how we can hold up a payment," he said. "I think we should all sit down and examine this thing. Here we have a contract that's literally been destroyed."

In an effort to salvage the up-front funding agreement and its favorable effect on Reagan admin-

istration budget writers, the parties to the agreement drafted an amendment Monday to the House budget bill for fiscal 1987-88.

"We sent the amendment to Michael Jackson (House interior committee aide)," Chase said. "He agreed to use some of it."

The measure would use \$1.2 million originally proposed for Cliff

Dam to fund a Bureau of Reclamation study of flood-control and dam-safety modifications to Bartlett and Horseshoe dams on the Verde River.

Phoenix has made \$4.4 million in up-front payments so far, and was expecting an annual 30,000 acre-feet of water from Cliff Dam — enough for 150,000 people.

Besides Cliff Dam, Plan 6 includes modification of Stewart Mountain and Roosevelt dams on the Salt River for flood control, dam safety and water conservation, and construction of New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River, primarily to provide storage for CAP water.

"We're not convinced that the whole thing is a package," said Tom Clark, Central Arizona Water Conservation District manager. "It's not necessarily convincing at this point that the whole thing is dead if one of the pieces goes away."

SRP assistant general manager Bob Mason said "there is some uncertainty" about the Project making its up-front payment for July. "We're continuing to evaluate the situation and the pros and cons of making that payment."

The flood-control district's first payment is not due until October.

The CAWCD has been making payments toward its \$175 million up-front obligation for New Waddell and is considering making its October payment early in order to speed construction on distribution systems for member irrigation districts.

But Rod McMullin, CAP board

# Arizonans fight to salvage CAP components

By Sean Griffin  
The Phoenix Gazette

WASHINGTON — A year ago, during mark-up of an appropriations bill, Rep. Larry Coughlin, R-Pa., offered an amendment to strike funds for Arizona's Cliff Dam. He lost, 20-7.

This year, Coughlin threatened to offer a similar amendment. But before he had a chance to introduce it, Arizona's congressional delegation scrambled to find some kind of accommodation with Coughlin's environment-oriented backers.

What a difference a year makes.

One thing that's different this time around is the nature of the threat.

"This year they made it clear they didn't care what happened in committee," said Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., who joined the committee this year. "They were going to carry the fight to the floor."

And Coughlin made clear he wouldn't restrict his crusade on the House floor to Cliff Dam. All of Plan 6 — the \$1.1 billion system of new dams and dam modifications on the Salt, Verde and Agua Fria Rivers providing Central Arizona Project water storage and Valley flood control — would be fair game.

A floor fight is exactly what Arizona's congressional delegation has sought to avoid.

Arizona's delegation fought its last water battle on the House floor in 1984, squeaking to victory by two votes on a dam-safety bill — but only after delegation dean Morris Udall, D-Ariz., chairman of the House Interior Committee, called in all his chits.

"Things have changed enough since then that the risk of going to the floor is too great," Udall reportedly told his colleagues during one closed-door meeting this week.

Indeed they have.

Perhaps the biggest change is that a coalition of the

## Analysis

nation's leading environmental groups — National Audubon Society, National Wildlife Federation, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth and others — have filed a lawsuit challenging the Bureau of Reclamation's compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act in approving Plan 6.

A decision is expected soon, and CAP proponents are hardly confident of victory.

Two congressional elections have occurred since the delegation's 1984 victory, bringing new faces un beholden to older veterans. And some of those who have supported the CAP in the past — like Rep. Vic Fazio, D-Calif., a key member of Appropriations' energy and water development subcommittee — have joined Cliff Dam's opponents.

A handful of smoking guns have surfaced in recent years, challenging the legitimacy of Cliff Dam, Plan 6 and other key features of the \$3.6 billion Central Arizona Project.

A 1986 audit by the Interior Department concluded that Plan 6 would cost 10 times what Congress approved in 1968, when it authorized Orme Dam "or suitable alternative" and recommended the specific authority for Plan 6 be sought from Congress.

Orme Dam was a small dam to be built at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, but died because of opposition from environmental groups and Indian tribes. Plan 6, consisting of Cliff Dam on the Verde, New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria and modifications to Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dam on the Salt, was selected as an alternative to Orme Dam.

The department's solicitor general reached a similar conclusion last fall.

A Federal Emergency Management Agency study released in December concluded that the wet years of the 1980s had scoured the Salt River flood plain, shrinking it and throwing Cliff Dam's cost-benefit figures into doubt.

But most damaging was a Feb. 20 report from the federal government's General Accounting Office, which made two major conclusions:

■ Dam safety money cannot be used to build Cliff Dam.

■ The cost of complying with laws enacted since the CAP was authorized — laws ranging in diversity from the Occupational Safety and Health Act to the National Environmental Policy Act — cannot be used to expand the authorized price tag for the CAP.

"It makes it difficult to argue that this is a slam-dunk legal issue," said Rep. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., who came to Congress this year after working as a lawyer and lobbyist for Salt River Project. "There are obviously significant legal issues about it."

The delegation also lost some congressional clout with the 1986 elections. Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., retired, and took with him 30 years of seniority. Rep. Eldon Rudd, R-Ariz., a 10-year veteran and Appropriations Committee member, also retired. A year ago, the average Arizonan in Congress had been in office 12.7 years; today the average is 7.5 years — and half of that is due to Udall's 26-year tenure.

Kolbe was successful in replacing Rudd on Appropriations, but he failed to win Rudd's subcommittee seat on the energy and water development subcommittee. The unanimity of support for the CAP that marked that subcommittee for years has broken down with Fazio's defection.

# CAP water quality praised by officials

## Purity, taste unexpected

By Lori Baker  
The Phoenix Gazette

Before Central Arizona Project water began flowing into Arizona, people described it as swamp water that would need exotic treatment techniques to make it fit to drink.

But a year after the first flow arrived in the Valley, officials in Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix and Scottsdale say the CAP water is much better than expected. In fact, some say it tastes better than the well water they had been drinking.

An estimated 275,000 Valley residents consume about 67 million gallons daily, including agricultural uses.

With the exception of needed chlorination, the CAP water meets minimum federal standards before it is treated, Jim Kaylor, Glendale's utilities director, said.

"A camper could drink this water if he just adds a little Clorox to disinfect it," he said.

He said the water is so clear when it arrives in Glendale that an observer can see down four feet into the aqueduct that carries the Colorado River water from Lake Havasu 190 miles away.

"Many cities in the United States would love to have water so clean before it is treated," he said.

Apparently, the CAP water is naturally cleansed as it travels across the desert to the Valley.

Chemists' reports show that the CAP water is substantially cleaner when it arrives at the Phoenix water treatment plant than it was when it left the lake, said Charles White, community relations officer for the Phoenix Water Department.

Because the water is of better quality than anticipated, the cost to treat it is less than city officials had planned.

The CAP water is filtered and chemically treated. About 250 tests are conducted daily on the water to monitor its quality at the various cities' treatment plants.

Glendale is the only Valley city that has some residents drinking CAP water exclusively. Residents living north of the Arizona Canal receive CAP water. But in portions of north Phoenix, north Scottsdale and east Mesa, CAP water is blended with well water in the distribution lines.

About 40,000 north Glendale residents were switched from well water to CAP water in January, and the city has received only three inquiries, Kaylor said.

"Those people said something was different. The water tastes better," he said.

Kaylor said the CAP water quality has been more stable than water from the Arizona Canal, which comes from the Salt and Verde rivers.

Kaylor said he is not surprised about the CAP water quality.

"Forty million people in southern California have been drinking it for years, and there haven't been any problems," he said.

Phoenix's treatment plant at Cave Creek Road near Beardsley Road was the first in the Valley to treat the CAP water a year ago this week. The quality of the raw CAP water has improved during the past four months as other treatment plants have started production, White said.

"Because of the increased demand, the water is flowing faster

## Water

From B-1

and algae can't form as readily," he said.

Officials in Scottsdale and Mesa said they have heard no complaints about the CAP water.

Scottsdale began full production of about 4.5 million gallons per day of CAP water April 22 at its plant near Union Hills Drive and Pima Road. Mesa started pumping about 14 million gallons a day May 17 at its plant on Brown Road east of the Bush Highway.

CAP plants in Valley cities are capable of treating about 137 million gallons of water daily, and the plants are running at about half capacity now. There are plans to expand the existing plants as populations grow.

If the CAP's water quality continues to be stable, Kaylor said an employee would not need to be at the plant around the clock.

See ■ Water, B-2

Phoenix Gazette  
6-1-87

Phx. Gazette  
1-13-87

# CAP backers inundate Washington to lobby for Cliff Dam

By Sean Griffin

Gazette Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Supporters of the Plan 6 component of the \$3.8 billion Central Arizona Project descended on the nation's capital Monday in an annual ritual to court the Arizona delegation's support.

But for the first time, the Salt River Project, the Central Arizona Project Association, the Maricopa County Flood Control District and the cities of Phoenix, Glendale and Tucson weren't asking for more money than sought in the president's budget request.

They asked instead for unity in the face of growing challenges to Cliff Dam — at \$390 million the single most costly feature of the \$1.1 billion Plan 6.

"Usually we're coming back here to complain about the president's budget," conceded George Britton, Phoenix's water resources officer.

But with a \$275.8 million budget request for 1988 — one-third greater than the current fiscal year — Britton termed the request "an embarrassment of riches."

The heightened budget request was the result of a policy shift by the federal Bureau of Reclamation,

which hopes to deal with a huge backlog of underfinanced, congressionally authorized water projects by concentrating on a handful that either are nearing completion, threatening public safety or contain cost-sharing agreements that bind the federal government to specified spending levels.

Plan 6 — consisting of New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and Cliff Dam on the Verde, plus raising the height of Theodore

Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River — was conceived to provide conservation and regulatory storage for the CAP and flood control for the Valley.

A coalition of environmental groups has challenged Cliff Dam in a pending lawsuit, contending that the environmental impact statement that cleared the way for the

dam to be built was inadequate.

They also question the effectiveness of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposal to compensate for the dam's flooding of a nesting site for the endangered bald eagle.

Congressional opponents point out that flood-control benefits were never authorized by the 1968 act authorizing the CAP. And they have vowed to fight any effort to

use federal dam safety funds for building Cliff Dam.

Proponents say construction of Cliff Dam would eliminate the need for dam safety modifications to Bartlett and Horseshoe dams, and therefore would be the most cost-effective dam-safety solution.

Britton and Salt River Project vice president Michael Rappoport

argued at a luncheon for delegation staff that disunity would imperil future CAP funding as well as ongoing water-rights negotiations with the Salt River Pimas and other Indian tribes.

"If there is no additional pool or pot or source of water, it's very unlikely any of those discussions will come to fruition," Rappoport said.

Phoenix Gazette  
3-24-81

pg 3-24-81

## Babbitt Seeks Flood Control

Gov. Bruce Babbitt was to make a pitch for flood control in the Phoenix area today as he endorses President Reagan's \$186.5 million appropriation for the Central Arizona Project.

In comments prepared for the House and Senate Appropriations Committees in Washington, the governor also supported Reagan's \$12.1 million proposal for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects in Arizona.

Babbitt recalled "disastrous flooding" in Arizona in 1978, 1979 and 1980.

**"THAT BROUGHT** home dramatically the need for expedited construction of the flood-control program initiated a few years ago by the corps in the Phoenix metropolitan area," he said.

The program includes Dreamy Draw Dam, Cave Buttes Dam, Adobe Dam and New River Dam. Dreamy Draw was completed in 1973, Cave Buttes was finished last year, and Adobe, at 35th Avenue and Deer Valley Road, is scheduled for completion in January 1982.

The governor was to ask for about \$1 million to recover Indian relics at the New River Dam site near 83rd Avenue. Construction is scheduled to start in 1983 but no work can begin until the relics are preserved, corps officials said.

**BABBITT SAID** Reagan's CAP appropriation should keep aqueduct construction on schedule. He called on lawmakers to set aside \$2 million of CAP funds as a loan to the Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation Distribution System Project.

The district has filed its plan for carrying CAP water from an aqueduct to fields south of Phoenix, and is ready to proceed once financing is available, the governor said.

Babbitt also asked for \$600,000 to fund corps flood-control studies on Rillito Creek in Tucson and on the upper Gila River near the Arizona-New Mexico border.



Phoenix Gazette 2/16/88

## Deck developments proposed along canal

By Ray Schultze  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Can you picture areas along the Arizona Canal in Phoenix transformed into garden-style offices or cafes or clusters of shops, where the waterfront is to be savored?

If you can, you're probably the victim of an overactive imagination. But city staff members believe the potential exists for some kind of attractively designed development at major streets once the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel — which is being built along the north side of the canal — is completed.

To make it easier for that development to occur, city officials are suggesting Phoenix help pay the cost of strengthening ACDC walls so they can support decks.

This reinforcing work, under the staff's proposal, would be done on one or both sides of five major streets — 19th Avenue, Seventh Avenue, Central Avenue, Seventh Street and 24th Street — at a cost of roughly \$300,000.

The idea is that, sometime later, developers could come in and lease the ACDC and canal rights-of-way at these places, build over the ACDC, and dress up the adjacent Arizona Canal so it's pleasant to look at.

Residential areas along the rights-of-way would not be affected, Severo Esquivel, a deputy city manager, stressed in an interview Friday.

The staff has recommended against installing the decks along with the reinforcing because of the expense, Esquivel said.

The staff recommendations will be reviewed by the City Council on Tuesday.

The Arizona Canal is used to deliver water to Salt River Project customers. The ACDC has been designed to collect storm run-off from north Phoenix and drain it west. The 17-mile concrete-lined flood control ditch is to stretch from Skunk Creek to 40th Street.

The easternmost ACDC segment, known as Reach 4, has been the most controversial, stirring protests from the affluent residents of the Biltmore area, and much of that segment will be underground or covered.

The western section of the ACDC is under construction; the work is being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The ACDC, estimated to cost \$180 million, is being paid for by the federal government and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Any strengthening of ACDC walls, however, would have to be paid for strictly with local dollars, and the city staff is suggesting that those expenses be shared by Phoenix, the flood control district and SRP.

The option of doing the reinforcing and the decks at the same time — which staff isn't endorsing — would add more than \$1 million to the cost. A third option — waiting until sometime after completion of the ACDC to install deck supports and decking — would be even more costly, totalling about \$2.5 million.

Phoenix Gazette 2/16/88

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crisis not to criticize the measure.

Rep. Peter Goudinoff, D-Tucson, said he heard that Mecham ordered state Department of Health Services officials not to testify against House Bill 2124.

But one DHS official testified Tuesday, and DHS Director Ted Williams, who did not testify Tuesday as expected, denied that he had been pressured to remain silent on the bill.

The Human Resources and Aging Committee voted 8-7 to pass the bill. All but one Republican, Bart Baker of Hereford, voted for it.

The bill is expected to be heard next week by the Health Committee, of which Baker is chairman.

It would require an estimated 72,000 Arizonans each year to be tested for acquired immune deficiency syndrome before they could obtain marriage licenses. A similar measure was defeated last year but has been resurrected by Rep. Brenda Burns, R-Glendale, a Mecham supporter.

AIDS is a fatal, incurable disease that attacks the body's immune system, leaving victims susceptible to infections and cancers. It is transmitted primarily through sexual contact, sharing of needles by

...tested. In addition, the test could falsely identify many without AIDS, officials have said.

On Tuesday, Jon Counts, assistant DHS director in charge of the state AIDS-testing lab, told the committee that Burns' bill would have no "significant impact" in stemming AIDS.

Several Democratic lawmakers on the committee said they were surprised by Counts' testimony and suggested that other state health officials be called back to the committee to testify.

"I've heard in the last day or so disturbing allegations that political intimidation has been used by the governor's office, Mecham's office, on officials of the Department of Health Services regarding this bill," Goudinoff said.

"Given the fact that we just recently impeached a governor for intimidating a public official, it would ill behoove us to hurry this measure along. It would give the appearance of a cover-up."

He was referring to allegations that Mecham attempted to stop state Department of Public Safety Director Ralph Milstead from cooperating with a state attorney general

- AIDS, B2

AZ Republic 2/17/88

## Council supports plan to allow construction above flood channel

By DEE MICHAELIS  
The Arizona Republic

Offices, apartments or even a resort could be built over portions of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel under a proposal given preliminary approval Tuesday by the Phoenix City Council.

The proposal would allow developers to build on the channel in at least four locations and use some land nearby for their projects.

Officials say the idea is to cover up the channel, a huge concrete floodwater-diversion ditch under construction that is to run from 75th Avenue and Bell Road to 40th Street and Camelback Road and considered by many to be an eyesore.

The channel, which will extend

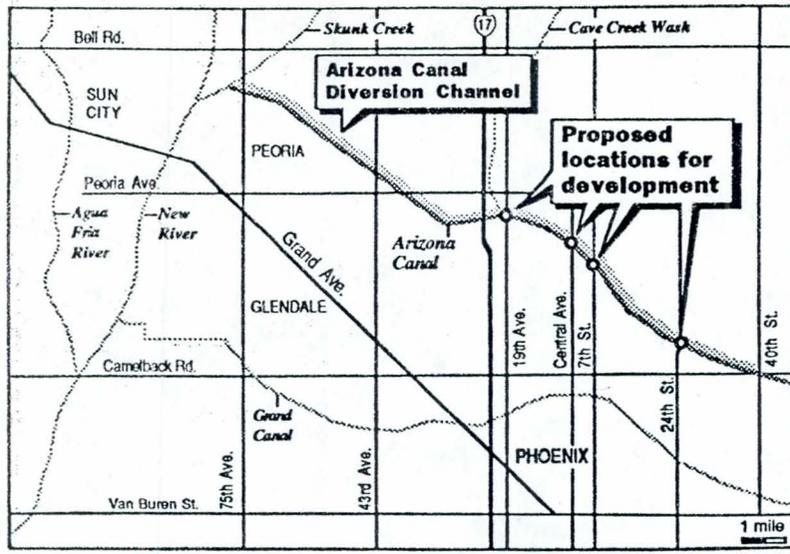
along the northern edge of the Arizona Canal, will be up to 20 feet deep and 36 feet wide as it runs through Phoenix.

Officials hope to encourage beautification projects and commercial development, such as outdoor cafes, along the canal.

"You could have direct access to water," City Manager Marvin Andrews said. "You would have really an attractive development."

Under the proposal, Phoenix, the Maricopa County Flood Control District and the Salt River Project would be responsible for picking up the \$266,000 cost of reinforcing the channel at 24th and Seventh streets and Central and 19th avenues.

- Channel, B2



Gus Walker/The Arizona Republic

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# CHANNEL

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Developers would be required to build the decks over the channel, which would serve as foundations for their buildings. The total cost of building the decks at all four locations is estimated to be \$1.1 million.

Phoenix Planning Director Ron Short said the locations under consideration are zoned for commercial development and not adjacent to single-family neighborhoods.

The cooperation of the SRP is considered to be somewhat of a breakthrough. The SRP owns and operates the Arizona Canal and more than 100 other miles of canals in the Valley.

Earlier, SRP officials turned down proposals to develop the canals, saying that would interfere with maintenance of the waterways.

But the SRP's Dennis Siewert said his company has had a change of heart.

"We've been asking ourselves, 'What can we do with our 131 miles of canals?'" said Siewert, a management specialist for the utility.

"We see urban encroachment in the metropolitan area, and we see there's very little open space available for the citizens."

The only one speaking in opposi-

tion to the proposal was James Vivian, a member of the Citizens Opposed to Senseless Transportation Schemes. Vivian said his group advocates paving over the channel to use as an alternative to the Paradise freeway.

Vivian added that his group is pushing legislation sponsored by Sen. Tony West, R-Phoenix, that would kill the Paradise.

"The city may really need (the channel) as an alternative at some future time," Vivian said.

The council voted 9-0 to have staff members negotiate a cost-sharing agreement with the SRP and the Flood Control District.

But several council members expressed concerns that the high cost of building the deck over the channel might prompt developers to ask for projects more dense than current zoning allows.

"Will we not have some future pressure for commercial in areas where we don't think it's appropriate?" Councilwoman Linda Nadolski asked.

Councilman Duane Pell added that his main concern is not increasing development but coming up with ways to beautify the channel, which he described as "an ugly hole in the ground."

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## Peoria will ask county to build channel to handle flooding, strengthen bridge

By David Cannella  
Northwest Valley Bureau

PEORIA — The City Council has agreed to send a letter to the Maricopa County Flood Control District requesting a channel to carry floodwaters from the proposed Arizona Canal Diversion Channel within the city.

The six-mile waterway would run along Skunk Creek from Bell Road, where it merges with New River, and south along river washes to Northern Avenue. City officials Tuesday said the channel would cost about \$500,000. The county and private landowners would pay for construction.

However, county officials were reluctant to comment Wednesday on whether the channel would be built until the city's letter is received.

John Rodriguez of the county Flood Control District said his office is willing to work with the city but that it is unlikely the county will pay for the waterway because the project has not been authorized by the federal government.

Bill Parks, planning and zoning director, said the city prefers construction of a channel to the county's establishment of a flood plain.

The city also is asking the county to improve a bridge over Skunk Creek at 83rd Avenue. The bridge was built to handle a 50-year flood, and the city wants it upgraded to withstand a 100-year flood, Parks said.

Parks also said the city wants a bridge constructed over Skunk Creek at 75th Avenue.

In other action Tuesday, the council authorized City Manager Jim Walker to spend \$54,000 in Arizona Lottery money the city is expecting to receive on transportation-related matters.

Walker said he will hire a street-maintenance worker whose primary job will be to improve the appearance of Grand Avenue.

He also said the city will purchase a pickup truck.

The council denied a request from Patricia Paisley to sell brass items on street corners.

The council said it has a policy of denying such requests because they might create traffic hazards and are unfair to businessmen who have invested money in permanent structures.

# Flood control canal wins council's OK

Ray Schultze  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

After five studies and two years of talk, the Phoenix City Council has taken action, endorsing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' plan for the Reach 4 flood control project.

The council vowed Tuesday to turn its attention to making sure the 4.2-mile ditch through east Phoenix looks attractive when it's built.

But an opposition leader said his group probably would continue the fight, switching the battleground to Washington, D.C., from where the bulk of the project's money is expected to come.

Support for Reach 4 came on a motion by Councilman Paul Johnson.

"From an engineering standpoint, I don't see any more argument," Johnson said. "It's obvious... there is a need."

But he added, "I am very



concerned about the aesthetics. I do believe that is the key to making this something the community can live with."

Johnson's motion included a pledge the council will work on the project's looks. A citizens committee on aesthetics is expected to

See ■ Reach, B-5

## ■ Reach

From B-1

submit its recommendations to the council in September.

The corps has accepted many of the committee's landscaping recommendations but can't afford to cover the canal along its entire length, according to Stan Lutz, project director for the corps.

The opposition, led by the Arizona Biltmore Hotel's operator, has contended the project is ugly, too costly and flood protection overkill.

Reach 4 would extend from Dreamy Draw through the exclusive Biltmore neighborhood and the hotel property to Cudia City wash, near 40th Street and Camelback Road.

The lone dissenter on the vote Tuesday was Councilman Ed Korrnick, who represents the district that includes the Biltmore. The project, he argued, would provide more flood control than necessary — a result of basing the design on the devastation wrought by a 1972 storm that was "an aberration of sorts."

He also criticized the track records of the corps and the Maricopa County Flood Control District, complaining that the former produces ugly designs and the latter fails to maintain facilities. Councilman Duane Pell, transportation director Severo Esquivel and a flood control district engineer disputed that.

The latest Reach 4 study, by the Phoenix engineering firm of SEA Inc., confirmed the accuracy of the technical information on which the corps had relied to design the project. The firm was hired, supervised and paid jointly by the city and opponents.

Opposition leader Vern Schweigert, president of the Biltmore Hotel's operating company, told the council: "We do feel the study was done independently and very well, given the time that was given, and we're satisfied with the result."

Opponents have supported an alternative design — a down-sized channel combined with a series of flood-detention basins.

After the meeting, Schweigert said opponents probably will try to get Congress to kill the funding for the project. But he added, "How dedicated our people are going to be after this setback, I don't know. We've been fighting this thing for six or seven years, and people are beginning to get worn out."

Construction is anticipated to begin on Reach 4 in mid-1990; work is in progress on the westernmost reaches of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel. The ACDC is envisioned as a 17-mile ditch that would lie just north of and parallel to the Arizona Canal and would catch storm water and divert it to Skunk Creek.

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The council vowed Tuesday to turn its attention to making sure the 4.2-mile ditch through east Phoenix looks attractive when it's built.

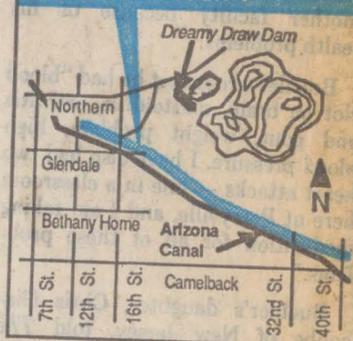
But an opposition leader said his group probably would continue the fight, switching the battleground to Washington, D.C., from where the bulk of the project's money is expected to come.

Support for Reach 4 came on a motion by Councilman Paul Johnson.

"From an engineering standpoint, I don't see any more argument," Johnson said. "It's obvious... there is a need."

But he added, "I am very

Arizona Canal Diversion Channel's Reach 4



The Phoenix Gazette

concerned about the aesthetics. I do believe that is the key to making this something the community can live with."

Johnson's motion included a pledge the council will work on the project's looks. A citizens committee on aesthetics is expected to

submit its recommendations to the council in September.

The corps has accepted many of the committee's landscaping recommendations but can't afford to cover the canal along its entire length, according to Stan Lutz, project director for the corps.

The opposition, led by the Arizona Biltmore Hotel's operator, has contended the project is ugly, too costly and flood protection overkill.

Reach 4 would extend from Dreamy Draw through the exclusive Biltmore neighborhood and the hotel property to Cudia City wash, near 40th Street and Camelback Road.

The lone dissenter on the vote Tuesday was Councilman Ed Korrick, who represents the district that includes the Biltmore. The project, he argued, would provide more flood control than necessary — a result of basing the design on the devastation wrought by a 1972 storm that was "an aberration of sorts."

He also criticized the track records of the corps and the Maricopa County Flood Control District, complaining that the former produces ugly designs and the latter fails to maintain facilities. Councilman Duane Pell, transportation director Severo Esquivel and a flood control district engineer disputed that.

The latest Reach 4 study, by the Phoenix engineering firm of SEA Inc., confirmed the accuracy of the technical information on which the corps had relied to design the project. The firm was hired, supervised and paid jointly by the city and opponents.

Opposition leader Vern Schweigert, president of the Biltmore Hotel's operating company, told the council: "We do feel the study was done independently and very well, given the time that was given, and we're satisfied with the result."

Opponents have supported an alternative design — a down-sized channel combined with a series of flood-detention basins.

After the meeting, Schweigert said opponents probably will try to get Congress to kill the funding for the project. But he added, "How dedicated our people are going to be after this setback, I don't know. We've been fighting this thing for six or seven years, and people are beginning to get worn out."

Construction is anticipated to begin on Reach 4 in mid-1990; work is in progress on the westernmost reaches of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel. The ACDC is envisioned as a 17-mile ditch that would lie just north of and parallel to the Arizona Canal and would catch storm water and divert it to Skunk Creek.

# Controversial flood project put off again

By Leslie Polk  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Amid accusations of rubber-stamping plans by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and sandbagging a conflicting study, the Phoenix City Council has again delayed voting on a controversial flood-control project.

Instead, after a testy two-hour hearing Tuesday night, the council ordered a fifth study of the plan, this time setting a June 23rd deadline for a final vote on the corps' proposal to build Reach 4 of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel project.

Phoenix and opponents of the canal will split the \$30,000 cost of the study in a deal worked out after opponents complained they weren't given enough time to respond to the latest study.

That study, by George Sabol, an engineering consultant from Brighton, Colo., supported the corps' data. The city staff then issued its final recommendation that the council endorse the corps' proposal and drop a water-detention basin alternative.

A council-appointed task force made a similar recommendation a year ago, but opponents persuaded the council to study the water-detention basin.

Sabol, who was hired by the city engineer's office and was paid \$5,000 for his report, submitted it at the end of April, but representatives of Citizens Against Reach 4 said they didn't see a copy until Monday.

"It seems to the group there is a preordained course," said Mariner

Cardon, a spokesman for Citizens Against Reach 4.

"We feel like there's a lot of pressure to make a decision quick," he said.

"It is not a sound report. It is an attack (on W.S. Gookin and Associates)," said William Gookin, president of the Scottsdale engineering company that has disputed studies by the corps and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Gookin, who said he is considering legal action against Sabol, was hired by Citizens Against Reach 4.

"It reads to me like a rubber-stamp," Gookin said. "We think we're being sandbagged at this meeting."

Sabol told the council that his one-week study found no errors in the corps' analyses of flood potentials for the area of Reach 4.

The corps wants to build a 4.2 mile canal from Dreamy Draw, near 12th Street and Glendale Avenue, through the affluent Biltmore neighborhood, to Cudia City Wash, near 40th Street and Camelback Road.

Gookin claims the corps' design is based on faulty information and that the project can be scaled down.

"In my opinion there are numerous technical errors in the Gookin report," Sabol countered.

Reach 4 is the easternmost segment of the 17-mile Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, which would run just north of the Arizona Canal. Construction already is under way on Reaches 1 and 2 in northwest Phoenix.

Phoenix Gazette  
5-18-87

# City staff urges OK on canal

By Ray Schultze  
The Phoenix Gazette

The Phoenix City Council will be urged Tuesday to endorse Reach 4 of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel project as originally proposed and drop a water-detention basin alternative.

The final city staff recommendation on the controversial flood-control channel for central and east Phoenix mirrors the recommendation made a year ago by a council-appointed citizens task force.

In a memo to the council, city engineer Jim Attebery said that separate analyses by the Maricopa County Flood Control District and a private consultant confirm the accuracy of the flood information on which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers based the Reach 4 design.

Council endorsement of Reach 4 would be a victory for the corps, in charge of building all of the canal diversion channel reaches, and for the flood control district, which is splitting the cost of the project with the federal government.

The Reach 4 plan has been opposed by Citizens Against Reach 4, which persuaded the council to seek a study of the detention-basin alternative in July.

The corps study, completed a month ago, concluded that building the detention-basin alternative would be more expensive and no

See ■ Canal, B-2

## ■ Canal

From B-1

more effective than the existing plan.

That plan calls for construction of a 4.2-mile canal from Dreamy Draw, near 12th Street and Glendale Avenue, through the affluent Biltmore neighborhood, to Cudia City Wash, near 40th Street and Camelback Road.

The alternative proposes a down-sized channel combined with a series of water-detention basins,

some of which would be built in the Town of Paradise Valley. Town officials oppose that idea.

Reach 4 is the easternmost segment of the proposed 17-mile Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, which would run just north of the Arizona Canal and provide flood protection for development to the south by diverting storm water to Skunk Creek.

W.S. Gookin and Associates, a

Scottsdale engineering consultant hired by the citizen opposition, contends the corps' Reach 3 and 4 canal design is based on faulty information.

However, separate studies by George Sabol, an engineering consultant from Brighton, Colo., and the flood control district staff have concluded that the technical information on which the corps' canal design is based is solid.

Phoenix Gazette  
4-20-87

# Costs soaring on canal options

## Up to \$9.3 million needed, corps reports

By Ray Schultze  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

If residents want water-detention basins and a smaller Arizona Canal Diversion Channel in central and east Phoenix than the federal government is planning, they'll have to cover the extra cost — as much as \$9.3 million.

That's the word from the project's builder, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which says that none of the alternatives to its proposal are good enough to win its endorsement.

"We couldn't recommend any of the basin (detention) plans," corps planner Stan Lutz said. He said the corps would be willing to build one of the alternatives if the difference in cost were picked up by taxpayers through the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The Phoenix City Council will be briefed Tuesday on the results of the corps study, which the council had requested in July 1986 in response to persistent citizen opposition to the

segments of the channel, known as Reaches 3 and 4.

In a move coinciding with the completion of the corps' alternatives study, opponents have unveiled a study by a Scottsdale engineering firm contending that the corps' current canal design is based on faulty information and doesn't need to be as wide to provide adequate flood protection.

Lutz replied that the corps has reviewed the opponents' report and rejects its conclusions.

And so the battle continues.

The ACDC is a 17-mile canal that would run just north of the Arizona Canal from Skunk Creek, in west Phoenix, to 40th Street. Reach 3 would extend about 3.6 miles from Cave Creek wash to Dreamy Draw; Reach 4 would extend about 4.2 miles from Dreamy Draw, through the affluent Biltmore neighborhood, to Cudia City wash.

The ACDC is meant to protect the neighborhoods south of the Arizona Canal from flooding by diverting storm run-offs west to Skunk Creek.

Opposition has been mainly in the form of Citizens Against Reach Three and Citizens Against Reach Four and is led by

Rostland Arizona Inc., which operates the Arizona Biltmore Hotel.

Opponents say Reaches 3 and 4 as planned would be ugly, ineffective and costly. An alternative they have favored would be a smaller canal coupled with a series of detention basins, some of which would have to be constructed in the Town of Paradise Valley.

The new corps study considers seven basin-canal combinations and concludes that each would require a major redesign of Reaches 3 and 4 and would cost \$2.3 million to \$9.3 million more than the current plan.

The current plan's estimated cost is \$127.1 million. The federal government would pay \$75.3 million and the local flood control district would toss in \$51.8 million.

The corps said the current plan and all basin-canal options would protect the neighborhoods south of the Arizona Canal equally well from the ravages of what is called a 100-year flood, a flood that has a 1 percent chance of happening in any particular year.

However, the corps said the plan would provide better protection than any of the alternatives in the event of a bigger flood.

# ANSWER LINE

271-8675 After 5

PG-10-29-81 EDITOR: Cynthia Cumings

STAFF: Carole Smith, Susan Ralphe

## Flood Answers

Water six inches deep flooded our rental property on North Eighth Place above the Grand Canal once in 1980 and again on July 29.

July's rain cost our tenant \$1,000 in destroyed tapes and us \$100 in refrigerator repairs, and we still have to replace all the carpeting.

Last year we had to give our tenant \$500 worth of free rent in exchange for his clean-up efforts, and rent a fan and special vacuum cleaner.

Does the city plan to correct this problem, and can we be compensated for these costs?

All five homes in the block flood because runoff reaching the canal banks backs up into homes and yards immediately to the north.

In July residents knocked down the canal bank in a desperate attempt to allow the accumulating water to escape, knowing they were acting illegally. They've theorized since then that a drainage pipe channeling the water into the canal would solve the problem. Is that feasible? T.S., Phoenix

Several planned projects are expected to lessen flooding in that area, which is within a floodplain.

But it appears unlikely the city would pay a claim in connection with the damages you've incurred. Since July, however, you've purchased flood insurance, which city officials recommend to anyone living in a floodplain.

The type of drainage pipe you suggested is not among the projects planned to alleviate flooding. Instead, a big diversion channel and a new storm drain are in the works in the near future. Down the line the city plans to consider culverts along all the canals.

**THE DIVERSION** channel, to be built along the Arizona Canal by the U.S. Corps of Engineers, will divert runoff from the Phoenix Mountains away from your area in times of major flooding, said David Johnson, chief hydrologist for the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

When the channel is complete, only runoff from the area between the Arizona Canal to the north and the Grand Canal immediately to the south will reach your rental property, Johnson said.

Construction of the diversion channel is slated to begin in 1985 and be completed in 10 years.

A second project, a 12th Street storm drain planned by the city, will lessen the times this area is flooded from more normal rains, said Reginald Swartz, an engineering supervisor in the city of Phoenix Engineering Department.

The drain will run between the Salt River bed and the Arizona Canal.

While construction is progressing on the southern part of the project, bond money is expected to run out about the time the drain reaches Van Buren Street, he said, and the city will have to ask voters to approve new bonds.

**THIRD, THE** city eventually  
**Turn to • ANSWER, Page B-2**

(Concluded from Page B-1)

plans to look into the possibility of building culverts along all canals that would empty into storm drains, Swartz said. Culverts aren't part of the current five-year plan, however.

A drain pipe such as residents recommended wouldn't work during heavy rains because water level in the canal could rise above pipe level, carrying even more water into the neighborhood, Joe Gacioch, Salt River Project spokesman, said.

SRP is "familiar with the problem," Gacioch said, explaining that a company official who lives nearby witnessed flooding in your neighborhood on three different occasions. However, he confirmed that federal law prohibits destruction of canals or other federal property and cautioned against knocking down canal banks, even in times of flooding.

Swartz explained your block, as well as other land immediately north of all canals north of the Salt River, is subject to flooding because runoff seeking the lowest level (the river bottom) flows southward but backs up at the built-up canal banks.

The city invited you to file a claim, but Robert Underdown, city risk management administrator, said his office has turned down the 25 to 30 citywide claims received after the July 29 rain. "There was nothing the city could have done," Underdown said.

You said you were unaware when you bought your property in 1973 that it was in a floodplain.

That same year, said David Burris, city floodplain management engineer, federal law authorized subsidies making flood insurance possible and began requiring lending institutions to require purchasers of floodplain property to carry insurance.

Burris theorized your purchase came before the law, or the legislation

was so new that lending institutions weren't aware of it.

Phoenix Gazette  
10-29-81

PG-5-27-81

# Avondale Wants Project Control

By RUSS HEMPHILL  
Gazette Reporter

State highway officials have rejected part of a seven-point plan proposed by Avondale to end a feud over a proposed diversion channel the city sees as a flood danger.

"There are a number of them (demands) we could concur with, and there are a few we can't," W. O. Ford, deputy state engineer, said.

He declined, however, to say which parts of the Avondale proposal state officials object to.

The Avondale City Council must now decide if it will accept the highway officials refusal or press for implementation of all seven demands.

**THE SEVEN-POINT** document details concerns the city has about construction of Interstate 10 and includes demands that highway officials be responsible for any flooding problems in the Agua Fria as a result of the construction.

At stake is the completion of I-10 before funds for the project run out in 1986.

In their drive to complete the highway, officials are dangling a \$5 million flood aid offer in front of Avondale's city council.

In exchange for the \$5 million, highway officials want Avondale to drop its opposition to the highway project.

"**WE FEEL WE'VE** made them a good offer and feel they should accept it," Ford said. "There's not a hell of a lot more we can do."

Avondale officials, however, might not agree with Ford.

When state and federal highway officials made the flood aid offer in February, city officials did not act hastily in endorsing the \$5 million package.

Rather, they hired a consulting firm and charged it to study the offer and make recommendations.

**THREE MONTHS** later, despite

frequent urgings from state officials for a quicker response, the city filed its answer.

But it was not a simple yes or no. It was a tacit "yes," provided the state comply with the city's seven demands.

Avondale's biggest concern with construction of I-10 is a diversion channel that could carry up to 10,000 cubic feet of water per second into the already flood-prone Agua Fria River.

And the city's concern is not just one of worrying about its downstream neighbors — the diversion channel will dump water into the Agua Fria just upstream of Avondale.

**TO INSURE** the added water will not add to flooding problems on the Agua Fria, the council-approved seven-point document asks that:

- The city and Maricopa Flood Control District review and comment on how the state plans to release the water from the diversion channel into the river.

- The city be able to accept or reject proposed landscaping plans for the channel in the city limits.

- State money be used for flood protection for the city's wastewater treatment plant, and public and private property.

- "If required," the state give money beyond the \$5 million fund to protect utility crossings downstream of the diversion channel to the Gila River.

- The city approve all design plans for flood-control structures funded by the state.

- A timetable be established for release of state funds, and for construction of flood-control structures.

- An agreement with the flood control district be created to assign responsibility for design and maintenance of improvements created by the \$5 million fund.





Dennis Wagner, *The Phoenix Gazette*

A cement truck dumps into the riverbed near 16th Street — a common sight along the Salt River.

# Rio Salado

## Hike suggests importance of clean-up

**I**t's dawn. To the east, a pastel pink lingers over the Superstition Mountains. There are no clouds above, only a three-quarter moon.

I am about to hike the Salt River from Mesa to South Phoenix. My plan is to cover 20 miles — most of the proposed Rio Salado Project.

I have a canteen, a knapsack, a notebook, a camera and a map. The map is color-coded, showing where the resort hotels, parks, lakes and commercial centers will be built. I want to see what is there, to imagine the possibilities.

At the first glint of sunrise, I start walking.

### 6:25 a.m., Country Club Drive

There is no water here. No salt. Nothing in the Salt River but sand, rocks and weeds, a half-mile across.

Upstream, bulldozers are burying Mesa's garbage in the flood plain. Along both banks, smoke pours from machinery at gravel quarries. The morning stillness is wiped out by traffic, earthmovers and the rattle of rock crushers.

I am alone, except for the jackrabbits, garbage and quarries. This is where the Valley's development begins, the mother lode of building materials. And this is where it ends, as a dump.

Most of the land I'll cross is owned by sand-and-gravel

**Dennis Wagner**  
Columnist



companies.

### 7 a.m., Alma School Road

The riverbed has widened; I can't find a main channel. There is no vegetation, only man-made hills and vales.

I chuckle at myself, the urban explorer, a modern Coronado, dodging broken glass and rusty barbed wire. There is no trail to follow. River rocks chew at boot soles. Sand dunes swallow my steps. I wander through giant gravel pits, zigzagging off course.

As I take pictures of cattails in a cement dump, the Indian arrives. He says I'm trespassing on the Salt River reservation. We get in his pickup truck and go to the mining office. A foreman gives me a friendly warning, then the Indian drives me off the reservation.

### 8:30 a.m., north of Dobson Road

I crest a ridge and look down on a series of slimy pools. Tires bob in the yellow-green water. A ravine leads down to the pools. At the top of the ravine, several large oil cans spew puddles of black crude.

### 9 a.m., Hayden Road

The quarries are behind me now. There is a constant roar of jets leaving Sky Harbor. The riverbed is a flight path.

It's getting hot. I see the first lizard of the day.

Old refrigerators, dirty Pampers, broken records, discarded shoes. . . I try to think of things I have *not* found: snakes, clean water, other hikers, frozen yogurt. . .

I've walked almost non-stop. A lot of sweat; a little soreness. Near Arizona State University, I come upon Sahara-like sand dunes. I see a white canopy in the distance, a circus tent, like a mirage. But it doesn't disappear. Moving closer, I see . . . volleyball courts.

Steve Roman is there. He's a volunteer with the Rio Salado Beach & Athletic Club. He says the club is planning a tournament — a fund-raiser for the Rio Salado Project. What a coincidence.

### 9:50, Mill Avenue

From underneath the Mill Avenue bridge I can see downtown Phoenix.

A stream pouring out of Tempe street sewers has created a mini-jungle along the south bank. It used to be a hobo hangout; now I find only one barefoot Hispanic, sleeping.

THE PHOENIX GAZETTE  
Msn. Oct. 19, 1987

# ■ Wagner

From Page A

I check the Rio Salado map: A resort hotel is planned across the river.

There is a palm tree growing alone in the riverbed. Next to it, a stagnant pond with two tires half-buried in silt. A frog croaks with alarm, then hops into the muck.

The riverbed widens, dry and barren. I am plodding. Sky Harbor flights continue monotonously, providing a great view of jet bellies.

I haven't seen much. Blisters are forming. My canteen is half empty. I should have rented a helicopter.

## 10:45 a.m., Hohokam Expressway

Lots of grasshoppers. No trees. Endless river rock.

A quarter-mile from the Maricopa Freeway bridge, I encounter a slough. Two gray herons rise from the weeds, float sedately downstream and land on spindly legs. A hawk screeches its battle cry. Red-winged blackbirds sing like wind chimes in the reeds. Wildlife abounds, even in a place Dante dreamed up.

## 11:45 a.m., under Maricopa Freeway

Shade and lunch. The marsh has turned into a gurgling, scuzzy brook. There is pigeon crap everywhere. I eat a sandwich; drink the last tepid drops of canteen water.

Then I pull out a fishing pole, tie on a spinner, make a few casts, snag a shallow rock. The water is so chemically frightening I snap off the lure and tie another on. I cast, and catch a fat bluegill — a mutant hue of yellow. This is a milestone in my angling career. A killdeer cries plaintively, "kree-kree."

## 1:30 p.m., Seventh Street

I leave the river for the first time to refill my canteen at an office building.

Back at the river. There is a pervasive stench — it has been there all along, flowing along. But I got used to it.

The channel is marshy and only a few hundred yards across here, its narrowest spot. I hike along the levee.

A Mexican youth climbs down the bank. In Spanish, he says he is going home, just ahead, where thick trees grow along the shore. We enter a village. The river is deep and lined with makeshift homes of plywood, plastic and

canvas. Some illegal aliens are fixing a dinner of boiled tomatoes and rice over an open campfire.

The Mexican leads me to his friends, camped where a sewer stream has created a lush, tropical garden. The *compadres* offer me a beer. I guzzle and chat, then move on.

The squatters are friendly, simple folk. Mostly Anglos. Three potbellied guys have a hut straight from Gilligan's Island, complete with furniture, a portable TV, a cooking stove and storage shelves. They talk of catching dinner in the snot-green water.

I pull out my color-coded map. It shows industrial offices, lakes and commercial buildings — all planned on this chunk of land. The three homesteaders decide they're against this Rio Salado Project.

## 2:30 p.m., Central Avenue

The riverbed is dense with vegetation. Fish corpses lay in the mud, rotting. I disturb a hobo's *siesta*. He flashes a snaggle-toothed grin and says life ain't bad here, despite the flies and smell.

## 3:05 p.m., Seventh Avenue

Major road construction and "No Trespassing" signs block my path. I can see monstrous quarry operations ahead. I climb out of the river, onto a paved road, into civilization. Looking back, I see treacherous canyons. Looking ahead, the Phoenix skyline.

I hike past a tallow factory, back down to the north bank.

## 4:05 p.m., 19th Avenue.

I've traveled about 16 miles — a few short of my destination (51st Avenue), but I have to catch a ride here. Besides, the blisters hurt like hell.

I park my buns and wait, pondering this adventure. It has taught me nothing except the importance of cleaning this serpentine cesspool, and perhaps the impossibility of doing so.

## Oct. 12, a footnote

My color-coded map was obsolete. The Rio Salado board cut a deal to appease quarry owners, and all those grandiose plans evaporated into so much river fog.

No one knows if or where the fancy hotels and commercial centers will be built. It is unclear how the project funds will be used.

In less than a month, voters will be asked to approve a vague, \$3 billion proposal for parks along the Rio Salado.

My feet still hurt.

## Rio Salado deal won't end support

The Phoenix 40 — a group of the city's business elite — has raised new questions about the Rio Salado project but will stick to its endorsement of a fall referendum on the development.

Richard Snell, chief executive of Ramada Corp. and chairman-elect of the Phoenix 40, confirmed Monday that some members of his group are leery of a deal struck last week between the Rio Salado Development District and the Arizona Rock Products Association.

The agreement resulted in some changes to the original Rio Salado plan that Snell called "a mixed bag — some are good, some are not so good."

However, Snell said the Phoenix 40's backing of the Nov. 3 Rio Salado election does not appear in jeopardy. The issue will be discussed tonight at a Phoenix 40 membership meeting.

Dennis Mitchem, senior partner for Arthur Andersen & Co. and chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, said he met with Snell and another Phoenix 40 member to discuss recent changes in the plan. He said he came away confident of Phoenix 40's support.

"I don't feel nearly that apprehensive about it," he said. "We simply need to continue as we've been doing now for months, explaining it to people."

"I don't see any problem, and I think once they understand, they won't either," said Mitchem, also a Phoenix 40 member.

Snell was less enthusiastic, but agreed that a change in the Phoenix 40's position was unlikely.

"I think it's the sort of thing where we can tell our members, 'These are the changes and we can

See ■ Salado, B-2

## ■ Salado

From B-1

live with them,' " Snell said.

The election will ask Maricopa County voters to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to finance public portions of the 25-year plan.

The project would line 28 miles of the Salt River from Mesa to west Phoenix with recreation areas, residential sectors and commercial development.

The development district and ARPA had battled over the rights of the district to condemn land along the river, and the desire of land owners to control development of their own property.

That stalemate ended last week when the district board approved an agreement that, in general terms, allows land owners — most of whom are ARPA sand-and-gravel operations — the right to develop their acreage as they see fit.

In return, the landowners agreed to dedicate portions of their property for public use and contribute to a perpetual maintenance fund for upkeep of public lands near their property.

District officials acknowledge their sole role now is to act as parks-builder and "facilitator" of the project, rather than as developer.

It is that new role that has some onlookers — including Phoenix 40 — thinking twice.

Though Phoenix 40 has championed landowners' rights — that was a key ingredient in a deal Phoenix 40 itself cut with the district — Snell said the agreement with ARPA may go too far.

"The district seems to be stepping back a little bit from what we understood their role to be in master planning and master planning activities," Snell said.

He said there also is some question about the financial feasibility of the project in light of the changes.

Though district officials have talked of a maintenance fund operated through assessments against landowners, Snell said the funding levels set in the ARPA agreement are of some concern.

Despite the concerns, Snell said district staff members' arguments have convinced him the project is worthwhile. He said he would be surprised "if there were any differences of consequence that would cause us to change our endorsement."

The Phoenix 40 has contributed \$40,000 to the Rio Salado campaign.

— Pat Flannery

Phx. Gazette  
10-8-87

**The Phoenix Gazette**

Thur., Oct. 8, 1987

## Rio Salado called crucial, backed by council, mayor

By Ray Schultze  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

With Councilman Bill Parks the lone dissenter, the Phoenix City Council endorsed giving the Rio Salado Development District the power to tax property owners and issue bonds to finance the project.

Reiterating a stand announced last week, Parks — who represents District 1 in northeast Phoenix — argued Wednesday that project money would be better spent elsewhere.

"We need to clean up our air and we need a first-rate public transit system," he said.

However, Mayor Terry Goddard and the seven other council members parted company with Parks, using such adjectives as "visionary" and "magnificent" to describe the \$3 billion plan to clean up the Salt River bed and transform it into a 28-mile park surrounded by commercial development.

Councilman Ed Korrnick said he hoped Parks' view didn't reflect that of the bulk of his District 1 constituents because that would

indicate an unhealthy provincialism.

"I think this affects positively the whole community," Korrnick said.

He and other council members said it's crucial that the riverbed be cleaned of the toxic wastes that have been dumped there for years and the project will accomplish that job.

Maricopa County voters will be asked Nov. 3 to approve a property tax increase of as much as 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation for as long as 25 years to help finance the project.

Project backers announced earlier this week an agreement to forgo using any public tax money to assist private developers and instead to restrict those dollars to building the park.

The council's resolution in favor of the project states that estimated benefits over 50 years include the creation of 74,000 jobs and the generation of \$5.2 billion in new tax money.

# Vote scheduled on Rio Salado taxing authority

By Anthony Sommer  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

The Phoenix City Council will decide Oct. 7 whether to support increased taxing authority for the Rio Salado Project, which goes to a countywide vote Nov. 3.

Mayor Terry Goddard scheduled the vote late Tuesday after a debate between city staff members and project officials with Councilman Bill Parks, the council's most vocal critic of the project. Parks said the \$1.5 billion cost of the Rio Salado would be better spent on air quality and mass transit.

Goddard also asked for a one-week delay on a vote scheduled today on an intergovernmental agreement between the city and the Arizona Department of Transportation to build and construct Deck Park between Third Avenue and Third Street over the Papago Freeway.

The mayor said wording in the pact appears to lock



Parks

the city into a park design the council has not approved.

In other action, the council also approved "in concept" development of a heliport in conjunction with parking lot expansion at the Civic Plaza scheduled for 1990 and an application for \$222,827 from the National Endowment for the Arts that will cost local taxpayers \$432,543 in matching funds.

Parks had asked for the briefing on the Rio Salado Project, saying he is afraid going ahead with the project "will be an expensive gamble."

Approval of funding for the Rio Salado could force the federal Environmental Protection Agency to press the city for a faster cleanup of toxic wastes in the Salt River bed at a cost of \$1 billion, Parks warned.

"We just might be inviting a federal monster into our riverbed," he said.

But city Water and Environmental Resources manager George Britton said the city's liability — which has yet to be determined — will be the same whether or not the project is built.

See ■ Salado, B-2

B-2 Wed., Sept. 30, 1987

The Phoenix Gazette

## ■ Salado

From B-1

Britton also noted the EPA and the state Department of Environmental Quality are monitoring toxic waste problems in the riverbed.

Rio Salado Project general manager Aaron Kizer placed cleanup costs about \$300 million instead of the \$1 billion figure used by Parks.

Action on the intergovernmental agreement between the state and city to build Deck Park was delayed one week after Goddard questioned whether the pact amounted to council approval of the park plan.

The agreement makes no mention of a recent proposal to move the main city library onto Deck Park, and Goddard said he wanted assurances the city would not be locked into a plan for the park by approving the agreement.

Construction of the deck covering the Papago Freeway has begun, and ADOT has told the city it needs the council's approval of the intergovernmental agreement by Oct. 7.

The agreement calls for ADOT to spend \$102 million in construction costs and \$1 million in annual operation costs on the park. The city would pay \$23 million for construction and \$335,000 for operation costs.

The proposed heliport at Civic

Plaza would be the first in Phoenix. A study commissioned by the council two years ago recommended downtown Phoenix as the priority location for construction of a facility for private helicopters.

The \$222,827 National Endowment for the Arts grant would be used to fund a three-year program that would include preparation of a five-year plan for the arts in Phoenix, to hire an education consultant to work with public schools and aid volunteer organizations that promote the arts.

In order to settle a legal dispute, the council also agreed to place an ordinance on its Oct. 13 agenda granting South Mountain official status as part of the city's mountain preserves. If the ordinance is approved, no development could be take place on South Mountain or land swaps made without voter approval.

The city's Parks, Recreation and Library Department recently contended South Mountain is a city park and not part of the preserves, which, if true, would allow the agency to build a scenic drive in the area without going to the voters. Two differing legal opinions on the area's status prompted Councilman Calvin Goode to ask to for a council vote to settle the matter.

# Ratliff group joins foes of Rio Salado

## Proponents say plan in danger

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

House majority leader Jim Ratliff, a longtime foe of Rio Salado, is spearheading what likely will be an expensive campaign against passage of a fall referendum on the project.

Ratliff, R-Sun City, announced Monday the creation of the Committee for the Project but Against Taxation. The group, which Ratliff chairs, will finance a publicity campaign aimed at defeating a Nov. 3 referendum on Rio Salado.

Project proponents privately admit the new opposition seriously endangers passage of a fall referendum on the issue.

The referendum will ask Maricopa County voters to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to finance public portions of the \$3 billion project. The project calls for a mix of residential, commercial and recreational development along a 28-mile strip of the Salt River bed from northeast of Mesa to west Phoenix.

Although Ratliff would not disclose the size of his committee's

budget, he hinted it would be hefty. A sizable contribution is expected from the Arizona Rock Products Association, the richest of Rio Salado's detractors to date.

The ARPA — a consortium of sand-and-gravel companies with substantial interests along the Salt — has held out against the project because of its potential financial impact on association members. ARPA wants legal guarantees that its members along the river can keep and develop their lands within the Rio Salado Development District, thereby reaping the development profits.

Although the district has agreed in principle to such an arrangement, it has been unable to deliver the legal guarantees sought by ARPA.

Phil Gagle, director of ARPA, said late last week that his association had not yet decided whether to oppose the referendum. He could not be reached for comment Monday.

But Ratliff indicated Monday that ARPA has "great interest" in actively opposing the election.

"They have indicated to me they are ready to oppose it ... and make money available to us," he said. "I would hope their interest is such that they would make a substantial contribution."



Jim Ratliff

John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado, the pro-project campaign organization, said rumors surfaced recently that ARPA already had committed money to oppose the election. But direct queries to ARPA about its position have elicited noncommittal responses, he said.

"We just don't know," he said Monday.

Ratliff attributed his opposition chiefly to the use of tax funds for the project.

"I think it should be a private-sector project," Ratliff said. "It is too big, and we're going to point out a lot of problems with the project that they (the public) ought to take a look at."



Rick Giase, *The Phoenix Gazette*

A group opposing the Rio Salado Project pickets outside a building at 1101 N. Central Ave., where the campaign to win passage of the fall referendum began Monday night.

The Phoenix  
Gazette  
(cont'd) Tues Sept. 1, 1987

## Rio Salado opponents facing an uphill fight

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Its descriptions range from a visionary stroke of genius that could help eliminate prejudice to a blindly irresponsible scam that would make the toxic Love Canal pale by comparison.

Perhaps the only thing about the controversial Rio Salado project that boosters and critics alike can agree on is that it is worthy of superlatives, be they good or bad.

Voters will get the chance to wade through flowery words of support and biting criticism shortly before the Nov. 3 Rio Salado referendum, when election publicity pamphlets containing written arguments are mailed out by the Maricopa County Elections Department.

Arguments submitted as of the Aug. 20 deadline indicate the somewhat splintered opposition faces an uphill battle to match the top-heavy endorsements submitted by the likes of Barry Goldwater, Sen. John McCain, former Gov. Bruce Babbitt and Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard.

Arguments supporting Rio Salado outweigh those against it by more than a 3-1 margin, with 21 touting the river bottom beautification plan and only six asking voters not to approve the referendum.

Voters will be asked to OK a

property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to fund the public portions of the plan, which would turn 17 miles of the Salt River into a mix of recreational parks and commercial development. The ballot also will seek authorization for a bond issue of up to \$325 million to finance early development.

Opponents who submitted arguments included two private citizens; the Maricopa County Libertarian Party; the Toxic Waste Investigative Group Inc.; and two longstanding citizen opposition groups, Concerned Citizens Against the Rio Salado Project and Citizens Concerned about the Project.

The lengthy list of supporters includes the East Valley Boys and Girls Clubs; the Arizona Bicycle Club; the Rio Salado Development District; the Arizona Parks and Recreation Association Inc.; the Central Arizona and Rio Salado chapters of the American Institute of Architects; the Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce; the Mesa Chamber of Commerce; and the Arizona Consulting Engineers Association.

Also, the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Valleywide Town Hall; East Valley Partnership; county Supervisor Ed Pastor; the Rev. George Brooks, a South Phoenix minister; and several private citizens.

## Rio Salado

### FOR

■ "I have talked to old-timers who remember the beauty of the river years ago . . . the Rio Salado Project can give the river life again, with beauty, safety and usefulness for all."

**Sharon Goolsby of Phoenix.**

■ "The Salt River will become a major community asset instead of the scar that splits Maricopa County . . . If we fail, the incredible potential of the Phoenix area may never be realized."

**Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard.**

■ "We owe this much to our progeny — to leave Arizona a better place for our having been there."

**Former Gov. Bruce Babbitt.**

■ "Rio Salado is one of the most visionary redevelopment projects we will see in our lifetime."

**Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.**

■ "The Rio Salado Project is every bit as important to the future of Arizona and the Valley of the Sun as the Central Arizona Project or any of the dams and canals that have given us the water necessary to build great cities in the desert."

**Barry Goldwater**

### AGAINST

■ "No one would think it reasonable to transform the Love Canal into a public recreation area for fishing, boating or swimming . . . We're being asked to buy a pig in a poke — and a very expensive and dangerous pig, at that."

**Pamela Swift, Toxic Waste Investigative Group Inc.**

■ "As cost overruns occur, they will sell their parkland to developers to forestall bankruptcy of their flood-prone, landfill-polluted fiasco. Repeated flood damages to buildings and parklands and staggering landfill pollution problems will make this a bottomless sinkhole of your tax dollars."

**Tom Wilkinson of Mesa.**

■ "The central planning of this project has much in common with the world's socialist-communist governments that bring extreme wealth to the ruling elites and poverty and oppression to the masses."

**Maricopa County Libertarian Party.**

■ "This Rio Salado provides a playground for real estate developers — at a cost of more than \$1 billion. Think what else we could do with \$1 billion."

**Dave Campbell, Citizens Concerned About the Project.**

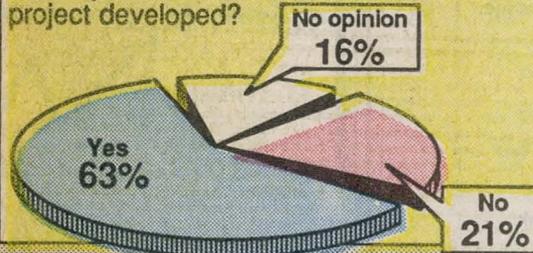
Phx Gaz.  
(no date)

# Rio Salado favored by residents

## Gazette Poll

### Maricopa County residents' attitudes on Rio Salado

Would you like to see the Rio Salado project developed?



A new tax levy for Rio Salado could increase property tax on an average home between \$15 and \$20 annually. If the election were held today, would you vote to approve or disapprove the new tax levy?



Source: Gazette Market Research Department

The Phoenix Gazette

Foes: Opposition discussed

A-14

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

Support for development of the Rio Salado Project outweighs opposition by a 3-1 margin, but Maricopa County residents remain divided over taxation to fund it, a *Gazette* Poll shows.

The poll results suggest that, despite strong public approval of the Rio Salado concept, a fierce battle at the polls can be expected in November when voters decide whether to tax themselves to pay for the 20-year-old river bottom beautification plan.

Of the 603 respondents interviewed over a six-day period last month, 63 percent said they would like to see the proposed series of public parks and waterways along the Salt River bed be developed.

Twenty-one percent said they did not want to see the plan developed, while 16 percent had no opinion.

However, only 47 percent of the respondents said they would vote to approve a tax levy that would increase property taxes "between \$15 and \$20 per year for an average home" to finance the plan.

Nearly as many — 44 percent — said they would disapprove of the new tax levy, while 9 percent had no opinion.

The poll has a sampling error of 4 percentage points.

The fall referendum will ask voters to approve a

See ■ Rio, A-14

However, a source familiar with to fight the tax plan.

Phx GAZ.  
(no date)

## Rio

From A-1

secondary property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to finance Rio Salado development. In addition, authority will be sought to issue up to \$325 million in bonds for the same purpose.

The special tax would raise \$1.4 billion over 25 years and would be combined with about \$1.5 billion in private development to complete the multipurpose business and recreational mecca.

Without a victory at the polls, proponents admit, Rio Salado likely is dead. The fall referendum represents the first and last realistic chance to move the 20-year-old proposal off the drawing boards and into the river bottom.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado Development District, said the results of the *Gazette* Poll were encouraging, despite the lack of a strong majority in support of taxation.

"There have been a lot of mixed messages out there recently," he said. "I'm glad to see we're holding our own."

Kizer was referring to recent publicity — both good and bad — that officials feared might confuse or discourage supporters and erode the base on which the campaign hopes to build when it gets into full swing later in the summer.

Citizens for Rio Salado — the driving force behind the campaign — commissioned its own benchmark poll on the subject in January, the results of which have never been released.

However, a source familiar with

### About this poll

This *Gazette* Poll was conducted May 12-18 and involved telephone interviews with 603 Maricopa County adults. Phone numbers were randomly selected by computer, eliminating interviewer bias and ensuring that unlisted numbers were included.

The margin of error is plus or minus 4 percentage points.

### Who was polled

32% are Democrats  
42% are Republicans  
38% call themselves conservative  
47% call themselves moderate  
15% call themselves liberal  
31% are college graduates  
60% are married  
58% are at least 10-year residents  
89% are Anglo  
41.8 years is the median age  
\$28,400 is the median income

Source: *Gazette* Market Research Department

the January poll indicated the results were "within a point or two" of those found in the *Gazette* Poll.

Citizens for Rio Salado hopes to raise \$650,000 to fund its campaign for approval of the November referendum. It is uncertain how much money opposition groups — including landowners in the area and environmentalists — will spend to fight the tax plan.

# Lawmaker says residents misled

By Karen Kirk  
The Phoenix Gazette

SUN CITY — House majority leader Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City, said proponents of the Rio Salado Development District are promising more than they can possibly pay for homes that are in the way of the river beautification project.

But Citizens for Rio Salado contend that if their proposal to finance the project is passed by voters in November, they will be able to raise enough money from taxes and developers to pay the residents in five South Phoenix neighborhoods the minimum of \$50,000 they are offering for their homes.

Ratliff, speaking to the Sun City Taxpayers Association Tuesday, said people who live along the Salt River floodplain have been promised for their homes and moving expenses up to \$70,000 plus a loan to help pay taxes on a new home.

"I've talked to the people in South Phoenix about it. Those people have been lied to by Rio Salado people like you wouldn't believe. The plan is that this commission could come in and take anyone's property they wish. They told these people they would pay \$60,000 for each house, regardless of value, and \$10,000 for moving expenses. For a person who is having a hard time making ends meet, that is pretty attractive.

"But if you condemn property, which is what they will do, they will pay only for the value of the property. A lot of this land isn't worth \$5,000," he said.

John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado press secretary, agreed that some of the property has a market value of only \$5,000 to \$10,000. But, he said, the Rio Salado Development District would have to pay more than that to comply with laws stating that residents forced to move because of a civil development be provided with safe, decent and sanitary housing.

DeWitt also said that residents will not be moved unless the majority in a neighborhood vote to relocate.

Ratliff also said Rio Salado supporters are misleading the public by touting it as a \$2.9 billion project, when actually it will cost between \$5 and \$7 billion.

A lot of that money will be paid by taxpayers who will not directly benefit from the project, instead of developers who will profit from it, Ratliff said.

The current proposal states that the Rio Salado project, which will develop 17 miles of the Salt River floodplain, will be paid for through a secondary property tax of 25 cents per \$100 assessed property valuation and a bond issue of \$325 million.

"If it goes, Rio Salado will be turned over to cities of Phoenix, Mesa and Tempe. Let the people who benefit from it pay for it. Let the developers put money into it," Ratliff said.

DeWitt argued that developers will pay their share.

"I don't know where he gets the idea that we will turn over the property to developers who won't have an investment in it. Nearly \$1.5 billion of it will be paid for through private money put in by developers when they buy and lease land. They will also pay perpetual maintenance costs," he said.

Ratliff said he also objected to the project because it would force county taxpayers to pay for the removal of garbage Phoenix has dumped along the river, and because there are not sufficient flood control measures to ensure the safety of the riverbed development.

"I would just as soon not see Rio Salado on the ballot in November. They need to reduce the scope of their project and see how many people would support it then. Unless they can change a lot of opinions between now and then, it will be defeated at the polls," Ratliff said.

DeWitt said his organization has no intentions of reducing the scope of the proposed development and that the current plan stands a good chance of passing if voters are informed.

"We feel the positive support and negative support is equally divided. Between them is a vast number of people who are not real strong either way. We have to educate those voters. Once they understand our case, I think they will support it. I don't know how something this good for the county could be turned down," he said.

Phx. Gazette  
8-19-87

# Panel of 100 to aid Rio Salado campaign

By Jennifer Delson  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Citizens for Rio Salado sent 100 people throughout the Valley recently to get community reaction to the proposed project.

The group choose 100 representatives from different areas to serve on a steering committee.

"We need to get our ears to the ground to get feedback on the project. The steering committee will be a communication valve for the project," said John Dewitt, press secretary.

The representatives will work in their own communities, offering advise to Citizens for Rio Salado on how to best educate voters.

"The job of those people (the representatives) will be to listen to concerns being expressed in the community and feed them into the campaign so the campaign can address them," Dewitt said.

The proposed Rio Salado Project would convert the Salt River bed into a complex of parks, recreational facilities, commercial, residential and industrial buildings. Maricopa County voters will vote Nov. 3 on a .25 percent tax increase which would fund the project.

The project, which Dewitt estimates will cost \$600,000, is of concern to those who live far from the river bed, he said.

"The tax election is a county-wide election and there are enormous concerns . . . but benefits will be different in each community. Rio Salado is a gigantic park and it has enormous benefits," Dewitt said.

The representatives are:

Apache Junction — Harold Christ and Penni Leiser.

Chandler — Eddie Basha, Jackson Bogle, Robert Deardorff, Phyllis Green, Larry Hilton, John Morehouse, Jim Patterson, Neil Sheiner and Allen Taylor.

Gilbert — Ron Dorsett, Lonnie

McCleeve, Galen Moon, Daniel O'Malley Sr., Marley Porter and Ron Stuht.

Glendale — Larry Glazman, Perry Harris, Joseph C. Hull, John Joseph, Kenton Mims, Myra Page, Dana Peiffer, Barbara L. Quintin, Dan Shalicky, Peter Spaw, Jim Trisoliere, Gerald Tupper, Nancy Turner, Lucy Vasquez and Raymond W. Wood.

Goodyear, Avondale, Litchfield Park — Andy Anderson, Marcia Ellis, Elliott Freireich, Ed King, J.L. King, Barbara Larson, Elaine, Nesvig and Wanda Sessions.

Mesa — Al Brooks, Christopher Coover, Sue Kathe, David Matta, Peggy Morgan, Helen Neuharth, Pat Orcutt, Don Ruff, Don Strauch, Stan Turley and Joe E. Woods.

Paradise Valley — Robert Duckworth, W.A. Franke, Pat Leach, Peter Lendrum, William Maller, Robert Swanson and Martha Taylor-Thomas.

Peoria — Aldean Prather and John Waltrip.

Phoenix — Mike Bielecki, Patrick Cantelme, William Dabb, Juana Diaz, Tommy Espinoza, Terry Goddard, Sharon Golsby, Lou Grubb, Alfredo Guitierrez, William Hogan, Patrick McGroder III, Ed Pastor, Lincoln Ragsdale, Jose Ronstadt, Garry Walters and Carolyn Warner.

Scottsdale — Pam Del Duca, Von Dix, Herb Drinkwater, Billie Axline Gentry, Pamela Grant, Bill Schulz, Maurice Tanner and Bill Walton.

Tempe — Rudy Campbell, Bob Edens, Dave Hanna, Pat Hatton, Bev Hermon, Harry Mitchell, Jenny Norton, Carol Smith and Grant Woods.

Sun City and Sun City West — Harold Hauf, James Hawks, Edward Poole, Milton Rex, Wanda C. Shockley, Warren Quenstedt and Fred Van Sickle.

# Group supports project

## Rio Salado, Phoenix 40 join

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

The campaign for passage of the November Rio Salado referendum is \$40,000 richer after meeting a series of Phoenix 40 demands.

Though the Phoenix 40 — a group of city business elite — initially voted early this year not to support the campaign, it reversed itself in May. The group pledged moral and financial support, if the Rio Salado Development District addressed a number of concerns.

"There is now an agreement, approved in principle by both sides," said Richard Snell, chairman of Ramada Inc. and chairman-elect of the Phoenix 40. "It's a done deal."

John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado, confirmed that the funds promised by Phoenix 40 were delivered last week.

DeWitt's group supports passage of the Nov. 3 referendum, in which Maricopa County voters will be asked to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to finance the public portions of Rio Salado, a plan to beautify 17 miles of the Salt River bottom.

Voters also will be asked to OK up to \$325 million in bonds for the early phases of development.

Concerned about the effect on taxpayers — particularly the tax bills of some of its corporate members — the Phoenix 40 pledged support only if the Rio Salado district agreed to phase in the tax to reduce the initial impact.

DeWitt said the district has drawn up plans that call for the tax to be 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation during the first two years of implementation. In the third through fifth years, the tax would rise incrementally to 15, 20 and finally 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, where it would remain until the 20th year.

During the 20th through 25 years of the tax, the amount would again be lowered incrementally.

See ■ Salado, B-2

Phoenix Gazette  
8-10-87

## ■ Salado

From B-1

The tax would cease after 25 years, under existing legislation.

The other key concern of the Phoenix 40 was the district's condemnation powers, which would allow the district to acquire land along the Salt at inexpensive prices, hold onto it for several years, then sell it for private development at enough profit to keep the district afloat.

Because some Phoenix 40 members were major landowners in the area, Phoenix 40 joined the call of the Arizona Rock Products Association for a limit to the condemnation powers and the ability of

original landowners to develop their own property consistently with the Rio Salado master plan.

Though ARPA and the district continue negotiating over the issue, the Phoenix 40 believes written legal agreements between landowners, the district and government agencies will solve the problem.

The agreements would prohibit condemnation but bind landowners to develop their land in certain ways and require them to contribute financially to a maintenance district benefiting the entire project.

## Supervisors add explanations to original Rio Salado ballot text

By Mike Padgett  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

Although agreeing with a legislator's concern over the text of the Rio Salado ballot, the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has adopted the original language but has included explanations of yes and no votes.

The board approved the ballot language Monday, and county elections director Jim Riggs said two paragraphs explaining what yes and no votes mean were submitted to the county by House majority leader Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City, an opponent of Rio Salado.

Two weeks ago, Ratliff blasted the ballot language, saying it is biased in favor of the referendum. Language for the ballot text was taken from a state law approved in 1986.

Riggs said the text for publicity pamphlets, which will contain arguments from Rio Salado supporters and opponents, must be received by the county by Aug. 20 to be printed and distributed in time for the Nov. 3 election.

Riggs said about 600,000 pamphlets and sample ballots will be printed and mailed to registered voters in the county at a cost of about \$130,000. Part of the costs are to be paid by supporters and opponents. Remaining costs will be submitted in a claim to the Secretary of State's Office.

Because there are more registered voters than households in the county, nearly 900,000 ballots will be printed, Riggs said.

Voters will decide the fate of the \$325 million plan to develop a 17-mile stretch of the normally dry Salt River into a belt of parks and industrial areas, from Mesa through Phoenix. If approved, the measure will increase secondary property taxes by 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation, which is about \$20 a year on a \$100,000 home.

Supervisor Ed Pastor voted against adding the explanatory paragraphs, saying they are unnecessary and may confuse voters. He said voters "would know that 'yes' meant approval and 'no' meant disapproval."

Phoenix Gazette  
7-31-87

# Board orders up new language for Rio election

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors has ordered its elections director to write the ballot language for the fall Rio Salado referendum, despite protests from the Rio Salado Development District.

The development district had already approved ballot language written by its attorney, and expected approval of that language by the county board today.

County supervisors must approve the wording for the November 3 election because the county will conduct the county-wide referendum.

The election will ask voters to approve a property tax of up to 25¢ per \$100 assessed valuation to finance the beautification plan for the Salt River.

Voters also will be asked to approve up to \$325 million in bonds for early development of the project, which will feature parks and private development along a 17 mile stretch of the Salt River.

House majority leader Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City, earlier this week lashed out at the ballot language approved by the Rio Salado District Board. Ratliff, a long time opponent of Rio Salado, charged that the language was severely slanted in favor of the project.

See ■ Salado, B-2

## ■ Salado From B-1

County board chairman Fred Koory today agreed with Ratliff's contention and said the language "should not be an issue of the campaign."

"It is my contention that the ballot question itself should be as non-controversial as possible," Koory said.

Supervisor Ed Pastor, taking the side of Rio Salado proponents, argued that the ballot language was taken verbatim from enabling legislation already approved by lawmakers.

"I don't think the language will be the issue," Pastor said. "People already know about Rio Salado."

Supervisor George Campbell also noted that "the objection (to ballot language) comes from someone who is violently opposed to the whole

process. We should leave it the way it is."

Pastor and Campbell were outweighed by their Board colleagues, however, and elections director Jim Riggs was directed to report back to supervisors within a week with what Koory described as "legal, objective, clear, and concise and non-objectionable" language.

Koory's request prompted supervisor Tom Freestone to label it "mission impossible."

After the meeting, Citizens for Rio Salado campaign chairman Dennis Mitchem said the delay was inconvenient, and Ratliff's charges "upsetting".

But Mitchem added that the language approved by the Rio Salado board was drafted by one of the city's ballot language experts.

# Backer of Rio Salado plan irked by Ratliff's criticism of wording

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

A prominent Phoenix businessman has criticized House majority leader Jim Ratliff for questioning proposed language on the fall Rio Salado ballot, but a key voice in the election process said Ratliff's concerns are well-founded.

Ratliff, R-Sun City, asked the county board of supervisors Wednesday to "reject the biased ballot language recommended by the Rio Salado Development District" for the Nov. 3 election and to adopt more neutral wording.

In a heated response later Wednesday, Dennis Mitchem, chairman of the campaign for passage of the Rio Salado referendum, noted Ratliff's longtime opposition to the riverbottom beautification plan.

Mitchem, senior partner in the accounting firm of Arthur Andersen & Co., accused Ratliff of using "lies, half-truths and distortions in his opposition" and called the criticism "a cheap shot."

"It is unfounded, untrue and not worthy of a member of the Arizona Legislature," Mitchem wrote.

But supervisors' chairman Fred Koory — to whom Ratliff's concerns were addressed — believes there is merit to the criticism and indicated the language likely will be changed.

"As to whether or not it is slanted, I can definitely see where Mr. Ratliff has some concerns," Koory said.

County voters will be asked to

approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to finance Rio Salado and authorize a bond issue of up to \$325 million for early development.

Examples of the offending language cited by Ratliff included reference to Rio Salado's ability to "encourage the optimum development of lands" along the river, and its attempt to "combine flood control with environmental design to achieve social and economic benefits for the county and its population and thus enhance the general welfare of the state."

The wording was drafted by the Rio Salado Development District, approved by the district board and still subject to approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Ratliff called the wording "propaganda" intended to slant the election.

"I think his (Ratliff's) point is, there is a place for that, but not in the ballot question," Koory said.

Mitchem countered that it was lifted nearly verbatim from enabling legislation approved and amended by Ratliff's colleagues over the past two years.

Calling it conservative language chosen by attorneys, Mitchem noted, "The professional paid consultants to this campaign were disappointed ... (and) would have liked to see a recitation of the enormous benefits that will accrue."

Though county supervisors have not debated the issue, Koory said Ratliff's concerns would be taken into consideration.

## Spat erupts on Rio Salado vote language

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

Arizona House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff wants the ballot language for a fall referendum on the Rio Salado project rewritten, charging that the language now being considered is "little more than propaganda in favor of the tax referendum."

"In the strongest possible terms, I urge the (county) Board of Supervisors to reject the biased ballot language recommended by the Rio Salado Development District, and instead, have a

truly independent party draft a neutral ballot question for your consideration," Ratliff, R-Sun City, wrote in a letter to county board chairman Fred Koory.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado district, countered this morning that the language in the ballot "is taken directly from the statute passed by the legislature."

Koory's board must approve the final ballot language since Maricopa County is responsible for conducting the Nov. 3 special election.

The referendum will ask voters to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to finance the riverbottom beautification plan over the next 25 years. In addition, county voters will be asked to approve a \$325 million bond issue for early development of Rio Salado.

The proposed ballot approved by the Rio Salado district board and forwarded to county supervisors for consideration says:

See ■ Salado, B-2

## ■ Salado

From B-1

"Shall the Rio Salado Development District be authorized to provide funds to assist in the solution of flood control problems in riverbeds, as indicated in the District Master Plan, to encourage the optimum development of lands along the river courses within the jurisdiction of the district, to promote the development of roads and bridges and of regional parks, lakes and other outdoor recreational facilities and to combine flood control with environmental design to achieve social and economic benefits for the County and its population and thus enhance the general welfare of the State through the

levy of a secondary property tax, such tax not to exceed a rate of twenty-five cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation?"

In his letter delivered today to Koory, Ratliff blasted the district's "transparent attempt to fix the election through the ballot question. Such an attempt to slant the ballot question is, in my experience, unprecedented in Arizona."

Ratliff, a long-time opponent of Rio Salado, also charged in the letter that "it is highly inappropriate" for the Rio Salado district to have drafted the proposed language in the first place.

## Jumping to conclusions

I must protest Dennis Wagner's July 6 column. Wagner was told, both by me and by Rio Salado Development District Deputy Director Dennis Davis, that the figures precisely giving the impact of the demise of Cliff Dam on Rio Salado will be available in two or three weeks.

Experience and familiarity with the project tells us that the demise of Cliff will change Rio Salado somewhat, but will not alter the fundamental viability of the project or its financing. We have every expectation that the numbers will bear out that view when they are available toward the end of the month.

Yet, unwilling to wait 15 or 20 days to get the numbers that would have provided a solid base for his column, Wagner chose to proceed with a piece that will only sow confusion. Unwilling to wait for facts, he chose to speculate without them.

It took over a year to assemble the data base and run the figures in the master plan for Rio Salado assuming Cliff Dam would be built. Is it too much to ask that we be given three or four weeks to produce the numbers on a decision that was sprung unexpectedly and suddenly?

Wagner's final paragraph is what really frosts me, though. I never said I was "a little nervous" about the so-called "missing" numbers. What I told him was that I would be a little nervous about speculating with numbers that hadn't been confirmed.

Even if Wagner has to wait until the last day of the month for the numbers, there will still be a full three months and three days before the election, ample time for him to draw whatever conclusions he wishes. At least then, there'll be a factual basis for them.

**John DeWitt**  
Press Secretary  
Citizens for Rio Salado  
Phoenix

PHOENIX GAZETTE

7-22-87

## Salado benefits praised by Barr

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

The economic boost expected from Rio Salado development likely would have a restraining effect on local taxes, a key supporter of the project said today.

"The economics will benefit everybody," Burton Barr, chief fundraiser and cheerleader for Citizens For Rio Salado, said today. "In the long run, it will keep all the tax rates down."

Barr was responding to criticism last week by Gov. Evan Mecham that the entire project should be developed by the private sector.

"When somebody says they're for Rio Salado but not taxes, that begs the issue," Barr said.

Barr pointed to Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash, a recreational oasis developed entirely with tax money. Included, he said, was state general fund money — making it the first such project using state funds.

"Everybody helped pay for that," he said.

In a speech to the Westside Commercial Real Estate Breakfast, Barr said failure to approve a Rio Salado initiative this fall could doom the project, which has been on the design boards for two decades.

The Nov. 3 election will ask Maricopa County voters to approve a special property tax of 25 cents per \$100 assessed evaluation. A resident with a \$75,000 house would pay an additional \$20 per year.

Revenues from the tax and a related bond issue that also will be on the ballot would fund the early years of public development in the project.

Public development would include parks, waterways and recreational facilities stretching through the Salt River bed from Mesa to the West Valley. Private development would be encouraged along the river banks.

"If we fail this fall then we fail ourselves," Barr said. "We're going to leave that ditch, with all that's in it, forever, hazardous wastes and all."

## Plan would raise \$472 million

By Jim Saunders  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

The Rio Salado Development District's board of directors received a tax plan Thursday that could raise more than \$472 million over 25 years for construction and maintenance of the proposed development.

Under the plan, which will be negotiated during the next few weeks, a tax would be assessed on property owners

adjacent to Rio Salado parks who would choose to privately develop their land.

The plan would replace "land banking," a process by which the district would buy the adjacent land, sell it years later for commercial development and put the profits toward maintenance and improvements, said John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado.

See ■ Salado, B-2

## ■ Salado

From B-1

Property owners would pay \$5 per \$100 on the portion of the assessed value that has increased from the 1987 amount, according to the plan.

In a memo, Aaron Kizer, executive director of the district, spells out an example: The value of a plot of land adjacent to a Rio Salado park could skyrocket from \$100,000 in 1987 to \$1 million after the owner builds a restaurant. The increase in the fair market value would be \$900,000. The assessed value would be 28 percent of \$900,000, or \$252,000. With the \$5 per \$100 assessment rate, the property owner would pay a tax of \$12,600 a year.

"I believe that this is a workable assessment mechanism that is fair to the taxpayers and the landowners," Kizer said in the memo.

"The assessment rate is low enough to allow the landowners to make more money with Rio Salado than without it — at the same time significantly reducing the project's cost to the taxpayers and providing for maintenance after the tax expires," he said.

After a base year of no revenue in 1987, the plan projects income of \$250,000 in the second year, \$953,000 in the third year and continue climbing to \$50,708,000 in the 25th year, according to the proposal.

# Mecham rips Rio Salado tax proposal

By Mike McCloy  
The Phoenix Gazette

Gov. Evan Mecham has blasted the Rio Salado proposal as a tax scam by a few insiders who would confiscate land for their own profit.

"I'm totally opposed to the election they're going to have to try to kid you into giving them the money to operate on, and actually to confiscate other people's property," Mecham said Thursday on a KTAR radio talk show.

The Rio Salado Development District plans a November election at which voters will decide whether a maximum Maricopa County property tax of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation should be assessed. The funds would be used to acquire Salt River land in Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix.

By converting the river to a recreation area, the district board hopes to encourage commercial

**"I'm in favor of Rio Salado. I'm opposed to the tax."**

**— Gov. Evan Mecham**

and residential development that eventually would offset the property tax burden.

"Nobody's trying to kid anybody," said John DeWitt, spokesman for the Rio Salado campaign. "There will be no confiscation of property."

Mecham's attack followed his appointment of Phil Gagle, Arizona Rock Products Association executive director, to the district board.

"The rocks products (sand-and-gravel industry) people own a tremendous amount of land down there," Mecham acknowledged. He also

indicated that Rio Salado promoters want to take advantage of it.

"I'm tired of the people who want to, a few of them, control things," Mecham said. "Always there is some great profits for some who are in control."

Asked later to be specific, Mecham told a reporter he knew of no one attempting to cash in on the Rio Salado plan.

"I'm in favor of Rio Salado," he said. "I'm opposed to the tax."

Gagle said Thursday after his first board meeting that he is serving at the pleasure of Mecham and shares some ideas with the governor.

"I clearly think any reduction of taxpayer dollars put into the project is a goal I would like

See ■ Mecham, B-2

## ■ Mecham

From B-1

to see attained," Gagle said.

DeWitt noted that the Rio Salado board had supported a request by the association to limit the district's condemnation power over sand-and-gravel quarries.

But Mecham declined to include the measure in a special legislative session that ended July 2, DeWitt said.

"It's curious," he added. "But that's just the governor. He has a long history of emotional and

visceral reactions to issues. It's unfortunate but it's not surprising."

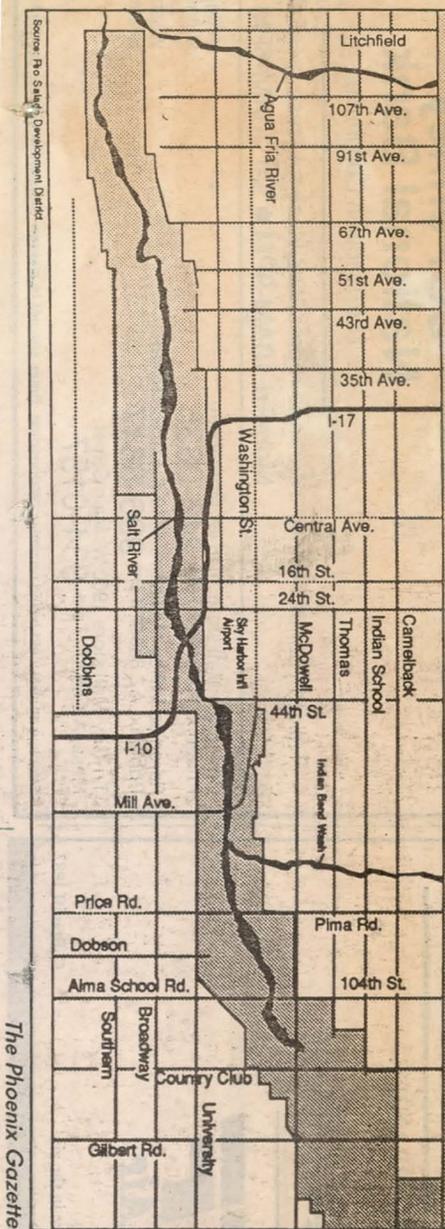
Rio Salado supporters include some Mecham considers heroes, DeWitt said, including former Republican Gov. Jack Williams.

The chief fund-raiser is former state Rep. Burton Barr, R-Phoenix, a longtime favorite of mainstream Republicans who was defeated by Mecham in the 1986 GOP gubernatorial primary.

Additional information from Gazette reporter Jim Saunders.

# Barr, Audubon chief discuss Salado development pact

## Rio Salado development district



The Phoenix Gazette

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

Rio Salado proponents who were retrofitting the project to accommodate the death of Cliff Dam might shift gears again to blunt continued opposition by environmentalists.

Burton Barr, finance chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, and Dr. Robert Witzeman, conservation chairman of the Maricopa Audubon Society, met Monday to consider an agreement that would determine just how far development could encroach on the Salt River bed.

Barr said such an agreement could provide Rio Salado extra

protection against flood losses while possibly silencing opposition from environmentalists, who have campaigned against construction of new dams on the Salt or Verde rivers.

A Nov. 3 referendum will ask Maricopa County voters to approve a special property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to fund the project, a mix of commercial and recreational development stretching along the Salt from Mesa to the west Valley. The referendum also would authorize up to \$325 million in bonds to finance the project's early phases.

See Salado, B-2

## Salado

From B-1

The proposed agreement — if accepted by the Rio Salado Development District board — could hamper the tight timetable for unveiling the project's new design.

The sales pitch to voters already is undergoing alterations due to Cliff Dam's demise. The proposed flood-control structure — one component of Plan 6 of the Central Arizona Project — was scrapped by congressional agreement two weeks ago under heavy legal pressure from environmentalists, who had sued to keep nests of endangered desert bald eagles from being inundated.

Until Cliff Dam was challenged, the Rio Salado design assumed a 100-year flood would bring a water flow of about 55,000 cubic feet per second through the Salt.

When it became clear in May that Cliff Dam was in jeopardy, Rio Salado planners veered toward a plan that would decrease the amount of standing water, emphasize desert landscaping and generally accommodate greater flows by moving development farther out toward the river's fringe.

District officials are scrambling to complete that plan, but details on its design, size and cost will not be ready until late July.

Though a recent federal study

predicted a 100-year flow of 200,000 cfs without upstream flood control, Rio Salado's "drier" plan is aiming its development boundaries slightly further into the riverbed to the 170,000 cfs mark. The assumption is that Roosevelt Dam's eventual enlargement as part of Plan 6 will provide the reduction in flow to make such a move possible.

But Witzeman wants no construction inside the 200,000 cfs boundary, further decreasing the risk of flooding.

If that boundary is observed, he said, eventual modifications to Roosevelt would put Rio Salado building well outside the new 100-year floodplain, virtually eliminating the need for new dams on the Salt or Verde rivers.

"If they move down to the 170,000 (cfs) level, absolutely nothing has changed," he said. "They'll be building dams in five years ... and we'll be fighting dams for the rest of our lives."

Though Witzeman will not pledge support for Rio Salado in return for a building ban inside the 200,000 cfs boundary, he implied that opposition would be muted.

"We would actively oppose this if some of the problems we are opposed to are not addressed."

## Rio Salado problems

Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater, who would use the Indian Bend Wash to sell the Rio Salado Project, needs geography, hydrology and toxicology lessons on the differences between the Salt and Indian Bend.

The Salt River is a 12,000-square-mile watershed. Indian Bend Wash is only 200 square miles. The largest flood in the Salt was 300,000 cubic feet per second, but only 20,000 cfs in Indian Bend Wash.

The price tags on the two projects differ greatly, with Indian Bend Wash at \$54 million and Rio Salado officially at \$3.1 billion. The Rio Salado will quickly go bankrupt, or back to the taxpayers for more money. The 25-cent property tax only covers \$1.3 billion of the project's \$3.1 billion cost.

The Rio Salado District foolishly pretends that private developers will be anxious to buy that floodprone, landfill-polluted land. The district would have us believe that such land purchases will pay for their \$1.8 billion shortfall (the difference between the \$3.1 billion cost and the \$1.13 billion tax revenue).

One wonders how eager developers will be to pay the district top dollar for "scenic" frontage on a riverbed to which the government assigns a 40 percent flood risk during a 50-year occupancy.

It also takes a special sort of courage for a developer to want to build along a rivercourse studded with toxic landfills emitting carcinogens and explosive methane gas.

This year some 150 Phoenix employees have been evacuated from an explosion-prone building which the city inadvertently built near an unknown Salt River landfill.

The Salt, unlike Indian Bend, is peppered with scores of unknown dumps. If there are any developers unscrupulous enough to take these sort of risks, they are the type who would get in and build fast, and get out before the law of averages catches up.

Marilyn Deprest  
Mesa

Phx GAZ.  
6-12-87

# Rio Salado Project condemnation rule concerns landowners

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

Scarcely four months before the life of the Rio Salado Project is put in the hands of voters, a powerful group of Salt River landowners says it might oppose the project.

The outcome rests in the hands of the Arizona Legislature, but lawmakers have indicated they want little more to do with Rio Salado. They already have their hands full with a special session beginning June 29.

Nevertheless, the Rio Salado Development District Board was told Thursday that unless the Arizona Rock Products Association obtains legislation protecting certain land along the Salt River from condemnation, the organization likely will oppose the Nov. 3 referendum on the Rio Salado Project.

"We certainly don't want that to be interpreted as a threat," said Ed Belt, general manager of Phoenix Redi-Mix Co. Inc. and an ARPA member.

Threat or not, ARPA's position could cost proponents of the referendum valuable support.

What ARPA wants is an amendment trimming the district's eminent domain powers, which under current statute would allow the district to condemn and purchase any private property it needs along the Salt River.

That property would be banked by the district to increase its value and resold at a later date, for profit, to private concerns willing to develop the land consistently with the Rio Salado master plan.

River bottom landowners — primarily sand-and-gravel operations — want the right to develop their own property consistently with the master plan, rather than having it bought through condemnation and given to somebody else.

Rio Salado officials agreed in concept to such a policy at Thursday's meeting.

"The Rio Salado Development District Board has agreed with every position the rock products people have desired," said John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado. "We will support legislation on that position. What more can we do?"

ARPA insists on the legislation to legally prohibit the use of condemnation so long as a landowner is interested in developing his own land and is willing to contribute financially to a Rio Salado maintenance district.

Though Belt said negotiations with legislative leadership may enable the matter to be considered at the June 29 special session, Sen. Alan Stephens, D-Phoenix, told fellow board members not to hold their breath.

Stephens said there are simply too many issues on the special session docket to seriously believe the Rio Salado item will make the call. Even if it does, he said, the prognosis is not good.

"I think anything that deals with Rio Salado is more likely to be defeated than passed because people are just tired of dealing with Rio Salado," he said.

The specter of ARPA opposing the Rio Salado election became more real in recent months as negotiations between sand-and-gravel operators and Rio Salado proponents made little progress.

Robert Robb, a Phoenix lobbyist retained by ARPA as a consultant, maintained in an interview that allowing landowners to develop the land themselves ultimately would save Rio Salado — and taxpayers — millions of dollars in land acquisition costs and take government out of the business of speculative land banking.

# Phoenix chamber urged to back Rio Salado

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

## Panel recommends fund study

A Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce task force has endorsed the Rio Salado Project and recommends the chamber throw its weight behind the campaign for a special tax to fund the project.

In a report released Monday, the chamber's Rio Salado Task Force concluded that the chamber should play a visible role in the Nov. 3 special election in which Maricopa County voters will be asked to approve a property tax increase to fund the riverbed beautification plan.

However, the chamber also supports an examination

of funding alternatives that could at least partially replace tax levies in later years.

Though no financial support for the campaign by the chamber was recommended, Dennis Mitchem, chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, said he has told chamber officials "that we welcome the chamber support, and that we want them to take a prominent role in running the campaign."

David Goldman, chairman of the the chamber task force, could not be reached for comment.

The report suggests the chamber maintain a standing committee on Rio Salado that "could provide a valuable resource to the Rio Salado Development District in terms of support for various aspects of the project."

The fall referendum will ask voters to approve a secondary property tax of 25 cents per \$100 of assessed

valuation. It also will ask voters to approve up to \$325 million in bonds for the project.

"It is important to note that the 25-cent secondary property tax levy represents less than half of the revenue required to build the public portion of the project," the report states.

The master plan includes a schedule that projects a 25-cent property tax for the first 19 years and drops the rate to 5 cents for the remaining six years, the report continues. "Monies to fund the second half of the public development will mostly be realized from land sale and lease revenue."

See ■ Salado, B-2

## ■ Salado

From B-1

for a sales tax instead of a property tax. Even though that doesn't appear feasible now or in the near future, that may become a viable alternative down the road, and should be considered."

Other key issues broached by the chamber task force included:

■ The impact on Rio Salado of revised floodplain delineations and legal challenges to the proposed Cliff Dam in Plan 6 of the Central Arizona Project.

One or both — depending on the outcome of Cliff Dam litigation — will change not only the physical plan but land values and acquisi-

tion costs.

■ The need to distinguish in the public's mind between Rio Salado and Plan 6, which has raised a host of environmental concerns.

"It is incumbent upon the district to separate those issues attributable to Plan 6 from those connected to Rio Salado during the campaign," the report states. "Also, the perception that there will be buildings located within the riverbed is adversely affecting the public's perception of the project, as well as the project's apparent dependency on upstream flood control."

Phoenix Gazette  
5-6-87

## Where is the vision?

The board of directors of the Salt River Project became the second group of leading local citizens to withhold formal and financial support from the Rio Salado development. The Phoenix 40 organization, a prestigious civic group usually in the forefront of such community improvement projects, balked at Rio Salado a few weeks ago. In doing so, the members opposed the proposed funding formula, a countywide property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 valuation.

Make no mistake. The SRP board vote, along with the Phoenix 40 decision, damages the credibility of the Rio Salado campaign. It further weakens the prospects for the referendum on Rio Salado, tentatively set for Nov. 3.

The reluctance of SRP board also complicates fund raising for the Rio Salado backers.

The no-support decisions also call into question the quality and the vision of the Valley's traditional leadership structure. Polls suggest that most Maricopa County residents support the idea. Most residents want to convert the 40-mile, dry, scarred and ugly Salt River bed into an attractive, water-based recreational development, complete with residential, retail and industrial sites. Most people can imagine, can dream, can envision what an attractive site Rio Salado can be.

Others, including the SRP board and the Phoenix 40 membership, can't see beyond the ends of their noses.

Phoenix Gazette  
5-6-87

# Rio Salado might gain from Phoenix 40's non-support

**T**he mighty Phoenix 40, Arizona's premier collection of well-heeled, self-anointed community mandarins, might have done the much-debated, long-dreamed Rio Salado project a favor last month.

They came out against it.

Well, they *didn't* really. It just *seemed* that way. What they did was fail to get a big enough majority (75 percent, according to the group's rules) to pass a resolution committing the Have-More Two-Score to contribute \$50,000 for this fall's campaign to win voter approval of a tax levy to finance the audacious park and commercial development project along the Salt River.

No matter. The action, which garnered big headlines and no small embarrassment for these shy civic string-pullers, probably will be undone next week when they revisit the issue — but only after first laying some overdue groundwork.

Although the resolution of support won a two-thirds majority, its failure to meet the 75 percent requirement ended up sounding like a vote against it in the ensuing stories.

That's one price an organization pays when it meets in secret (this makes the members feel all goose-bumpy and important) and forces reporters to reconstruct events from the often-conflicting accounts of participants.

Despite all the gnashing of teeth, that vote might have done a couple of things that might not be altogether bad for the beleaguered project.

First, it called attention to what, so far, has been one of the best-kept secrets in local politics — the Nov. 3 election in which Maricopa County voters will get a chance to approve a tax levy of up to 25 cents per \$100 valuation and an authorization for issuing up to \$325 million in bonds.

If the Phoenix 40 had voted *in favor* of Rio Salado, it would have been a dog-biting-man story, buried back among the lingerie ads.

But a vote *against* it, or what was erroneously seen as negative, well, that was real *news* ... like Gary Hart advocating celibacy. And although the election is still six months away, there's some value in easing voters into the issue early, before the controversy breaks out in full force.

Perhaps more important, how-

ever, that perception of establishment negativism, or at least of doubts, might have validated Rio Salado in ways a favorable vote never could have.

That's because it helped mitigate one of the two main political albatrosses burdening the project as it sets out to win the hearts of the community — its widespread perception as a scheme to further enrich the Valley's insatiable real estate development industry. (The other albatross, of course, is the fact that it involves raising taxes.)

"If all these fat cats are against it, it can't be all bad," was the gist of remarks heard in several quarters after the abortive vote.

It doesn't matter that the negative voters, led by Morris Tanner (who owns a lot of riverbed land) and Keith Turley (whose utility is Maricopa County's biggest taxpayer), didn't question the desirability of the project, *per se*, but only certain aspects of its execu-

tion, such as the method of financing (Turley wants a sales tax instead of a property tax) and the amount of land to be condemned (still uncertain).

What mattered is that there was dissension at the top, which helped ease Rio Salado's undeserved image as the product of a fat cat conspiracy being foisted on unsuspecting taxpayers.

That perception was further bolstered this week when the Salt River Project board of directors rejected (on a 7-7 tie) a similar proposal to pony up \$25,000 for the cause. (Unlike the 40's action, however, that one probably won't be overturned.)

This isn't to suggest that the Rio Salado gang views each rejection as a feather in its cap.

Obviously, they'd rather have these groups *for* them than against them. The overpublicized Phoenix 40 vote, for example, hasn't helped in fund-raising, although they did

John Kolbe  
Gazette columnist



collect \$55,000 from the state's two largest banks the other day.

But coming early in the game, these miscues offer some needed lessons, like finding out in the first period that your halfback can't run.

And primary among those lessons is the need for education, not only among the voters but among high-octane civic leaders as well. There is a tendency in establishment circles to take one another for granted on certain issues, and this was a valuable reminder that *nothing* should be assumed.

This unexpected, if only temporary, setback also might prod the Two-Score into redoubling their

efforts for Rio Salado.

By coincidence, the East Valley Partnership, a similar group that the 40ites politely regard as a bunch of back-country imitators, met the same day and approved the project unanimously, thus putting the Phoenix 40's hapless confusion (after all, they'd voted just weeks earlier to make Rio Salado one of their three top priorities) in even sharper focus. They might work extra hard to shuck the resulting embarrassment.

Rio Salado, of course, is a long way from a reality, due in large part to public misunderstanding of the issue, and that's why they're gearing up a \$600,000 campaign.

But for one brief shining moment, we also saw that the Valley's much-maligned "monolithic" Establishment isn't much of a reality, either. That's a healthy perspective for those of us who toil in the vineyards, and a nice dose of humility for those in high places.

# Rio Salado campaign under way

By Pat Flannery  
*The Phoenix Gazette*

The campaign to sell Maricopa County voters on the virtues of the multimillion dollar Rio Salado Project has begun, with Arizona's two largest banks leading the way.

Citizens for Rio Salado formally kicked off the effort Monday with the announcement of a \$30,000 campaign donation by First Interstate Bank of Arizona and a \$25,000 gift from Valley National Bank.

Phoenix businessman Dennis Mitchem, chairman of the campaign committee, said the donations bring to about \$100,000 the amount of money raised to promote a fall referendum on Rio Salado.

As currently envisioned, Rio Salado would transform the Salt River bed from Mesa through Phoenix into a verdant recreational and business oasis.

The election — tentatively set for Nov. 3 — will ask Maricopa County voters to approve a new property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation, raising \$1.3 billion over 20 years to finance the public portion of the project.

The new levy would increase taxes on a typical \$100,000 home by about \$25 annually.

At the same time, voters will be asked to approve the issuance of up to \$325 million in bonds to further finance development. Another \$1.4 billion in private funds would supplement the plan.

"We feel it's time, perhaps well past time . . . to say, 'Let's go, let's get on with it,'" Chuck Hemann, director of corporate affairs for First Interstate, said Monday.

See ■ Salado, B-2

## ■ Salado

From B-1

"It's a concept we endorse," he said. "It has many advantages other than economic."

The project, on the drawing boards for years, is destined to face stiff opposition at the polls because of its tax implications and because of its impact on communities along the river.

Mitchem said the campaign is eyeing a "soft budget" of \$650,000, though he admits, "We're not sure what our level of opposition will be."

Despite the effort's reliance to date on large individual and corporate contributions, it was characterized by Mitchem as "a grassroots campaign."

"The more we get into this, the more we find people are negative because they don't understand it," he said. "Once we talk about it, though, that turns around. This will be an education effort as much as anything."

Among those endorsing the campaign are the 3,000-member Rio Salado Association, the Valley Forward organization, the Phoenix Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and the East Valley Partnership, a group of about 300 businessmen.

Notably missing on the endorsement list is the Phoenix 40, the club of Phoenix business elite who last

month shocked Rio Salado proponents by failing to gain the necessary votes to either publicly endorse or lend financial assistance to the campaign.

Phoenix 40 chairman Herman Chanen said the issue is slated to come up again next Tuesday, at which time "we are planning to devote the full meeting to discussing Rio Salado."

To approve financial contributions, 75 percent of the membership must vote in accord, he said. For a public endorsement, a simple majority of the membership is needed.

Chanen declined to speculate on how the vote would proceed in light of last month's action, but noted that Rio Salado has previously been endorsed by Phoenix 40 membership as "one of their major action projects."

Whether the absence of a Phoenix 40 endorsement — or another that was expected but rejected Monday by the Salt River Project board of directors — will affect the campaign is uncertain.

From B-1

Phoenix Gazette  
4-20-87

# Groups find common ground in Rio Salado

By Pat Flannery  
The Phoenix Gazette

If politics make strange bedfellows, none could be stranger than those apparently creating an alliance over the future of the Salt River bed.

Could the Phoenix 40, the city's group of business elite, find itself holding hands with Concerned Citizens on the Rio Salado Project, a loosely knit collection of South Phoenix residents whose target frequently has been local business interests?

It hasn't come to that yet, but local opponents of Rio Salado — a plan for parks and business centers along the river — are cooing about the Phoenix 40's latest action.

The Phoenix 40 last week failed to get enough votes from its membership to publicly support or finance a campaign for a fall election at which Maricopa County voters will decide Rio Salado's fate.

Byron Ward, leader and spokesman of the Concerned Citizens group, is cautious in characterizing the Phoenix 40 development.

"I was surprised by that, but I'm afraid that means they won't support it above the table, but will support it below the table," Ward said.

"Maybe they're doing this to throw people off," he suggested.

Frank Welsh of Citizens Concerned About Rio Salado, another opposition group, is more optimistic.

"It's going to make a hill of beans because the money they would have raised might not be there," he said.

"I don't know that we anticipated it," Welsh said. "We're glad to see that they're checking out both sides, which is not apparently what that East Valley group did."

See ■ Salt, B-3

## ■ Salt

The East Valley Partnership — Phoenix 40's East Valley equivalent — endorsed the plan earlier last week.

The fall special election would ask county voters to approve a secondary property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to finance Rio Salado over the next 25 years.

Voters also would be asked to authorize the issuance of up to \$325 million in bonds for Rio Salado.

Detractors — including some members of the Phoenix 40 — say the tax burden is simply too great.

"I hope the average Joe thinks, 'My taxes are too high,'" Welsh said. "Rio Salado would be a playground for real estate developers. We can have Rio Salado, we just don't need to put a billion bucks into it. We can get the parks and open space we want for \$70 million."

Arizona Public Service chairman Keith Turley, a Phoenix 40 member, reportedly argued against supporting Rio Salado for the same reason. It would cost APS, the county's largest taxpayer, millions of dollars.

"I have to give Mr. Turley credit for recognizing it's going to increase everybody's electric bill even further," Welsh said.

Phoenix 40 member Dennis Mitchem of Arthur Andersen & Co., chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, said earlier that the lack of support from top business leaders could do irreparable harm to Rio Salado because the fall election is the last serious chance to get it going.

"If the Phoenix 40 were not to support Rio Salado, it would definitely hurt in terms of fund-raising and just getting the vote out," Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado Development District, said. "It's a big issue for us."

However, Kizer said he is "optimistic the Phoenix 40 will come around and support Rio Salado. I don't see how they can oppose a

## From B-1

project of such economic benefit to the community."

Welsh predicts the death of the project without a successful election. But the effect of the Phoenix 40 vote is still an unknown.

"My opinion is, the Phoenix 40 is not necessarily a group that shapes public opinion," said Mel Morris,

executive director of the Arizona Tax Research Association. "But if they won't support it ... it would cut a lot of that (support money) away."

"The important thrust on anything around here is financial, and they have a financial cartel down there, the bankers and so forth," Ward said.

Phoenix Gazette  
4-15-87

# Rio Salado dealt blow by Phoenix 40 decision

By Pat Flannery and Karen Fernau  
The Phoenix Gazette

Long-awaited plans for Rio Salado, a greenbelt through the heart of the Valley, have been dealt a potentially crippling blow by a handful of Phoenix's business elite.

The Phoenix 40, in what was described by one member as a "confusing" meeting Tuesday, voted against publicly endorsing Rio Salado. The group also decided not to support a Nov. 3 special election at which Maricopa County voters will decide whether to set aside tax money to develop the concept.

Rio Salado would turn miles of the Salt River bottom into a watery recreational area and business district.

As the Phoenix 40 was busy voting the idea down, the board of directors of its East Valley equivalent voted unanimously to endorse the project and taxation election.

"I can't speak for our board, but personally it

disappoints me that the Phoenix 40 is not in favor of the improvement district," East Valley Partnership board member Chuck Wahlheim said. "I think it is the most exciting project in the country."

Several members of the Phoenix 40 apparently don't agree, and Phoenix 40 member Dennis Mitchem, a partner of Arthur Andersen & Co. and chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, blamed them for the results of Tuesday's Phoenix 40 meeting.

"I think two people who have special interests and are short-sighted made very impassioned speeches, and, I think, swayed the vote," Mitchem said. "All that had gone on before led me to believe the membership would actively support it."

The negative vote could have disastrous consequences for the special election in which voters will be asked to approve a special taxation district to move Rio Salado off the drawing boards where it has languished

See ■ Rio Salado, A-4

## ■ Salado

From A-1

for 20 years.

"Without ... support from the Phoenix 40, it's going to greatly hamper fund-raising for the campaign," Mitchem said today. "In fact, as campaign chairman, I'd say it already has.

"This will hurt our getting contributions from our members and other people in the business community, plus the front-end contribution (from the Phoenix 40) makes a big difference," he said.

Richard Snell, chief executive officer of Ramada Inc. and chairman-elect of Phoenix 40, downplayed the significance of the vote, saying Rio Salado "more than likely will come up again" before the group. "In fact, the vote taken showed the membership to be strongly in favor of the project. I think it was a unanimous feeling that the project would actually go ahead, but it's a question of how it would be postured from a tax standpoint and the type of financial support it should receive."

Snell expects the issue to be studied by his group's Rio Salado Committee before another vote.

But Mitchem, chairman of that committee, said the significance of Tuesday's vote could not be underestimated.

A motion calling for the group to endorse the project and the election — and pledging financial support to the campaign — failed because the necessary majority of 75 percent was not obtained. The vote was 18-8 in favor of supporting Rio Salado.

A second motion to "go on record publicly supporting the project ... clearly failed" by a much larger margin, Mitchem said.

A third motion deleting any mention of support for the fall taxation election was tabled, he said, calling the voting "really bizarre."

Two of those identified as opposing the project were Arizona Public Service Co. chairman Keith Turley and Tanner Cos. chairman Maurice Tanner. Neither was available for comment today.

APS long has opposed additional property tax burdens that would amount to millions of dollars in new taxes paid by the company, the county's largest taxpayer. The utility apparently would consider financing Rio Salado through sales taxes, but Gov. Evan Mecham has indicated privately that any such attempts would be vetoed.

"I came to the conclusion that during his term, we would not have another chance to vote on this kind of issue," Mitchem said. "What this means is, if we want to start Rio Salado, we have this one window of opportunity."

Mecham attended Tuesday's meeting and engaged in an animated discussion of more than an hour with members about funding for higher education in the state. However, Mecham did not address the Rio Salado issue.

In the East Valley, the 270-member East Valley Partnership board provided a ringing endorsement for the special Rio Salado taxation district.

Chris Coover, chairman of the group's Rio Salado Committee, said: "The two major reasons we are backing the project is that it will provide permanent jobs and provide tremendous recreational activities to the vast majority of the Valley."

The group plans to campaign actively for passage of the district tax, under which property owners would be taxed up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to fund revitalization of 8,800 acres of Salt River land.

"This project is long overdue," Coover said. "This is one more project that benefits the entire community, not just one or two of the cities. It is visionary."

# Rio Salado election cost worries officials

By Mike Padgett  
The Phoenix Gazette

A special election for the Rio Salado Development District this November has Maricopa County officials worried it will take several months or longer to recover the \$1 million it will cost to hold the election.

They are even more concerned that if the proposed \$1.1 billion project is rejected by voters, leaving the district without any funding, it may take longer for the county to recover its costs for holding a state-ordered election.

State law allows the county to submit its bill to the secretary of state for reimbursement. That bill then becomes part of the state agency's upcoming fiscal year budget sent to the Legislature for approval, according to Jim Riggs, county elections director.

"There's nothing to say the Legislature is not going to appropriate that, but there is no guarantee," Riggs said.

County manager Bob Mauney said the procedure could mean a months-long delay in recovering its costs for holding the election for the state. Riggs estimated the Nov. 3 special election will cost the county at least \$922,000.

Jim Shumway, state elections director, said once the Secretary of State's Office receives the county's bill, the Legislature will be asked to approve repaying the county's election costs. He said that process could take up to eight months.

The \$1.1 billion Rio Salado plan involves turning the normally dry

Salt River bed into a greenbelt in Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix, from Country Club Drive in Mesa to 51st Avenue in southwest Phoenix.

Besides recreational facilities, the project has plans for residential, commercial and industrial areas. If approved by voters, it would mean a 25-year countywide property tax of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. For the owner of an \$80,000 home, that would be an annual tax increase of about \$20.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado district, said he would be surprised if the legislators refused to repay the county's election costs. Kizer and Dennis Mitchem, head of Citizens for Rio

Salado, said his group soon will accelerate its campaign for the election.

Although supportive of the project by a 2-1 margin, the results of a January poll will remain confidential until after the election to avoid helping critics campaign against the project. That is because private donations paid for the poll of 800 county residents, Mitchem said.

"It is generally favorable in all of the jurisdictions, but the risk that we have to address is that there are many people who don't understand what Rio Salado is all about," Mitchem said.

Mitchem, an account executive at

Arthur Andersen & Co., said the citizens group is concerned that while about two-thirds of those polled indicated support for the Rio Salado, few know many details.

The November election will be the second time it is presented to voters. In 1975, a plan by Phoenix to sell \$1.9 billion in bonds to start the project was rejected by voters.

If approved this year, the earliest possible construction would be in about 1989 near where Indian Bend Wash empties into the river. Other construction is dependent on cleanup of landfills in the river where studies indicate dangerous chemicals are leaching into ground water, Kizer said.

Phx. Gazette  
1-13-87

# Salt River beautification to start with 3 regional parks

By Lois Boyles  
The Phoenix Gazette

Three regional parks could be the first big steps in the Rio Salado Project — a 25-year plan to beautify the Salt River.



Scheduled for completion within the first 10 years, they would be located in:

■ Phoenix, on the south bank near 12th Street. It would be an expansion of Rio Salado Park.

■ Tempe, from McKellips Road to the point Indian Bend Wash joins the Salt River.

■ Mesa, either by expanding Riverview Park or developing a new park farther east on the south bank.

Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado Development District, said Phoenix was considering a golf course for the 12th Street site.

If that proves feasible, "what we would like to do, with the city cooperating with us . . . is go in and build it into a major regional park, not only on the landfill but the surrounding area — a soccer field, baseball diamonds" and other recreational goodies.

In Tempe, Kizer said, flood control already is in place where Indian Bend Wash and the Salt River merge, and it is there that a "major park could be built right now. It

would be an immediate benefit to the Scottsdale-Tempe area."

For the most part, the Salt River through Mesa is on land belonging to the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community. "The Indians are non-committal," Kizer said.

Tribal President Gerald Anton underscored that assessment: "Right now, we're taking a stand that we're not really interested because, according to early designs," the reservation would have only holding ponds. "We don't want to give up our land just for ponds."

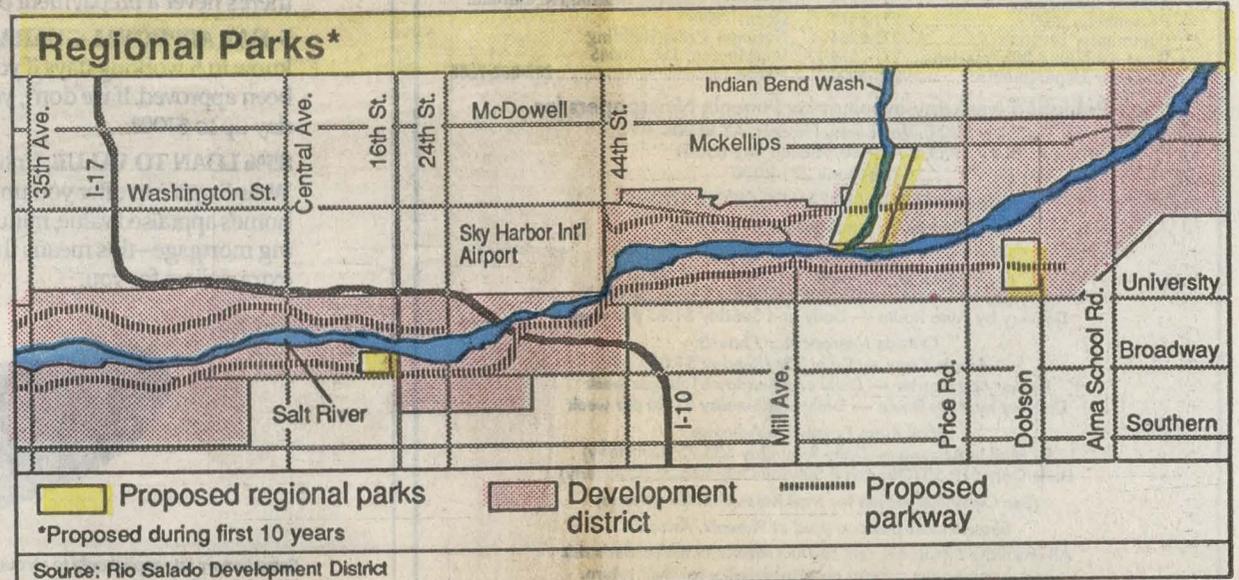
That's why Riverview Park expansion could be a natural. Located just west of Dobson Road and not far from the river, this is one area where the south bank of the Salt is within the Mesa city limits.

If that didn't work out, there are places east of Riverview where the city boundary runs along the south bank, and there is another stretch west of Country Club Drive where half of the river bottom is in Mesa.

"We may just find something . . . on the bank itself that maybe touches on the river channel but not the river bottom," Kizer said.

These big parks could be developed without the upstream construction of the controversial Cliff Dam — now being challenged in U.S. District Court by environmentalists worried about eagles and other wildlife.

And they would be built before key projects described



Rob Weideman, The Phoenix Gazette

in the 1985 Rio Salado Master Plan, which outlines 25 years of development from Country Club Drive in Mesa to 43rd Avenue in Phoenix.

The plan calls for one of the first developments to be an island that would reach from Seventh Street to Seventh Avenue in Phoenix. New lakes — it would take a northern one and a southern one — in the riverbed

would provide enough water to make the "island" designation legitimate.

The master-plan vision of the completed project is impressive:

"Coming from downtown Phoenix . . . the magisterial See ■ Rio Salado, A-4

# ■ Rio Salado

entrance to the island is marked by high jet fountains."

"Shaded promenades and lookout points" also are designated, and "Boats will shuttle between stations, connecting the southern island promenade to parking and attractions on the South Phoenix shore."

There would be an open amphitheater, a water-garden and unspecified water events "connected by waterways running under lath-roofed arcades."

The island "should include a Southwest Cultural Center . . . There could also be a museum and research study on the worldwide role of water . . . There could be computer shops, bookstores and an ethnic market of food and crafts."

A special technical high school also is proposed for the island — "open to students throughout the city, but with a particular focus on students from the Rio Salado District and from areas of high unemployment."

In Tempe, the plan talks about "the largest lake in the Rio Salado system." It would provide "a sheet of water a mile and a half long" where the Salt and Indian Bend Wash meet. "It will be used for swimming, fishing and boating."

"A monument or observation tower set on an artificial elevation" would stand

sentry over this recreational bonanza.

There is no question Rio Salado planners are talking big-time attractions — things they believe will make the Rio Salado Project a must-see phenomenon.

Phoenix planning director Rick Counts, who will leave that job Jan. 30 to join Gruen Associates, a consulting and design firm, has a few ideas he believes would help Rio Salado assume such a role.

"Combine Rio Salado and South Mountain Park and it ought to be the second — and gaining fast — tourist attraction in the state," Counts said.

Sure, he acknowledged, "The Grand Canyon is No. 1 . . . But one has to travel by car or bus six hours."

By connecting Rio Salado and South Mountain — which Counts said is the largest municipal park in the world — the two "could become the most significant urban recreation comprehensive plan in the country."

Counts also would like to see expansion of the Rio Salado plan to include some greenbelt development west of 43rd Avenue.

The Rio Salado Development District actually stretches 40 miles from Granite Reef Dam on the east to the confluence of the Gila and Agua Fria rivers on the



Kizer



Counts

west, but only 17 miles of that is included in the 1985 master plan.

Counts believes that the western boundary should be moved "perhaps to 107th Avenue." While conceding "it doesn't make sense to plan too soon" for the entire 40 miles, he said prime west-side areas were surfacing that "in 1983 didn't exist."

None of the visions and dreams and plans is going to happen anytime soon, however, unless Maricopa County voters give the Rio Salado Development District authority to levy a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

Translated to dollars and cents for an individual who owns a home that has a market value of \$75,000, the annual cost to help develop the river project would be \$15.

The election is expected to be in

October or November. Voters also will be asked to OK bonding authority that would enable the district to begin the purchase of land, cleanup of landfills and construction of parks. State law requires the election to be held this year or during October or November 1988.

Kizer said the only reason it might be delayed until next year would be lack of a settlement on the Cliff Dam question.

"I don't think we can build Rio Salado as envisioned in the master plan without Cliff," Kizer said, adding:

"There should be a District Court opinion in the next couple of months. We are hoping to get some clear direction prior to the election."

Even if the voters approved the tax levy before resolution of Cliff Dam's legal problems, Kizer said there was no way for the people to lose.

"Let's assume the tax was approved and we were doing those things I told you about in the first five years and, for some reason, Cliff is not built," he said.

"The public investment is protected because what we have done is clean up the landfills, which has to be done regardless, built some major regional parks and bought land that can be sold back to the private sector."

Wednesday: There goes the neighborhood

Phoenix Gazette  
9-29-81

# Big Groups Announce Orme Dam Preference

By JACK LAVELLE  
Gazette Reporter

It was 3 for the big guys, and 6 — or 7 — or 8 — for the little guys.

But that hardly means the little guys outscored the big guys in the first of three public meetings this week conducted by the Central Arizona Water Control Study on Orme Dam alternatives.

Plan 3 — involving construction of a dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers — won the endorsement of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, the Rio Salado Development District and the Agri-Business Council of Arizona at Monday's gath-

ering in Phoenix City Council chambers.

About the same time, the City Council — meeting on the 9th floor of City Hall in its weekly policy session — passed a resolution supporting plans 3 (a small Orme Dam with a new, large Cliff Dam below Horseshoe Lake, a flood control structure atop Roosevelt Dam and reconstruction of Stewart Mountain Dam at Saguaro Lake), 6 and 7.

A hearing will be held tonight at Carl Hayden High School and Wednesday night at Mesa Centennial

## ● GROUPS ANNOUNCE LIKES

(Concluded from Page A-1)

Hall. Each begins at 7:30 p.m.

**CAWCS WILL** recommend to Interior Secretary James Watt next month which of eight alternatives it feels will offer the best in terms of flood control and storage of Central Arizona Project water from the Colorado River.

Many of the 24 people who spoke during Monday's public hearing recommended the "no action" alternative — plan 8.

Others favored plans 6 and 7, identical so far as dam construction is concerned, but different in environmental aspects. Both plans substitute a new Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River for an Orme Dam as a CAP storage facility.

The City Council's resolution included six objectives which Mayor Margaret Hance will request when the governor's CAWCS committee — of which she is a member — meets to decide on an alternative Friday and Saturday.

The city's objectives include adequate flood control to protect Sky Harbor airport, safety for existing dams, storage for the city's share of CAP water, flow levels to permit development of the airport and the Rio Salado Project and a firm construction timetable.

**MRS. HANCE** said plans 6 and 7 concerned her because once a Waddell Dam was built there might not be enthusiasm or sufficient funding to ensure safety of the other structures.

Dave Maurer said the Chamber of Commerce's board of directors favored an Orme Dam. "Our primary intent is that the Valley receive adequate flood control as well as an adequate future water supply," Maurer said.

An Orme Dam, according to a CAWCS factbook, would be for regulatory purposes only, and not for flood control.

Tim Bray, of the Rio Salado Development District, said that agency recommended plan 3 for its storage and flood-control properties.

The Rio Salado district was authorized in 1980 to study development of the Salt River bed area in terms of flood control, industry, recreation and the environment.

**BRAY URGED** CAWCS to assure the timely, concurrent completion of plan 3's components and to incorporate some of plan 7's environmental-enhancement features.

Jerry Grady of Casa Grande, president of the Agri-Business Council of Arizona, claimed the CAWCS analysis to date "indicates a preference for a non-confluence solution, specifically plan 6.

"Other analyses indicate plan 3 offers more in resource advantages," Grady said.

"The Agri-Business Council has reviewed both analyses and we believe plan 3 has more to offer Arizona than does any other plan."

Specifically, Grady listed benefits to Pinal, Pima and Yuma counties which would accrue under plan 3 in a reduction in ground water use and a flow downstream from Painted Rock Dam that floods Yuma farmers.

**ONE FACT** not readily known, Grady said, is "The CAP will not give agriculture any additional water over what it presently uses. For every acre-foot of CAP water, we will have to reduce the use of one acre-foot of ground water.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department favors plan 7, said representative John Carr, "since it allows for fish and wildlife protection."

The other speakers opposed an Orme Dam because it would flood out the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation or would cost too much. The Indians said last week they prefer plan 6.

A study prepared for CAWCS predicted an increase in the illness and mortality rates among the 400 Yavapais on the 24,680-acre reservation if a confluence dam were built.

"The reason, we project, is associated with the stress experienced in relocation," said Tony Muller of Dames & Moore, a Phoenix consulting firm.

**"OLDER PEOPLE** already ill will have their conditions exacerbated. Even with the threat of relocation, studies have shown the rate of illness has already increased," Muller said.

Clinton Pattea, former chairman of the Fort McDowell community, criticized those who felt "Indians must suffer so Phoenix won't be inconvenienced by floods.

"If my people are destroyed, each of you will share in the moral responsibility for the destruction," Pattea said. "Don't let it happen."





Barney Brown, a technician for Chemical Waste Management, cleans up some of the toxic waste found in Peoria. RICK WILEY/Tribune

## Hazardous waste found in Peoria

By Dave Downey  
and Emil Venere  
Tribune writers

*Tempe Daily  
Tribune  
12-17-87*

An anonymous tip has led to the discovery of about 20 containers of hazardous wastes buried in an area the Arizona Department of Transportation wants to extract dirt from to build the Outer Loop Freeway.

"We were saved from what could have been a very dangerous situation, where we could have dug into the banks accidentally," Paul McGonigle, ADOT spokesman, said Wednesday.

Corroding containers, apparently holding paint thinner, paint and pesticides were found on the banks of the dry Skunk Creek, near 83rd Avenue and Greenway Road in Peoria, McGonigle said.

Most of the drums had no label, but one container was labeled hydrochloric acid and apparently held residues of the chemical, officials said.

ADOT plans to begin removing dirt from

the creek within the next six weeks, and will use the soil for construction of the freeway nearby, McGonigle said.

"It (the waste) should not delay the project at all as long as they've gotten it all out of there," he said. "We were not ready yet to dig up that dirt."

The state will get the dirt for free. At the same time, the creek will be deepened and straightened, reducing the threat of flooding, said Dan Sagramoso, general manager of the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Peoria officials were tipped off about a fertilizer dump at the site last week, and state authorities were notified.

McGonigle said the tipster "quite obviously" had extensive knowledge of the dump site and the state's excavation plan. Such dumping was made illegal in 1983, he said.

The containers had been buried at least five years, said J. Rudy Komenda, scientific support coordinator for the state Department of

Environmental Quality's emergency response unit.

Komenda said workers were not sure of the precise number of containers.

"It's really hard to say because they came up in pieces, a lot of them," Komenda said. The containers ranged in size from 5 to 55 gallons. Some were plastic and others were metal.

"The only thing keeping them intact was the dirt around them," Komenda said.

When workers used heavy equipment to lift the corroded drums from their grave, most of them fell apart, spilling whatever materials were inside, he said.

Komenda said workers dug about 15 feet Tuesday, discovering the first drum at about 5 feet. Workers for a private waste disposal firm planned to haul the contaminated soil away for disposal today.

Until a laboratory analysis is complete, it

# Waste

From page A1

will be impossible to say with certainty what the drums contained, Komenda said.

"We're going to have to run quite a battery of tests," Komenda said. Judging by the odors, workers assumed the drums contained paint, pain thinners and pesticides.

The state attorney general's office will investigate the source of the dumping.

Komenda said he was not sure whether ground water had been contaminated by the dump.

"It's hard to say at this particular

time," Komenda said. "I just found out this evening that there is a well in the area."

He was not certain whether the well was used for drinking. Investigators will try to find markings on the containers that could lead them to the company that dumped the chemicals.

"We're looking for a smoking gun at this point," he said.

Pamela Swift, chairwoman of Toxic Waste Investigative Group, said the discovery means illegal dumping may be more widespread than previously thought. And Swift said that points out the need for tougher laws to control dumping, and for designation of a site near the Valley for disposal of hazardous wastes.

# Tempe/State

**SECTION B**

Calendar / B2  
Obituaries / B2

## Pro golfer's proposal could drive in Tempe's third public course

By Kari Bland  
Tribune writer

Tempe golfers could be teeing off from the city's third public course in about three years if a contract being negotiated is approved by the City Council.

With a go-ahead, construction on the nine-hole golf course in Indian Bend Wash between Curry and McKellips roads, north of the Salt River, could start in a year.

Tempe's two other golf courses are the Ken McDonald Golf Course in south Tempe and the Rolling Hills Golf Course in Papago Park.

The city Public Works Committee recommended city staff work on a contract to build the course with golfer Mike Morley, who played professionally for 14 years on the Professional Golfers Association tour.

Two other parties submitted bids for the project before the Oct. 15 deadline.

Ron Pies, city community services director, said Morley was chosen partly because of his plan for watering the course.

Morley said he would buy water rights from someone outside the city, drill a well in the Salt River bed and use groundwater to

water the golf course. That way, the city's water supply would not be affected.

Jim Jones, city director of public works, said it's a common practice to buy water rights from outside the city or even the county.

He said, for example, a farmer who no longer needs one of his wells can sell water rights to someone else.

Cities are limited by state law in how much water they can use. By using his own well, Morley would not dip into Tempe's water allotment.

"The water is a very important factor. All

three (bidders) could do the job, but the main concern was water," Pies said.

"The city of Tempe can't turn around and sell our water off and tell everybody to water their lawns three times a week because we've got to give this guy water for our golf course."

The other proposals from Brian Whitcomb, a golf pro in Paradise Valley since 1981, and Buster Quist, who is developing the Scottsdale Lakes Golf Club, suggested buying water from the city.

Those plans would have limited Tempe residents' water use for the city to stay

within the city's allotment.

Morley's project would be financially backed by Marno McDermott, chairman of Two Pesos, a Houston-based Mexican food chain.

The Maricopa County Flood Control District owns the land where the golf course would be built, but it is managed by Tempe.

If the contract is approved, the course would be owned by Morley, who would pay the city an annual fee to lease the land on

Please see **Course / B4**

## Course

From page B1

which the course would be built.

Morley would pay 2 percent of revenue or \$14,000 (whichever is higher) the first year. The percentage would increase to three percent or \$21,000 the next year. The percentage would raise by one point

each successive year until the 10th year, at which time the annual fee would remain at 10 percent of revenue collected or \$80,000.

The county and city must approve the contract before the golf course can be built. If approved, and barring delays, Morley's proposal says the course would be completed by late 1989.

The course design includes a two-story clubhouse and a lake.

Morley told the council he intends to light the entire course for night use.

Pies said the course is part of Tempe's effort to continue some Rio Salado Project plans. County voters rejected the project Nov. 3.

Morley is a two-time all-America golfer at Arizona State University. The 25-year golf veteran also is a member of the university's Sports Hall of Fame.

# Storm pummels Valley with strong winds, rain

Mesa  
Trib  
10-30

By Richard Polito  
Tribune writer

A major storm took a rush-hour commute across the Valley Thursday afternoon, ripping up trees, tearing down power poles and overturning at least a dozen mobile homes in its path.

Despite hundreds of emergency calls, no serious injuries were reported.

The storm reached the Phoenix area about 5 p.m. with wind gusts hitting 81 mph at Luke Air Force Base, and 86 mph at the Glendale airport. A peak gust of 41 mph was recorded at Sky Harbor International Airport.

Unofficially, 1.8 inches of rain was recorded in north Phoenix, but a National Weather Service spokeswoman said the major problem was the high winds.

Mesa, Tempe and Chandler escaped major damage, authorities said. "We had a real nice quiet time over here," said Jerry Lauchner, communications supervisor for Mesa's police and fire departments.

The storm spread east from a system over California, a Weather Service spokeswoman said. No more storms are predicted until Saturday or Sunday, she said.

At its height, the storm overturned a dozen mobile homes between 339th and 359th avenues along Interstate 10, Rural Metro Fire Department spokesman Frank Hodges said.

One trailer resident was taken to a hospital for treatment, Hodges said. A man in an overturned tractor-trailer rig on I-10 also was hospitalized, he said.

Power was knocked out across the Valley. An estimated 8,000 to 10,000 homes were without electricity in North Scottsdale, where six power poles fell, tearing down a quarter-mile of power line.

Hodges said about 20 people were trapped in their cars by the fallen wires, some for as long as two hours.

Please see **Storm / A8**



MICHAEL SCULLY/Tribune

A telephone pole was blown over onto this car on Scottsdale Road near McCormick Parkway.

## Storm

From page A1

Jean Nelson, whose auto was skewered by a fallen pole, spent two hours waiting for utility workers to shut off power so she could get out of her smashed car.

"I thought this could be it. I was concerned for my life," Nelson said.

When the dust started blowing across Scottsdale Road south of McCormick Parkway, Nelson pulled over next to two trees. Thinking the trees might fall, she drove near the pole. "As it turned out, that wasn't such a good idea," Nelson said.

The falling pole crashed through her rear window. "I wasn't scared once it happened," she said. "Then it was just a matter of sitting there and waiting."

Matt Farley, 16, was driving his

father's car when the poles fell. "I was lucky, I only had one wire wrapped around me," he said.

Farley said the wires were jumping and sparking across Scottsdale Road. "I wasn't thinking about anything else, just don't touch any metal," he said.

Another man accidentally drove into a lake to avoid the falling poles.

The downed poles knocked out power in a 10-square mile area, Arizona Public Service spokesman Brad Parker said. Some of the homes affected could be without power until today.

All available APS crews were out repairing the power lines, with at least a dozen wind-related power failures across the Valley, Parker said.

An estimated 20,000 to 30,000 Salt River Project electric customers also were without power, SRP spokeswoman Heather Clifby said.

Power was expected to be restored to most customers customers by this morning.

Clifby said downed poles at 75th and Northern avenues trapped several drivers, and that intersection along with several others in the north Phoenix area would remain closed today.

Fairgoers got an extra thrill when high winds swept through the state fairgrounds, said spokeswoman Sue Baker.

Baker said a few people received minor injuries from flying debris, but no one on any of the rides was hurt.

An infatigable trampoline tent collapsed on some children, but they all got out safely. "We had a lot of scared kids all over the grounds," Baker said.

Baker said fairgoers were directed from other areas into the coliseum when the wind picked up.

# Gila Drain needs OK of Indians

## Flood-control project would protect housing

By Bill Bailey  
Southeast Valley Bureau

There's an area in south Tempe and north Chandler where a quiet race is in progress.

The contest is between increasing residential construction and a proposed flood-control project that would protect the new growth and other areas as well.

If the project, known as the Gila Drain, is completed before the area is developed extensively, experts say, there never will be any flood threat to residents.

But if the race goes the other way and thousands of new dwellings are built before the drain is completed, a severe storm could flood many homes.

The area includes the entire southern portion of Tempe below the Western Canal.

William D. Mathews, chief engineer and general manager of the Flood Control District of Maricopa County, said the Gila Drain not only would solve Tempe's problem but would provide a floodwater outlet for the entire southeastern part of Maricopa County.

"We are anticipating being under construction on the Gila Drain perhaps as early as a year or so from now," Mathews said. "At this moment, we are working with the Gila River Indian Community.

"We're reviewing some old engineering and are trying to determine where to head next.

"Because quite a few earlier studies were incorrect, the Indians hired a hydrologist, actually a former employee of the district, Bill Jolly.

"I asked him to review everything and give the county a list of his 'misgivings' about the project.

"Once we get our differences of opinion settled, we'll pursue a final plan for the Gila Drain that is acceptable to all.

"This whole thing goes through the Indian reservation, and they're going to have to sign off on it, or, quite frankly, we are not going to be able to do it."

The chief district engineer said efforts are being made to develop a plan that will offer water-conservation capabilities as well as flood control.

"The Gila Drain is in our capital-improvements program and was shown in the 1983 fiscal year, which starts in July 1982," he said.

Conservation features should be viewed as distinct benefits by the

— Drain, Extra 7

Indians, who would make a portion of their reservation available as a destination for flood runoff, he said.

"All of this area drains southwest into the reservation, but there's no well-defined drain path because it's mostly tableland there," Mathews said.

The district is the "lead agency" in charge of the Gila Drain project, but there are other players who are expected to contribute financing and receive benefits.

In addition to the district, there are the cities of Chandler, Mesa and Tempe, the town of Gilbert and the Salt River Water Users Association.

Grover Serenbetz, director of public works for the city of Tempe, said he had expected construction to start some time ago.

"We're all ready to go," he said.

He said the preliminary design for the Gila Drain was completed in April 1979 by Coe & VanLoo Consulting Engineers Inc. of Phoenix on a contract with the district.

"The detailed or final design has not been done yet," he said.

Serenbetz said that from a cost-sharing standpoint, no formula has been worked out yet. Total cost of the drain is estimated at \$15 million to \$16 million, he said.

"Initially, Tempe and Mesa each agreed to assume 25 percent of the design costs, and the district is acting as the lead agency on the project, and may be considering 25 percent for its participation," the public-works director said, adding that the remaining 25 percent is to be divided between Chandler, Gilbert and the Salt River Project.

Serenbetz said the Gila Drain would be an open channel, concrete-lined in some places, but mostly bare earth.

The channel width at the bottom would range from 20 feet to about 40 feet and the sides would have gentle slopes.

Serenbetz said the Gila Drain would start at the Western Canal and run for about 2.5 miles through Tempe, and another 3.5 to 4 miles to the Indian Reservation, where it crosses under I-10.

He said the total reach from the Western Canal to the Gila River is about 17 miles.

"This drain would prevent the flooding of the area along south Rural Road, south of the Western Canal, in Tempe," Serenbetz said.

"Right now there's no place to discharge surface water from arterial streets in that part of the city."

He said that as curbs and gutters are added to streets, water becomes channeled and can travel more easily to lower areas. He said the area along Rural Road is the lowest elevation in that part of Tempe.

Additional water could come down the east slopes of South Mountain, flow under bridges and through box culverts on I-10 and hit Tempe at about Guadalupe Road, he said.

"We are contemplating, as part of the Gila Drain project, intercepting that flow along the eastern side of the freeway and carrying it south to the old I-10, Warner Road borrow pit that was used during construction of I-10," Serenbetz said.

He said that the way things are now it is difficult to develop the land from Elliott Road to about one-half of a mile south of Warner Road — about 1.5 miles along the eastern side of the freeway.

"It was part of the preliminary engineering study and we may try to proceed with that phase" before the main work begins, he said.

"If we can retain water in that borrow pit we won't have to make any agreement with the Indians to accommodate the South Mountain flow, because this would relieve the flow that goes toward the Indians," Serenbetz said.

"Probably nine or 10 bridges would have to be built, along with a couple of box culverts for roadway crossings.

"Construction will begin at the Western Canal and will go along the east side of Rural Road along the Western Canal to Warner Road.

"At that point, it will cross to the western side of Rural Road and continue south for another half a mile to Knox Road.

"Then it will cut diagonally in a southwesterly direction, down across Ray Road and into Chandler. From there it will continue on down into the Indian Reservation. It goes in a southwesterly direction once it leaves Rural Road."

Mesa would benefit, in addition.

Serenbetz said there is a series of storm water detention areas along the northern side of Superstition Freeway.

"Mesa drains to the south and a large portion of their area really is tributary to the Gila River," he said.

"Flow goes south into a holding basin at the northeastern corner of Price Road and the Western Canal.

"After a storm, Mesa would be able to release water from those basins into the Western Canal, and with the SRP able to release water from the Western Canal, it would permit the canal to take more of the water from Mesa."

# 100-foot roadblock divides cities over Price Expressway alignment

By W. Terry Smith  
Tribune writer

Less than 100 feet separates the Tempe and Chandler city councils from agreeing on an alignment for the planned 6.5-mile Price (Road) Expressway through both communities.

The Chandler City Council has endorsed Alignment B-3. Last week, the Tempe City Council said it preferred B-2.

At Calle del Norte in Tempe, the two alignments are about 75 feet apart. At Warner Road in Chandler, they are less than 100 feet apart.

"We will sit down with representatives from Chandler, Tempe and other key stakeholders and see what we can work out that will be agreeable to all concerned," said project manager Eric Keen of Dames & Moore.

"From an engineering standpoint, you're talking about real subtle changes."

Dames & Moore is the consulting engineering/environmental firm conducting the location-design study for the Arizona Department of Transportation.

A public hearing about the alignment and design of the six-lane road is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday at McClintock High School auditorium, 1830 E. Del Rio Drive.

The hearing will be preceded by an open house from 4 to 6:30 p.m. when exhibits showing the alternative alignments and designs for the expressway will be on display. Representatives of ADOT and Dames & Moore will answer questions.

People who are unable to attend the hearing may send written comments to James L. Smith, manager of ADOT's environmental planning services, 205 S. 17th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85007, by Aug. 10.

This fall, Dames & Moore will recommend an alignment and preliminary design to ADOT. After review, ADOT will ask the state Transportation Board to pass a right-of-way resolution authorizing ADOT to begin purchasing property in the path of the alignment.

The expressway is estimated to cost between \$256 million and \$321 million. It will be paid for by the half-cent sales tax for the Valley's 231 miles of transportation improvements.

Price Expressway connects the Superstition Freeway with the Santan Freeway. It is to be open to traffic by 1995. By 2015, it will be used by an average of 100,000 vehicles a day, ADOT estimates.

The Price Road corridor, which forms the Tempe-Chandler border, has been broken down into five segments with different alignment alternatives for each segment. Right of way required for the expressway ranges from 314 feet along the main roadway to 520 feet at the proposed interchanges.

Interchanges are planned at Guadalupe, Elliot, Warner and Ray roads, Chandler Boulevard and the Santan Freeway. The road probably will be elevated over the Western Canal, Ray Road and Chandler Boulevard.

"The alignments are almost on top of each other," Keen said. "There are no major environmental flaws with any of the alignments."

Only one alignment has been identified for the segment between Baseline and Guadalupe roads. It will not require acquiring any residential property.

Five alignment alternatives have been proposed for the segment between Guadalupe Road and Conference Drive.

# Public hearing on Price Expressway slated

By W. Terry Smith  
Tribune writer

A public hearing to give people in the East Valley a final opportunity to express opinions about the alignment and design of the Price Expressway through Chandler and Tempe is scheduled next week at McClintock High School auditorium, 1830 E. Del Rio Drive.

The public hearing will begin at 7 p.m. July 9.

This is the last step before Dames & Moore, the consulting engineering/environmental firm conducting the location-design study, recom-

mends an alignment and preliminary design to the Arizona Department of Transportation.

After ADOT reviews the recommendation, it will ask the state Transportation Board to pass a right-of-way resolution authorizing ADOT to begin buying property.

Those unable to attend the public hearing may send written comments to James L. Smith, manager of ADOT's environmental planning services, 205 S. 17th Ave., Phoenix 85007.

Exhibits showing the alternative alignments and designs for the

expressway will be on display at the school from 4 to 6:30 p.m., before the public hearing.

The Price Road corridor has been broken into five segments with a different alignment for each segment.

Price Expressway connects the Superstition Freeway with the Santan Freeway and will cost about \$77.5 million. Construction on this 6.5 mile roadway is scheduled to begin in the early 1990s and be completed by 1995.

Right-of-way required for the Price Expressway is estimated to

range from about 320 feet along the main roadway to 560 feet at the proposed interchanges.

The Price Expressway Environmental Assessment, which describes the impacts of the expressway and illustrates the proposed alternative alignments, is available for review at the Tempe, Chandler, Mesa and main Phoenix public libraries. It is a detailed report, 75 pages long, with maps of all the land that may be affected.

People with questions about the Price Road Expressway may call Orr at 371-1110.

# Cities look at Price Road compromise

## Chandler, Tempe weigh route impact

By Mary Meehan  
Tribune writer

The Chandler City Council is considering a compromise alignment for the Price Road Expressway that would do minimal damage to the ASU Research Park but destroy 14 homes in Tempe and Chandler.

Concern about the road's impact on Tempe's Circle G subdivision, the Arizona State University Research Park and a Motorola plant sparked debate between the cities on which path the road would take.

But Chandler Mayor Jerry Brooks and Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell said Tuesday that both sides realize the cities must agree on an alignment to ensure the project will be built.

Although the Arizona Department of Transportation will make the final decision,

Brooks said a squabble over the alignment could mean Price would drop on ADOT's priorities list.

"We could end up at the end of the list," said Chandler Public Works Director Robert Warnick, "and that would mean no project at all."

In a memo to the Chandler City Council, Warnick recommended support for alignment "B" from Guadalupe Road to Conference Drive and alignment "3" from Conference Drive to Chandler Boulevard.

The proposed alignment is an example of "give and take on both sides," he said, the result of Tempe and Chandler engineers working together.

"We all recognize that alignment "B" is something both cities can live with," said Tempe traffic engineer Harvey Friedson, "but I am not saying that will be the way the council is going to go."

Tempe City Manager Jim Alexander said there was concern that moving the freeway too

close to the research park would disrupt delicate instruments used there. Alignment "B" would require that at least 300 feet be left between the research park and the freeway, Warnick said.

Under alignment "B," 52 apartments and eight homes in Chandler would be destroyed between Guadalupe Road and Conference Drive.

Alignment "3," which runs from Conference Drive to Chandler Boulevard, would destroy 6 homes in Tempe's Circle G subdivision.

A survey from a Chandler open house on the expressway found that 116 of 157 people supported alignment "A," which would take land from the research park and Motorola and destroy only one home. That alignment would have pushed most of the freeway onto the Tempe side, Friedson said.

Brooks said he isn't worried that supporting the compromise alignment will go against public sentiment, because he thinks the public will realize it's for the good of both communities.

"We can't keep everybody happy no matter what we do," he said.

# Falcon Ridge plat proposals gain approval

By Robert Perez  
Tribune writer

Following the lead of the city's Planning and Zoning Commission, the City Council Monday accepted staff recommendations for three Falcon Ridge project plats.

The staff versions of the plats increase the amount of open space in the Bellamah Community Development parcels and reduce the number of homes to be built there.

A Bellamah representative, Scottsdale architect Vern Swabach, told the council that reducing the number of homes below the projected 3,830 houses could jeopardize the successful completion of the 1,835-acre project.

"That's the nutrients to this plan like the sap in a tree or the blood in your veins," Swabach said. "I must try to get the 3,830, and I can never apologize for that."

The 4-3 vote to accept the May 21 planning and zoning recommendations followed the 4-3 defeat of a motion to accept a Bellamah compromise that would have allowed two of the four plats to be developed in lots smaller than what the zoning requires for average-sized lots.

Councilwoman Peggy Rubach

said Bellamah had not shown work deserving of the special designation. Rubach also said she was disappointed in the lack of creativity shown by the Bellamah plats.

Swabach said Bellamah's efforts to preserve the desert, reduce density and increase open space were all concessions.

The council voted to postpone a decision on how a fourth plat in the development will be zoned.

Opponents and supporters of the development felt the council's first decision would set the standard for the rest of the development.

The Spook Hill Homeowner's Committee, a group that has fought to reduce the number of houses and increase the amount of preserved desert vegetation, asked the council to accept the planning and zoning commission's recommendations.

Falcon Ridge is in the city's Desert Uplands area. Much of the debate about density and desert preservation revolves around the Desert Uplands Development Concept Plan, which dictates development in the area. Desert Uplands is bounded by Tonto National Forest and McKellips Road, Usery Mountain Regional Park and the Central Arizona Project canal.

# Water resources need improving

**L**ast week members of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District board of directors and its staff completed a two-day tour of southern California sites where extensive underground water recharge and water treatment projects are in operation.

As guests of the Metropolitan Water District we were given an opportunity observe the techniques, methods and procedures used to monitor and deliver groundwater quality in the MWD service area.

We are fortunate in central Arizona that we don't have to deal with some of the challenges that complicate life for our California neighbors.

As our population continues to soar we can expect demands on our water resources that make it imperative that there be no delay in developing water service capabilities equal to whatever our future requirements prove to be.

Already Tucson, Mesa and Phoenix are responding to the need for underground water recharge planning.

For months CAWCD has been examining the underground water recharge potential in what is known as Butler Valley.

Legislation to enable fully effective underground water recharge possibilities was given favorable consideration in the last session of the legislature and in this session important additional consideration is under way.

Now is the time to implement the storage of every drop of water that can be banked in underground basins until retrieval becomes necessary.



**Howard Pyle**

Commentary

The future is certain to find us going through the same kinds of dry cycles we have known in other years when the runoff from the watersheds on which we depend dropped so low as to be critical.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is servicing the supplemental water needs of 27 member agencies, including 135 crowded cities and numerous unincorporated communities in five counties, by relying on 12 regional groundwater basins as the foundation of its water supply.

To the extent that these basins are kept recharged they can continue to meet the region's supplemental water needs.

Making the most of recharge opportunities becomes the difference between water in reserve and no water when the need is critical.

*Howard Pyle is former governor of Arizona.*

# DAM

## A Faulty Proposal

*Editor:*

In the plans for flood control, water supply and storage in which construction of new dams and the reworking of existing dams are being considered, there seems to be something unexplained in the plan for raising the height of Roosevelt Dam by approximately 70 feet.

The only instance to my knowledge of a dam for which plans exist for increasing its height is the Ross Dam in the state of Washington. Provisions for the increased height were included in the original design. The dam was not built to its full height because the water would have backed up over the border, to which the Canadians objected at the time of construction.

An increase in the height of Roosevelt Dam would cause substantial added pressure to the foundation, which it is not designed to accommodate. To deal with this and other problems, the lake would need to be kept at a relatively low level during the reconstruction phase which could last several years. The lake would be of little value for flood control during this period.

I submit that the safest, most satisfactory and probably most economical solution to the problem is to use the best available site downstream and build a completely new Roosevelt Dam. There would be a number of advantages to this proposal, one of which is that the functions of the present dam would continue until the new dam was finished.

Then the demolition crew would do their job in the name of progress. A sad thought — I remember my first trip over the Apache Trail in 1926 to visit the dam. It was a big event for a kid from Kansas.

MARVIN A. PRINGLE  
*Phoenix*

# Mesa seeks permits for water storage

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Mesa wants to store water in the ground for a not-so-rainy day, but first, hurdles must be cleared that include getting necessary permits from the state Water Resources and Health Services departments.

Watching with interest are Chandler, Tempe, Scottsdale and Phoenix.

"We're going through the (permit) process and hope to have it cleared so we can take the water by July 1," said Mesa's city Water Resources Manager Karl Kohlhoff.

Kohlhoff said he hopes to take advantage of relatively cheap Central Arizona Project water.

CAP is offering a deal this year on water intended for underground storage because of the Colorado River's near-record flows, which are more than Arizona farmers and cities need.

Mesa can buy the water for \$39.30 an acre-foot, the cost of pumping it uphill from the river, plus \$2. An acre-foot is roughly the amount of water a family of five uses in a year.

Kohlhoff said participating cities will buy a certain percentage of the water and pay a portion of those costs. For example, if a city bought an interest in 50,000 of the 200,000 acre-feet expected to be available, it would pay one-fourth of the construction and maintenance cost.

A management group composed of representatives from each city would sit down each year to determine how much water to store and where to get it, Kohlhoff said.

Mesa plans to buy 20,000 to 60,000 acre-feet and store it beneath the bed of the Salt River, between Gilbert Road and a half-mile east of Val Vista Drive.

The 2½-mile-long underground reservoir can hold 200,000 acre-feet, or enough to satisfy the

needs of 1 million people for one year. The site is on Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community land.

"We're working with them to get their permission to do this, and, of course, they have some indirect benefits," Kohlhoff said. Ground-water levels will rise in some areas, making it easier for Indian farmers to pump water from wells, he said.

Kohlhoff, former city engineer and public works director for Glendora, Calif., said Southern California cities have been storing water in the ground since the early 1960s.

"The secret is, in the wet years you bank. It's just like money. And then in the dry years, you pump it out," Kohlhoff said.

Kohlhoff said it will cost \$5 to \$10 an acre-foot to build and operate the reservoir and \$65 to pump it out, bringing the total cost to \$110 to \$115 an acre-foot, he said.

*Tempe  
Daily News  
1-20-87*



## Put Plan 6 checks in the mail

The sudden loss of Cliff Dam, used as a bargaining chip to protect the rest of the Central Arizona Project's Plan 6, has generated more heat than light in the Valley. The light was shed last week when six of the seven-member Arizona congressional delegation came to Phoenix to explain their sudden decision to surrender Cliff.

The delegation abandoned plans for Cliff Dam in exchange for an agreement with a dozen environmental groups to drop lawsuits against not only Cliff but three other dams, and dam work, planned on the Salt, Verde and Agua Fria rivers. In view of the lawsuits and the mood of Congress, Rep. Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz., said Cliff had no chance. Other members agreed.

Although the dam is lost, it is quite possible that the water it would have provided — and its flood control potential — is not. There are attractive alternatives. As Sen. John McCain put it, as long as cities are guaranteed a water supply from the CAP's Plan 6, they should not care whether they "have a dam or a banana."

Larry Morton, assistant Bureau of Reclamation Projects officer in Phoenix, is reviewing alternatives for water supply and flood control that were lost by the removal of Cliff Dam from the plan. Putting surplus water from the Salt into underground recharge is one possibility, as is a higher New Wadell Dam and a

higher-than-planned Roosevelt Dam. Also under consideration is rebuilding Horseshoe Dam on the Verde, and some Verde and Salt River modifications. The latter would include levees, channels and a Salt River greenbelt.

What is important here is that Valley cities continue to provide up-front funding for Plan 6 — despite the loss of Cliff. This funding agreement was instrumental in House passage last month of a record \$237 million for CAP work in fiscal 1988.

The cities must realize they are in a win-win situation. The advance money will be put in escrow at interest, and if the benefits lost from Cliff are not forthcoming, the Interior Department will make refunds.

The advanced funding feature is also part of a contract with Interior that calls for the completion of the remainder of Plan 6. Actually, it's a "sweetheart" contract, with very favorable interest rates, that calls for Interior to pay Arizona penalties if work is not completed on time. The federal Office of Management and Budget will not again allow this feature in a contract.

Several cities have withheld current payments because of the demise of Cliff. Those checks should be in the mail forthwith; otherwise Plan 6 and the benefits that would have ensued from Cliff will be put in jeopardy.

## Flood plain facts

I see Marilyn Deprest of Mesa (letter, June 16) is still at it, with distortions and baseless allegations. Deprest first notes that the largest flood on the Salt River was 300,000 cubic feet per second.

What she doesn't tell is that flood occurred in 1890, before any of the seven dams now controlling floods on the Salt-Verde watershed were in place. She next notes that the 25-cent property tax would cover only half the cost of the project. Exactly!

By buying land early in the project and banking it to appreciate and be resold later, the project will give the taxpayers \$2 worth of park for each \$1 of tax money. Far from an indictment, that's one of Rio Salado's greatest selling points.

There are dumps along the Salt. One of the first jobs of the Rio Salado Development District, if the voters approve, will be to survey the river to find dumps we don't know about.

Then, the object is to either clean them up completely or find uses for those that can't be cleaned up. The greatest incentive I can think of for cleaning up dumps in the river is Rio Salado. The pressure to develop will create enormous pressure to clean up.

The fact remains that Rio Salado calls for construction in the 100-year flood plain is the current standard. It's illegal to build in it; financial institutions won't lend for construction in it, and insurance companies won't insure in a 100-year flood plain. Rio Salado doesn't propose to change any of that.

**Tracey Pappas**  
Mesa

# Congress bursts Cliff Dam plan

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer  
and Dinah Wisenberg  
States News Service

## Environmentalists win battle

Cliff Dam is dead.

Arizona's congressional delegation announced an agreement Thursday to scuttle the controversial flood control and water storage project in exchange for environmentalists' promise to drop a suit threatening the entire Plan 6.

Environmentalists also agreed to stop fighting funding for the rest of Plan 6 and the Central Arizona Project.

The \$3.32 billion CAP's main feature is a 330-mile canal system completed as far as

### Rio Salado still alive / A6

the Valley and expected to reach Tucson by 1991.

Plan 6, estimated to cost \$1.1 billion, is the CAP's final leg. The plan includes a new Cliff Dam on the Verde River, a raised Theodore Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and a rebuilt Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River. About \$1.6 billion has been spent on the CAP.

The agreement drew praise from environmentalists, who claim Cliff would destroy key foraging areas used by two pairs of endangered bald eagles, while city officials in the Valley labeled it a disaster that could jeopardize Arizona's future.

The loss of Cliff also was mourned by Arizona's congressional delegation, state water officials and the Salt River Project.

"It's about time," said Scottsdale environmentalist Carolina Butler. "It's the classic lunatic project. That's all it ever

was. It should have been dropped a long time ago."

But Mesa water resources manager Karl Kohlhoff said everybody in the state loses. "What is water to Arizona? It's everything. It's the future," he said.

Congress authorized the CAP in 1968 with Orme Dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers or a "suitable" alternative. Orme was killed in 1976 after environmentalists said it threatened other bald eagles and Indians objected because it would flood the Fort McDowell reservation.

Plan 6, a compromise, was selected in 1981.

Please see **Cliff Dam / A6**

CLIFF DAM PROJECT

# Rio Salado stays afloat despite Cliff Dam action

By Adrienne Flynn  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — Even without Cliff Dam, the Rio Salado Project will go on, say backers of a plan to turn 17 miles of barren Salt River bed into a lush ribbon of development and recreation.

John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado, said the dam's demise may "uncomplicate our lives" by dispelling the notion that the two are linked.

"The Rio Salado Project can go forward with or without Cliff Dam, and in fact there was a good 10 to 15 years work before Cliff Dam went on line anyway," DeWitt said.

"All we have to do is educate people that we're not tied to Cliff Dam."

He said some of Rio Salado's most vocal opponents were environmentalists concerned about the dam wiping out a nesting area for bald eagles.

"We're hoping that if they have been satisfied on the Cliff Dam issue, they will evaluate Rio Salado in that light and support it," DeWitt said.

Citizens for Rio Salado plans to spend about \$650,000 to tell voters about the project, which was conceived in the 1960s by Arizona State University architecture students.

The group hopes its efforts will produce

the votes needed Nov. 3 to pass a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 in assessed valuation and \$325 million in bonding authority to get the project under way.

Although the show will go on, DeWitt and representatives of the three key cities involved — Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix — say putting the kibosh on Cliff Dam will alter the breadth of Rio Salado.

Because Cliff Dam was the cornerstone of upstream flood control, it's end will mean development cannot move as close to the river plain as planned.

But DeWitt is quick to add, "It will still provide a magnificent park system through the center of the Valley."

Tempe has led the Rio Salado drive and was the first city to approve a development plan and begin a Rio Salado advisory board. Mesa and Phoenix also have established boards to oversee riverbed development, and all are members of the regional Rio Salado board.

Tempe City Planner Steve Neilson said the city's plan may need revision and new approval with the changes in upstream flood control, but it is by no means dead.

"When the Rio Salado was at its inception, we proposed three different types of schemes — progressively more intense water uses," he said. "The most intense was adopted by the council. It's the lushest plan.

If Cliff Dam does not happen, then Tempe would just fall back on one of the less intense plans."

Last year, Neilson said, Tempe approved \$160 million worth of construction within its Rio Salado boundaries.

Rio Salado's regional plan was developed when the Legislature authorized a district be formed with representatives of the metropolitan cities. Then a national consulting firm put together a map of development.

Hanna said the Rio Salado project "is a national attraction that we think is going to benefit the whole Valley."



MESA TRIBUNE  
JUNE 19, 1987

The proposed Cliff Dam project was intended in part to control flooding. This file photo shows the Salt River covering an unbridged crossing in Mesa. The dam would have gone on the Verde River which flows into the Salt River.



Arizona Sen. Dennis DeConcini, left, speaks on Capitol Hill following announcement that plans for Cliff Dam will be halted. At right is Rep. Morris Udall.

## Cliff Dam

From page A1

After learning late last week that Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, R-Pa., was mapping strategy to slash the \$1.2 million fiscal 1988 appropriation for Cliff, Arizona's senators and representatives huddled 13 times Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to save Plan 6.

Threatened by the conservation coalition's mounting support in the House to kill all Plan 6 funding, "the delegation, with some misgivings, decided to give up on Cliff Dam," Rep. Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz., told a press conference Thursday.

"We're flexible enough to say we can put this thing together without Cliff Dam."

Udall called the agreement a historic turning point in the CAP's three-decade history.

"This is the legislative home run that brings the Central Arizona Project home," said Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz. "It was the best that we could come up with at this time."

But Republican Rep. Bob Stump said, "I sit here with my colleagues with the greatest reluctance. I have some concern that we may have moved too fast."

Unclear is what will happen to the pact Arizona officials made with the U.S. interior secretary in April 1986 for \$349 million in advance Plan 6 payments. Arizona already has paid \$21.4 million.

Sens. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., and John McCain, R-Ariz., said the agreement would not nullify the federal-state cost-sharing arrangement.

Although Arizona isn't obliged to pay the federal government back until the CAP is completed, Arizona officials agreed to pay some in advance in exchange for Interior's

promise to speed completion of Plan 6.

"The cities did the cost-sharing agreement as a way to acquire some water," said Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association.

"Without Cliff, that water isn't there. We certainly aren't going to put up money to buy nothing," Manning said. "So, I think the whole cost-sharing agreement is in jeopardy."

"Cliff Dam was not just an item that was isolated unto itself. You pull that thread, and the question is, 'How far do we unravel?'"

Mitch Snow, Interior Department spokesman in Washington, said it also is unclear if Plan 6 can be built, legally, without Cliff, and if other studies or environmental assessments would be required.

"That's one of several technical issues we'll have to look at that are far from resolved at this point," Snow said.

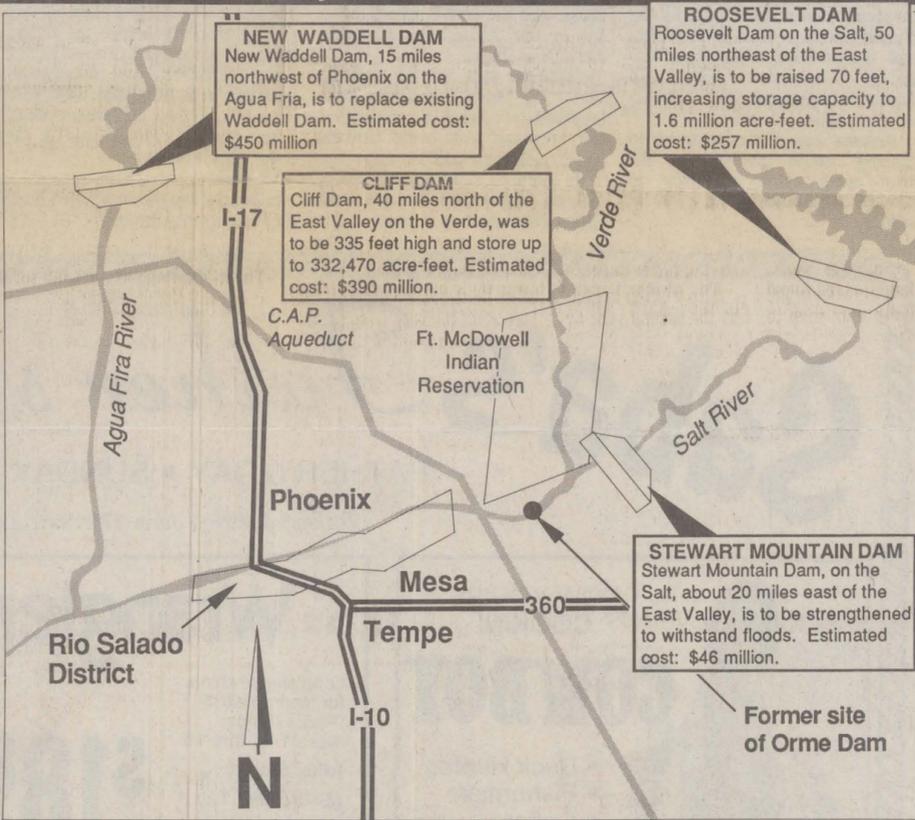
Maricopa Audubon Society president Herb Fibel stopped short of proclaiming the agreement a major victory for environmentalists. "All I can say is we are cautiously optimistic. We thought at the time that Orme Dam was scrapped that that was a huge victory. But what was proposed in its place was 10 times as bad."

"Water projects are the oil or the lubrication that keeps Congress functioning," Fibel said. "They are the fabric of the trading in Congress. With that kind of a background, water projects never seem to be dead."

Salt River Project General Manager Jack Pfister said SRP, which would have operated Cliff, was "deeply disappointed."

"But the delegation had determined that all of Plan 6 could be in jeopardy by the further funding of Cliff," he said. "And, once they made

## Central Arizona Project Plan 6



Tribune graphic

that determination, we believed the settlement made sense."

"But it has significant consequences for the metropolitan Phoenix area. Those consequences are that it reduces the flood control that will be done on the Verde River, and there's a loss of approximately 20,000 acre-feet of water. The metropolitan Phoenix cities will have to find an alternate supply."

Udall said: "The delegation has pledged, and we hereby pledge again... to get back the water for Phoenix and other cities that they would have gotten if Cliff Dam had been built."

Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard applauded the delegation for recognizing flood control still is needed and asking the Army Corps of Engineers to study what can be done in Cliff's absence.

But Pfister said no other project can control flooding as well. He noted Cliff would have cut the peak flow of a 100-year flood from 215,000 cubic feet per second to 55,000 cfs.

Major floods in 1979-80 crippled the Valley, ripping out all but two bridges over the Salt. Those left standing — Tempe's Mill Avenue bridge and Phoenix's Central Avenue — backed up with traffic for hours daily for several months.

Kohlhoff said Mesa had rights to 15 percent of Cliff's water, meaning the city would have received about

3,000 acre-feet a year. An acre-foot is what a family of five uses in a year.

Kohlhoff added that, without Cliff, the Valley loses a chance to increase the average annual yield of 800,000 acre-feet from the Salt and Verde rivers by 30 percent with cloud seeding along the Mogollon Rim.

"You can do so much when you have the storage capacity," said Bill Wheeler, director of the Central Arizona Project Association. "You can do so little for yourself when you don't have it."

"If the feds don't live up to their end of the bargain, we should build it ourselves," Kohlhoff said. He said Plan 6 virtually is useless to cities without Cliff.

Tempe senior management assistant Bill Pederson added, "It certainly doesn't help this area in its quest for additional water supplies to serve the future population."

"Only about 15 percent of the Salt River Project storage is on the Verde," Pederson said. "The other 85 percent is on the Salt River. Additional storage space is certainly needed to capture excess waters that flow down the Verde River in certain years to say nothing of the additional flood protection."

"It is not as critical for Tempe as it is for the other cities," he said. "Our boundaries aren't expanding. Our water rights in the Salt and

Verde rivers are sufficient to meet our ultimate needs."

Karen O'Regan, Chandler water resources adviser, said Chandler lost a chance at 1,462 acre-feet a year, or enough for 7,000 people.

Phoenix, which was counting on Cliff for much of its future water needs, stands to lose the most water, said Goddard's assistant, Pat Manion.

"We're very, very disappointed," Manion said.

Support for Cliff began to unravel last winter. Fearing environmental groups had a strong case, federal, state and local officials met secretly in Las Vegas, Nev., in January to discuss whether to give up the dam to save Plan 6.

"At the close, the Arizonans decided they would have the congressional delegation fight to restore the money. That was a cop-out. The Democratic-controlled Senate will not vote the money," a Bureau of Reclamation source said after the meeting.

"Plan 6 is coming apart," the source said. "Plan 6 exists only because one link is chained to another. If one link breaks, the entire plan is in very deep trouble."

When Congress approved the CAP in 1968, it estimated the total project cost at \$832,180.

Ben Winton and W. Terry Smith contributed to this story.

## CHRONOLOGY

- 1968: Congress authorizes Central Arizona Project with the \$42 million Orme Dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers.
- 1976: Orme Dam is scrapped amid heavy opposition from environmentalists, tubers and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa and Fort McDowell Indian reservations.
- 1977: Interagency Task Force on Orme Dam Alternatives is created by Gov. Raul Castro. Brent W. Brown, executive director of Arizona Office of Economic Planning and Development, is named chairman.
- 1978: Interagency Task Force concludes more than one dam is necessary to provide the regulatory, flood control and water storage functions Orme offered. Also, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers adopts new safety standards for dams, leaving most U.S. dams, including those on the Salt, Verde and Agua Fria rivers, substandard. Central Arizona Water Controls Study panel is created.
- 1978-80: Major floods hit the Valley.
- 1981: Central Arizona Water Controls Study lists nine alternatives to Orme; concludes Plan 6 is best. Plan 6 includes new Cliff Dam on the Verde River, raised Roosevelt Dam on the Salt and rebuilt Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River. Eugene Hinds, regional director of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region, recommends Plan 6 to Interior Secretary James Watt in October.
- 1984: Interior Secretary William Clark approves Plan 6 as suitable alternative to Orme Dam. Only a few days later, bald eagle nests are discovered in Cliff's path. Final environmental impact statement is filed in March.
- 1985: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issues "final biological opinion" in August, declaring Cliff Dam won't jeopardize endangered bald eagles if strict guidelines are followed. In September, a coalition of national and environmental groups files a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Phoenix, claiming Cliff would destroy key bald eagle foraging areas.
- 1986: Interior Secretary Don Hodel signs cost-sharing agreement with Arizona officials in April. Arizona cities and water districts agree to pay \$348 million of Plan 6's \$1.1 billion cost in advance in exchange for federal government's promise to speed completion of CAP. In August, Salt River Project concludes hydroelectric generator at Cliff wouldn't be economically feasible.
- 1987: Federal, state and local officials meet behind closed doors in Las Vegas, Nev., and in Phoenix to discuss whether Cliff should be sacrificed to salvage remaining features of Plan 6. U.S. General Accounting Office concludes CAP's updated cost — \$3.32 billion — exceeds authorized spending limit in February. Environmental groups amend suit in March, claiming Plan 6 is illegal because its cost — \$1.1 billion — is 10 times Orme's \$110 million indexed cost. On June 12, Rep. Larry Coughlin, R-Pa., asks fellow representatives to delete money for Cliff. Judging Coughlin has support, members of Arizona's congressional delegation huddle in 13 secret meetings June 16, 17 and 18. On June 18, delegation announces it agreed to scrap Cliff to save rest of Plan 6 and environmental groups announce intention to drop suit.

Mesa Tribune  
7-25-87

# Four Valley cities to resume their CAP payments

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Chandler, Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix have decided to resume the Central Arizona Project payments they stopped in late June when the controversial Cliff Dam on the Verde River was scrapped.

Other Valley cities are expected to join them.

The cities are operating on the premise they will get their money back if the federal government doesn't make up for the water Cliff would have provided.

The cities had counted on 30,000 acre-feet of water a year — enough to supply 150,000 people — from Plan 6. About two-thirds of that would have come from the new reservoir behind Cliff.

Plan 6, which also included a raised Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and a new Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River, is the \$1.1 billion final leg of the \$3.3 billion CAP. The CAP's 330-mile canal system is delivering water to the Valley and is scheduled to reach Tucson by 1991.

In 1986, Valley cities pledged \$49 million in up-front payments to the federal government to guarantee Plan 6's completion ahead of schedule.

But after the state's congressional delegation abandoned Cliff in exchange for environmentalists' promise to drop their lawsuit against Plan 6, the cities abruptly suspended quarterly payments due July 1.

The cities decided this week to release those payments, which carried a 30-day grace period, because federal officials promised to find other water

sources or give them their money back.

"I feel very strongly that it's inappropriate to collect money for portions of the project which may not get built," said Interior Secretary Donald Hodel, who was in the Valley on Thursday to speak at a Republican fund-raiser.

Cities' payments will be held in escrow and later returned if satisfactory water project alternatives aren't found, he said.

# Panel files Cliff Dam complaint

## Water-users group writes to lawmakers

Staff and wire reports

PHOENIX — Vowing to link payments to benefits, the directors of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association decided Wednesday to complain to Arizona's congressional delegation about cancellation of the planned Cliff Dam.

Phoenix Mayor Terry Goddard said he would hand deliver the letter today, adding an agenda item to his planned trip to Washington, D.C.

"This way we'll have quick delivery, and it should add a certain amount of impact to our letter," he said.

Goddard also sounded a theme of the meeting — that the eight mayors who make up the AMWUA will withhold payments on a \$60 million cost-sharing schedule in the Central Arizona Project's Plan 6 until their cities are assured that flood-control and water-storage components of the CAP project will be restored.

"We will not be paying until we know what we'll be getting," he said.

Congressional delegation members last week announced agreement with a coalition of environmentalists who opposed the \$316 million dam, planned on the Verde River northeast of Phoenix in an area where bald eagles nest.

The agreement mentions the need for greater flood control on the Verde and a commitment "to ensure that the (Salt River) Valley cities will secure water supplies . . . that otherwise would have been provided by Cliff Dam." But it does not suggest how the pledges will be met.

In return for dropping the dam, the environmentalists agreed to cease their court fight against the project and their opposition to continued funding by Congress of other Plan 6 dam projects.

In related developments earlier Wednesday, the U.S. House approved the agreement and also authorized about \$230 million for CAP projects during fiscal 1988. The \$230 million compares with \$202 million approved during the current fiscal year and the Reagan adminis-

# Cliff

From page B1

tration's recommendation of approximately \$268 million for fiscal 1989.

"There is no cost-sharing agreement now," said AMWUA Executive Director Roger Manning. "Withholding payments — that's what I think most of the cities are going to do. The agreement is a package."

He said the letter would be "stronger and more specific as to what the cities' needs are."

Congressional failure to replace key water benefits of Cliff Dam could lead to the collapse of Plan 6, he said.

In Washington, Rep. Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz., said House approval of the pact "will begin a process of ending this warfare before it takes an increasingly greater toll of time, energy, resources and political capital which the Arizona delegation needs" for other matters.

"Chief among these objectives is completion of the Central Arizona Project," he said.

Udall said the delegation was committed to working with federal agencies and other interests to resolve the flood-control and water-replacement questions.

The CAP cost-sharing agreement provides for cities and other interests to provide funds for the massive aqueduct system to carry Colorado River water to users in central and southern Arizona.

Cities and other interests agreed to pay money up front, instead of paying back the federal government for CAP construction costs under the original arrangement, in order to speed the project's completion.

Udall said the cost-sharing agreement must be revamped to reflect the changed circumstances regarding water storage and flood control.

Other officials said elimination of Cliff Dam jeopardizes the pledges made by Phoenix-area cities and other water interests to help pay for the Plan 6 dam projects in exchange for water and other benefits expected from Cliff Dam.

Tempe City Manager Jim Alexander said Wednesday that the city plans to withhold CAP payments "at least until we resolve what direction we're going to go."

"Obviously there's going to have to be some changes made" to the cost-sharing agreement, he said.

Karl Kohlhoff, Mesa water resources manager, said the City Council would have to vote to stop payments.

"That would be one way to send a message," he said. "Why should we pay money into something we're not getting anything out of?"

Kohlhoff added that water users may also choose to reallocate costs, as allowed under the agreement, or renegotiate the cost-sharing pact.

Karen O'Regan, Chandler water resources adviser, said city officials are considering withholding payments, but Chandler's response to Cliff's demise will depend on the outcome of meetings with other cities covered in the agreement.

On Tuesday, Phoenix city water adviser Bill Chase presaged Goddard's message by saying the city would withhold its next scheduled CAP payment until it was known what would happen to Plan 6.

# Cliff Dam's demise changes cloud-seeding project

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Without Cliff Dam, the state will have to change plans to boost the Valley's water supply by artificially increasing mountain snowfall, Arizona's water director says.

A preliminary federal study concluded 300,000 acre-feet could be generated by injecting clouds with iodide particles, forcing them to drop more snow than normal.

But the study assumed Cliff Dam would be in place to catch new water flowing off the mountains into the Verde River, said

Department of Water Resources Director Alan Kleinman.

The \$390 million dam, to have been built 40 miles north of the East Valley, was scuttled by Arizona's congressional delegation last week amidst growing opposition in Congress.

The dam's death cuts by about one-third — to 200,000 acre-feet — the amount of new water that could be made available. An acre-foot is roughly what a family of five uses in a year.

Bill Wheeler, Central Arizona Project Association executive director, said the

snow-making effort would be aimed at increasing water in two rivers — the Verde and the Salt.

"We essentially lose one side of that," Wheeler said.

The two existing Verde reservoirs — Bartlett and Horseshoe — can't hold the large amounts of new water that would be created, he said.

"I see us moving the weather modification program a little farther to the east," Kleinman said.

There is room for the additional water in the Salt River reservoirs, he said, and

Roosevelt Lake's capacity is being expanded from 1.3 million acre-feet to 1.6 million acre-feet.

But officials may have to work out a pact with Apache Indians living in the White Mountains, Wheeler said, because a program aimed entirely at the Salt would affect their land.

"Now, we've got to talk to them and convince them of the need to carry on this research," he said.

Cliff Dam's death was untimely, he added, because the Apaches are suing the Bureau of Indian Affairs over alleged

mismanagement of their forests.

The Bureau of Reclamation is planning a demonstration cloud-seeding project along the Mogollon Rim next winter to expand on the study begun this year, Wheeler said.

The bureau is studying the potential for a major cloud-seeding effort throughout the seven-state Colorado River basin and predicts up to 1.4 million acre-feet could be created.

The total cost would be \$12 million to \$16 million a year, said John Lease, a branch chief in the bureau's Engineering and Research Center in Denver.

## River can be harnessed without Cliff, official says

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Flooding on the Salt River can be controlled without Cliff Dam, but not nearly as effectively, Joe Dixon, chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Arizona Planning Office, said Friday.

Arizona's U.S. senators and representatives agreed Thursday to give up the proposed \$390 million dam in exchange for environmentalists' promise to drop a lawsuit aimed at Cliff and support funding for the rest of the Central Arizona Project.

Cliff was part of the \$1.1 billion Plan 6, the final leg of the \$3.32 billion CAP canal, pumping plant

and dam system. About \$1.6 billion has been spent on the CAP, said Bureau of Reclamation spokesman Bob Walsh.

Environmentalists agreed to endorse expenditures to repair Horseshoe and Bartlett dams on the Verde River. The two sides also agreed to ask the Army Corps of Engineers to study what can be done in Cliff's absence to protect the Valley from floods like the ones that occurred in 1978-80.

A Federal Emergency Management Agency report concluded last November those floods enlarged the Salt River bed, leaving

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## Dam

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behind more space to contain future floods.

But Dixon said there still is a need for protection, and the "two-dam alternative" proposed in the CAP would have worked best.

With Cliff on the Verde and a raised Theodore Roosevelt Dam on the Salt, the peak flow of the flood that hits about once every 100 years would have fallen from 200,000 cubic feet per second to 55,000 cfs.

A 200,000 cfs flood would cause extensive damage. A 55,000 cfs flood would cause minimal damage.

Alan Kleinman, state Department of Water Resources director, noted that "the Verde River is virtually an uncontrolled river despite the fact that we have two dams on it. And the Verde usually has been the biggest problem in most floods."

Cliff Dam was designed to control the Verde, which joins the Salt north of Mesa.

"It's our belief that we won't get back all of the flood protection that Cliff would have provided," said Salt River Project General Manager Jack Pfister.

Dixon said there are other ways to protect the Valley from floods, but it is unlikely a way can be found to reduce the peak flow to anywhere near 55,000 cfs.

However, civil engineer Frank Welsh, executive director of the taxpayer group Citizens Concerned About the Project, said, "There is a way. Their statement is not true."

Welsh said the government can install outlets that could empty Horseshoe and Bartlett before floods hit. "Then the whole dam can be used to catch the peak," he said.

By raising Roosevelt and Bartlett and installing outlets at Bartlett and Horseshoe for a total cost comparable to Cliff's, Welsh said, the government can reduce the 100-year flood to 50,000 cfs.

# Lawmakers may pull Cliff Dam proposal

## Move could save other Plan 6 projects

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Afraid that Central Arizona Project opponents now have enough guns to blow the proposed Cliff Dam out of the water, Arizona's congressional delegation may try to salvage two related dam projects by abandoning Cliff, sources said Wednesday.

The embattled \$390 million dam, which environmental groups have challenged in court since September 1985, is under attack in Congress by Rep. Larry Coughlin, R-Pa.

Coughlin failed last year to delete Cliff Dam from a water appropriations bill, but he is attempting to do it again this year and has plenty of support, said Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz.

"There's a consensus among some people that we don't have a chance

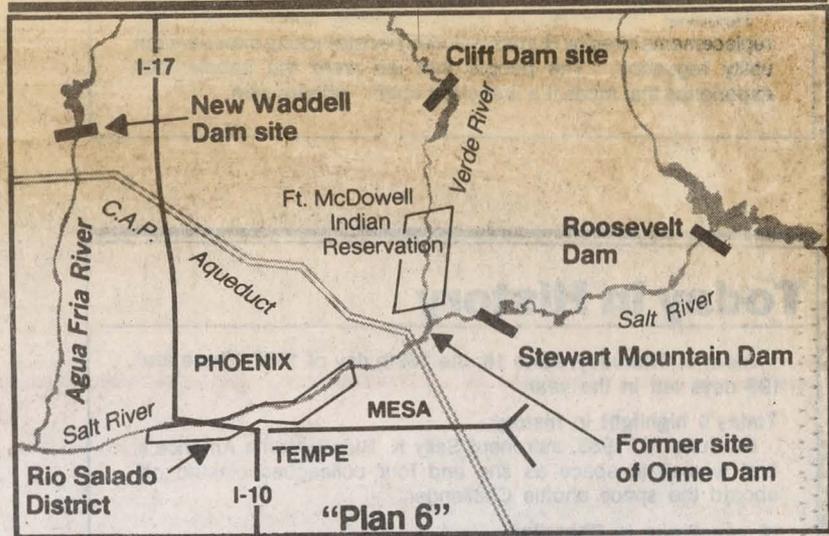
of winning on the floor," Stump said.

He said Arizona's House delegation has met several times in the last few days to consider dropping Cliff Dam to salvage the rest of Plan 6, the CAP's final leg. Plan 6 includes building Cliff Dam on the Verde River, raising the level of Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and rebuilding Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River.

Bob Witzeman of the Maricopa Audubon Society said environmental groups likely will drop their suit if Cliff is shelved.

CAP General Manager Tom Clark said the situation is serious this time.

"This is not the first effort, but I think it's perceived that this is the most opportune time that he (Coughlin) has had," Clark said. "Our



delegation is reacting very seriously."

But Clark said he doesn't think the rest of the CAP is in jeopardy. He predicted the CAP canal system still will be completed to Tucson by 1991 and the other Plan 6 dam features will be built.

"Cliff is more vulnerable than any element of Plan 6, and that's obviously because of its environmental sensitivity that the other features don't have," he said.

The environmental groups say it would destroy key foraging areas for two pairs of nesting bald eagles.

Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, is less confident the rest of Plan 6 will survive.

Manning said a key issue is whether Plan 6 still can be built, legally, without Cliff.

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# Dam

From page B1

Another concern is the local cost-sharing agreement, in which Valley cities and utility districts agreed to pay some of Plan 6's costs in advance. Federal laws don't require state water users to chip in until the project is finished.

"The cities did the cost-sharing agreement as a way to acquire some water," Manning said. "Without Cliff, that water isn't there. We

certainly aren't going to put up money to buy nothing. So I think the whole cost-sharing agreement is in jeopardy."

Manning said he also worries the Reagan administration's attitude could sour against the CAP as a whole.

"Cliff Dam was not just an item that was isolated unto itself," Manning said. "You pull that thread and the question is, 'How far do we unravel?'"

Bill Wheeler, executive director of the lobbying group Central

Arizona Project Association, said, "I'm sick at heart about the whole darn thing."

"A Plan 6 without Cliff Dam is Plan 9," he said, "and Plan 9 was discarded offhand because it lacked so much in the way of benefits. It loses 30,000 acre-feet a year of water supply for the cities of the Valley."

The Valley also loses an opportunity to cut by more than half the size of the most severe floods expected to hit metropolitan Phoenix, he said.

## Cliff Dam problems

~~It took~~ thousands of years for nature to mold that great Sonoran Desert treasure, the Verde River. Mayor Goddard's water advisers would seemingly have him destroy this priceless heritage in an instant.

The Bureau of Reclamation says that Phoenix would purchase 10,000 acre-feet of the 15,800 acre-feet annual yield of Cliff Dam. Let us look at the more abundant, less costly alternative to Cliff water:

■ In December, Phoenix bought a water ranch that will provide 30,000 acre-feet for the next 200 years. Ranch costs are far less than Cliff Dam water when one includes the hidden millions of dollars in County Flood Control taxes, water and electric bills and federal taxes attached to that \$633 million dam.

■ Phoenix will receive 114,000 acre-feet annually from the CAP.

■ Phoenix receives more than double that from SRP.

■ Phoenix' paltry 10,000 acre-feet Cliff yield could be saved many times over with urban or rural conservation, or recycling.

■ There is available 184,000 acre-feet of CAP water turned down by cities, and 215,000 acre-feet declined by agriculture.

■ A Bureau of Reclamation study cited in the Cliff Dam lawsuit showed that groundwater recharge of Salt-Verde waters would produce more water than Cliff or New Roosevelt Dams. With Cliff dead, such environmentally sound, less costly solutions can now proceed.

Tony Anthony  
Tempe

## Water scare tactics

Cliff Dam's water is such a small portion of the future water budget of Valley cities one wonders why some Valley mayors are listening to the water shortage scare tactics of their advisers.

Cliff Dam's 15,800 acre-feet Plan 6 yield is miniscule beside the 1,500,000 acre-feet of CAP aqueduct. If Arizona ever grows to where CAP is entirely urbanized, two-thirds of CAP or 1,000,000 acre feet would go to Valley cities — and the rest to "Baja" Arizona cities. Furthermore, the Arizona Water Commission's Phase II, State Water Plan shows a renewable Maricopa County supply of 971,000 acre feet — in addition to CAP.

Cliff's 15,800 acre feet is a tiny fraction of that total 1,971,000 acre feet renewable supply. That renewable supply is sufficient to increase our Valley's 1.9 million population to 10 million to 12 million.

Thank goodness the magnificent Verde River is still here. It's one of those quality-of-life reasons people come to Arizona.

Liz Hatcher  
Phoenix

The Tribune welcomes your views on any public issue. Letters must bear the writer's signature and printed or typed name, full address, telephone number and date. Letters failing to provide such information will not be considered for publication. Send them to: Letters to the Editor, The Mesa Tribune, P.O. Box 1547, Mesa, 85201.

Mesa Tribune  
3-21-87

# Lawsuit claims cost cap prohibits Cliff construction

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Environmental groups Friday filed an amendment to their 1985 lawsuit against Cliff Dam, asking a federal judge in Phoenix to prohibit construction because of cost overruns.

Cliff Dam is part of Plan 6, the final part of the \$3.32 billion Central Arizona Project and the feature Arizona selected as its alternative to Orme Dam.

"Basically, (the amendment) asks that construction be enjoined until Congress reauthorizes Plan 6," said longtime CAP foe Frank Welsh, executive director of Citizens Concerned About the Project.

"Plan 6 exceeds its authorized cost — or Orme Dam's authorized cost — by a factor of anywhere from five to 10, depending on who you listen to," Welsh said.

When Congress approved the CAP in 1968, it authorized Orme Dam — killed several years ago — at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, or a suitable alternative.

Plan 6 was chosen as that alternative.

Orme Dam's cost in 1968 was pegged at \$42 million, which is indexed at \$166 million in today's dollars, according to the U.S. General Accounting Office.

In sharp contrast, the cost of Plan 6 has climbed to about \$1.1 billion.

Plan 6 includes Cliff Dam on the Verde River and rebuilt Roosevelt and Waddell dams on the Salt and Agua Fria rivers. It is expected to supply an average of 36,000 acre-feet of water a year, about half of that from Cliff Dam.

Welsh noted Orme Dam's projected cost was about one-twentieth that of the entire CAP in the beginning, while the cost of Plan 6 is about one-third of today's total.

"What appears to have been contemplated by the Congress was a small dam of modest cost and dimensions," a Feb. 20 GAO report said. "What is proposed in its place is

a vast and immensely expensive complex."

CAP backers have argued that Congress didn't authorize Orme Dam separately, but the entire CAP as one large venture. They have maintained the authorized spending limit for the entire CAP won't be exceeded.

However, the February GAO report concluded the Interior Department calculated the spending limit too high. The opinion, which doesn't carry the force of law, said \$588 million shouldn't have been included.

If that is subtracted from the \$3.57 billion limit, it falls below the total cost estimate of \$3.32 billion. About \$1.6 billion has been spent to date on the project, said Bureau of Reclamation spokesman Bob Walsh.

## Surplus cropland

Cliff Dam would needlessly destroy some of the finest remaining fragments of desert-nesting bald eagle habitat in the world.

Retiring four Arizona cotton farms would give Phoenix just as much water as Cliff Dam would provide. That retirement would still leave 1,200 cotton farmers in Arizona.

Cotton is a surplus crop which the government beseeches, implores and pays farmers not to grow. The government buys it for 81 cents a pound and must dump it on the world market for some 30 cents. The taxpayer picks up the difference.

Since urban Arizonans will pay over 90 percent of agribusiness's construction costs for the \$4 billion Central Arizona Project, and since the bureau tells us over the next 63 years agribusiness will get 70 percent of CAP's water, a voluntary retirement of these surplus croplands would be a godsend for taxpayers.

Joan Manley  
Tempe

# Local/State

## SECTION B

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Comics / B6  
Fun & Features / B7

# Settlement of Cliff Dam suit discussed

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Government water officials and environmentalists are meeting in Phoenix today to attempt to settle out of court a lawsuit aimed at blocking the construction of Cliff Dam.

Federal, state and local officials met privately Tuesday in Las Vegas, Nev., to discuss their strategy.

A coalition of national and state environmental groups is suing the federal government, claiming the \$390-million dam would destroy the fragile breeding ground of bald eagles near the Verde River. The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court in Phoenix in September 1985.

If built, the dam would store 20,000 acre-feet of drinking water annually for metropolitan Phoenix, or roughly enough for 100,000 people. It also would protect the Valley from floods.

Phoenix lawyer Gil Venable, representing environmental groups, said he has heard the government may try to settle out of court by sacrificing Cliff Dam.

Cliff is a large part of Plan 6, the last leg of the massive Central Arizona Project. The government also wants to rebuild Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and raise Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River.

A lobbyist who represents Valley cities confirmed attempts are being made to settle out of court with environmentalists.

"I know the (U.S.) Bureau of Reclamation is looking for a way to reach a settlement with the plaintiffs," said Roger Manning, Arizona Municipal Water Users Association executive director. "There have been rumblings that the Bureau has been considering a way to get out of a box."

Salt River Project General Manager Jack Pfister said SRP sent two people to Tuesday's meeting, although he did not attend.

"The meeting was really principally among the lawyers to discuss strategies in the lawsuit," Pfister said. "There are some briefs to be filed soon, and they needed to discuss some strategy for filing the briefs."

He declined to elaborate.

Central Arizona Water Conservation District General Manager Tom Clark and the Maricopa County Flood Control District chief engineer, Dan Sagramoso, attended. They refused comment.

Also attending were representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of Interior and a Phoenix lawyer representing Valley cities.

A spokesman for Gov. Evan Mecham said Mecham was aware of the meeting.

Bill Swan, staff attorney for the Department of Interior, said Interior Secretary Donald Hodel is committed to seeing Cliff built.

Pfister added SRP isn't about to pull out

of the project and is confident Cliff Dam can be built.

"We believe the environmental impact statement will withstand the litigation," he said. The lawsuit contends the statement wasn't adequate because it didn't consider all reasonable alternatives.

Ed Osann, water resources director for the National Wildlife Federation, said he is confident environmentalists will prevail.

"I would say that we have been confident for some time that Cliff Dam will not be built," he said.

Osann cited a new study by the Federal Emergency Management Agency conclud-

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# Cliff

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ed that recent floods deepened the Salt River channel. That means it would take a worse flood than previously thought to cause damage in the Valley.

"Phoenix does not have to invest as heavily in flood control as it did six months ago," Osann said.

Rod McMullin, a member of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District board, said the study was discussed at the Las Vegas meeting.

"Of course, it (the study) isn't finalized," McMullin said. But he said officials want to know what effect it may have on Cliff.

Manning said cities would reevaluate their involvement in

Plan 6 and possibly pull out if Cliff were not built.

Retiring state Senate President Stan Turley of Mesa, who sat on the statewide committee that drew up Plan 6, said Cliff is pivotal to the system's storage and flood control.

"There's no other way to get either one of those things — unless you went back to Orme (Dam)."

Stan Feinstein, attorney with the General Accounting Office in Washington, D.C., said Safety of Dams Act funds likely won't be available for Cliff. The money is intended for repairs and modifications of existing dams, he said.

But a record \$275.8 million Central Arizona Project budget has been proposed for next year.

*Tribune staff writers Jonathan Bass and W. Ter. Smith contributed to this report.*



# State officials worried about bill that may

## Measure would validate claims by Ute Indians

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Arizona water officials are nervous about a bill introduced in Congress last week that could take water from the \$3.32 billion Central Arizona Project, which supplies the Valley and central Arizona farms.

Introduced by Rep. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colo., the bill would validate a Dec. 10, 1986, water rights agreement

between the Southern Ute and Mountain Ute Indian reservations in southwestern Colorado and several other parties in New Mexico and Colorado.

"The Indians have senior rights on any water that flows through or into their reservations," said Carol Knight, Campbell's press secretary, on Friday.

Several rivers that ultimately empty into the Colorado River — the source of the CAP's water — cross the reservations. The tribes agreed to trade that water for water collected from the Animas and La Plata rivers in Colorado and northern New Mexico and stored in Ridges Basin Reservoir, Knight said.

Built five miles southwest of Durango, Colo., Ridges would store up to 280,000 acre-feet of water, more than Apache Lake on the Salt River.

"It's ready to go," Knight said, noting the engineering work is finished.

Meanwhile, she said, Colorado and New Mexico lawmakers are urging Congress to appropriate \$6.2 million next fiscal year for the Animas-La Plata project, which was authorized the same year as the CAP — 1968.

"This is water that would be lost to downstream interests," Campbell said. "If it is stored, it would be put to beneficial use in Colorado."

## reduce CAP water supply

That's what has Arizona officials worried.

For a long time they have known the waters of the Colorado are overallocated and that less will be available for Arizona when upper basin states — Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Wyoming — take their full share.

"They're concerned that the (Ute) water could maintain higher priority," said Doug Cole, press secretary for Rep. Jay Rhodes, R-Ariz. The CAP and Southern California's Metropolitan Water District already get last crack at the Colorado's water, meaning other users must be satisfied first.

Officials also fear that if the tribes' water

were sold to someone in Arizona, it would be counted against Arizona's 2.8-million-acre-foot allocation of river water, Cole said.

Then there is the worry other tribes could be granted rights to Colorado River water, further squeezing what's available to the CAP. "Maybe the Navajos will come in and take something," Cole said.

Campbell's bill, assigned to the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, was introduced with more than 20 co-sponsors, many of them from Colorado and New Mexico. Cole said the Arizona and California delegations are fighting it.

# Butler Valley loses appeal as storage site for CAP water

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — Butler Valley in western Arizona isn't as promising as once believed as an underground storage site for surplus Colorado River water, an official said Thursday.

"It's probably not as good as I once thought it was, but it's still a feasible site," said Larry Dozier, Central Arizona Project assistant general manager. "It still has some really good potential that we shouldn't overlook."

However, Dozier said it is uncertain whether the project, estimated to cost anywhere from \$20 million to \$40 million, would be too expensive.

He said recent tests indicate part of the site may not hold substantial amounts of water and attempts to get required permits from the state are taking longer than anticipated.

As a result, it will be three more months before the CAP board can decide whether to proceed. The staff had planned to bring a final report and recommendation to the board in early September. That has been delayed until November.

Board member Sam Goddard, a member of the special studies committee, objected to the delay.

"I agree we need good engineering data, but this thing hasn't crept, it's crawled," Goddard said.

But board president George Barr said, "It's important that we give them enough time to make sure they have a viable project."

The firm doing the feasibility study is Engineering Enterprises of Norman, Okla. The company also may build and operate the project.

Darrell Krull, senior civil engineer for Engineering Enterprises, said recent tests found hard ground material that may make it difficult to store water in the center of Butler Valley. The test results were a surprise, he said, because "we had holes not a hundred feet away that didn't indicate that."

CAP officials are hoping to be able to divert up to 100,000 acre-feet of Colorado River water a year into the valley for 20 years.

In other business Thursday, the special studies committee was told updated cost estimates for New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River would be available Aug. 15.

Valley cities, worried that water on the top of Lake Pleasant behind Waddell will turn sour in the summer heat, want to know how much it would cost to build a dam with several water intakes. The cities want to be able to take water out at levels where it is of better quality.

The cities cite problems in Southern California, where growth of blue-green algae has caused taste and odor problems.

But Greg Crossman, a civil engineer with the Bureau of Reclamation in Phoenix, said Lake Pleasant isn't likely "to be an environment that's conducive to growing this type of blue-green algae."

And unless the bureau determines otherwise — it's supposed to release a study on the subject in mid-September — the government won't install intakes unless cities pay for them. The additional cost is estimated at \$600,000 for each intake, Crossman said.

He said the bureau is expected to decide on a final design in November.

# Gephardt supports CAP, Western water projects

By Dinah Wisenberg  
States News Service

WASHINGTON — Presidential candidate Richard Gephardt this week said he supports completion of the Central Arizona Project and other large, Western water storage and distribution facilities.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation wants to put some of the smaller, newer projects on hold until it finishes big, nearly completed projects.



Gephardt

"It makes economic sense," Gephardt said. "Whether or not all those projects should be continued is a little bit different question, but in terms of setting priorities, it sounds like a sensible way to proceed."

The 46-year-old Democratic congressman from Missouri discussed water

projects, the superconducting super collider, AIDS, immigration and a variety of other subjects Wednesday with States News Service editors and reporters.

"I think that water projects are of a different nature in the West than they are in the East, and that doesn't mean I'm against water projects in the East, but water takes on a very different dimension in the Western part of the United States because of the lack of water," he said.

"There are just different reasons to do water projects. That doesn't mean they are always justified," Gephardt said. "I think the other factor that we're always going to look at in the future of our water projects is our budget problem, and that's going to make a tougher hurdle I think for any water project proposed in the future."

On another topic, Gephardt said he is unsure whether the proposed \$4.5 billion superconducting super collider is necessary. "I don't know enough scientific facts

to know if we still need it," he said.

Arizona and several other states are competing for the government's proposed super collider, a lucrative high energy physics research facility. The super collider would smash subatomic particles into each other at unprecedented speeds in efforts to achieve breakthroughs in the study of energy and matter.

Recent advances in superconductivity — the ability to conduct electricity without resistance — have led some super collider critics to argue that the massive facility is unnecessary.

In considering sites for the super collider, the Department of Energy should take into account offers from wealthy states like Texas that are willing to contribute large amounts of money and land to win the project, Gephardt said.

Gephardt also cited the importance of environment and cooperation from a state's private sector.

In another area, Gephardt said the United States should combat drug smuggling by funding the sweeping anti-drug bill passed last year and by lowering the demand for cocaine and other illegal drugs.

"It would be good to fund the program that we wrote last year. The Reagan administration is for the program but not for funding it," he said, referring to the administration's efforts to cut millions of dollars in drug interdiction and education money.

"But I think the ultimate answer to drugs has to increase our ability to deal with the demand side as opposed to the supply side. . . . That goes back to education and public education programs," Gephardt said. The congressman said he is opposed to the death penalty for drug smugglers whose trafficking activities result in someone's death.

On the issue of immigration, Gephardt said Congress should monitor the progress

of its new immigration law and see what changes should be made. "I've heard complaints about how it's being enforced, and I'm sure there will continue to be some difficulties."

He said he supports legislation — like that sponsored by Rep. Joe Moakley, D-Mass., and Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz. — that would allow both Nicaraguan and Salvadoran refugees to legally stay in the United States.

Gephardt said he supports mandatory AIDS testing only for immigrants and for some hospital patients undergoing surgery. He said it should be left to the medical community to decide which patients should have AIDS tests.

"It seems to me that it would be of interest to the patient and to the people treating the patient to know if you have AIDS," he said. Beyond testing immigrants and hospital patients, Gephardt said, "doing mandatory testing is not a good idea."

MESA TRIBUNE / TEMPE DAILY NEWS  
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7-18-87

# Home rule won't solve counties' woes, study says

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — A new study concluding that home rule would not effectively solve the major problems of Arizona counties will not help the cause of those who have lobbied the Legislature for county reform, some lawmakers say.

Tanis Salant, a University of Arizona public policy analyst, authored the report for the Joint Legislative Committee on County Issues.

Salant's report to the committee concludes that charter government, the most significant of home rule reforms, would solve few of the major problems facing Arizona counties.

"This is going to cause a lot of us to re-

think," Sen. John Mawhinney, R-Tucson, said Wednesday after the panel discussed the report.

County officials, chiefly those from the larger, urban counties, have lobbied the Legislature for help in solving their financial and bureaucratic problems.

But Salant said Wednesday that the fiscal crises now facing counties would not be affected by any but the most sweeping reforms.

And home rule probably would not increase the power of Arizona counties, which already enjoy more authority than many in the nation, including some with charter government, said Salant.

She said problems that are common among counties nationwide are not likely to be solved by such reforms.

The Senate Government Committee passed a resolution during the past session that would have referred a measure to the voters granting urban counties authority to enact their own ordinances and levy countywide sales taxes. The resolution never made it to the Senate floor.

"I don't think it makes charter government any more salable," Mawhinney, chairman of the government committee, said of the report. "I think it ought to realistically lower our expectations of what it will do for counties."

Rep. Lela Steffey, R-Mesa, chairwoman of the House counties and municipalities panel, said Arizona's counties "already are granted a certain amount of home rule."

Commenting on Salant's findings that some counties nationwide have chosen not to take advantage of charter powers granted by their state governments, Steffey said, "I think she's put a different outlook on this than I've seen before."

Maricopa County Supervisor Tom Freestone reminded lawmakers that the report indicated charter government could help in making county governments more efficient and urged more study.

"We're looking at a more cost-effective

way to deliver services," he said.

Mawhinney concurred, but noted that there was "no great general uproar from the public to do anything with the counties."

There is not even agreement within county ranks. Some elected officials whose offices could turn into appointed positions have fought against it. And some rural counties oppose the overtures of their urban counterparts.

Sen. Carol Macdonald, R-Safford, said a proposal to merge some smaller counties as an efficiency measure "really angers us."

"I see this somewhat as a turf battle," Macdonald said. "Basically, it comes down to who is going to do what."



PAUL O'NEILL/Tribune

From left, Rep. Morris Udall, Sen. Dennis DeConcini and Sen. John McCain, along with Gov.

Evan Mecham, met with Valley officials Thursday on the Central Arizona Project.

# Lawmakers push CAP support

## Proposal offered to put Cliff funds in escrow

By Bill Roberts  
Tribune writer

With Cliff Dam lost in a controversial battle over four bald eagles, Arizona's congressional delegation called Thursday for disgruntled cities to pull together for the good of the Central Arizona Project.

Cities in metropolitan Phoenix threatened to quit paying their portion of the CAP after Arizona congressmen and senators two weeks ago agreed to scuttle the controversial dam 25 miles northeast of Phoenix.

Environmentalists, in return for winning their fight to

save the foraging areas of the endangered bald eagles, agreed to stop fighting the \$3.3 billion CAP in general.

But Cliff Dam's reservoir was to provide enough water for 100,000 new people, and officials from Valley cities were outraged at their congressmen and senators.

Both U.S. senators and four of five congressmen — Republican Rep. Eldon Rudd was out of the country — apparently soothed the ruffled feathers Thursday by offering something else.

Arizona's senior congressman, Rep. Morris Udall, Democrat of Tucson, said if the cities would continue paying their CAP bills, the Cliff Dam part of their money would be held in escrow. It would be spent when another way was found to provide them with lost Cliff Dam

Please see CAP / Bind

Mesa Tribune  
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# CAP

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water.

The congressional delegation intended to explain the proposal privately with cities and other interested parties Thursday, but the plan went awry. Valley mayors officially called it a meeting of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association. It then fell under Arizona's open meetings statute. The press was barred after several mayors agreed to leave, and the remainder did not constitute a quorum.

Immediately after the closed meeting, Gov. Evan Mecham pledged to "galvanize the forces of the state.

"I don't think we should despair at all," he told the 60 representatives. "We must look ahead. I agree that we aren't badly hurt by what has happened. The last thing we are going to do is say, 'Hey, until we get a guarantee for our share of water, we're going to stop making our payments.'"

Later, representatives of several Valley cities said they were

encouraged by the "escrow" plan and would suggest their cities keep paying.

Mesa Mayor Al Brooks said Mesa did not make its last CAP payment, but he would propose they be resumed.

Udall said an attorney representing several Valley cities, including Chandler, had a similar position.

Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell said, "What we are really after, of course, is what the Cliff Dam would produce — more water and flood control. If we can find alternatives to the dam we will still come out ahead and I'm in favor of that."

City officials last year agreed to pay their share of \$349 million that Arizona promised the federal government up front for the \$390 million Cliff Dam and the larger Plan 6 portion of the CAP. In exchange, the federal government promised to speed construction.

The CAP agreed to \$195 million; Chandler, Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix, Scottsdale and Glendale, \$49 million; the Salt River Project, \$41.8 million; and Maricopa County, \$63.1 million.

But the cities' support had been

tied to Cliff Dam. Without it, the cities were reluctant to pay. Mesa and Phoenix even said they would pull out unless they were guaranteed that the Cliff Dam water is replaced.

Two decades after the first federal money was granted, the CAP's 330-mile canal system has been built from the Colorado River 180 miles east to Phoenix. It is expected to reach Tucson within four years.

The \$1.1 billion Plan 6 will be the project's final leg. Besides the now defunct Cliff Dam on the Verde River, it will raise Theodore Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River northeast of Phoenix and rebuild Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River northwest of Phoenix.

Congress authorized the CAP in 1968 with Orme Dam at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers or a "suitable" alternative. Orme was killed in 1976 after environmentalists said it threatened other bald eagles and Indians objected because it would flood the Fort McDowell reservation.

Plan 6, a compromise, was selected in 1981.

## Remainder of CAP must be finished

**A** completed Central Arizona Project is still a must for Arizona's future.

The last time we had to pick up the pieces and rededicate ourselves to this mission the issue was the collapse of the Orme Dam answer to Central Arizona's need for additional flood control and water storage.

Congress authorized Orme Dam in 1968 as an important element of the Central Arizona Project. Subsequently, President Carter and his Secretary of Interior, Cecil Andrus, tried their best to kill the CAP and 18 other water projects.

With the concurrence of a representative group of Arizonans working with former Gov. Bruce Babbitt, it was decided that "it would be unreasonable to ask the federal government to endorse a plan that would inundate nearly 10,000 acres of the 25,000-acre Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian Reservation and eliminate the habitat of the desert bald eagle."

It marked the end of the Orme Dam.

The alternative to the Orme Dam has been known as Plan 6 including Cliff Dam on the Verde River, New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria and structural improvements to Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain Dams.

In spite of the solid support that has been built up around this proposal, a nagging concern has persisted — will this alternative to Orme Dam require Congressional authorization?

Thought had to be given to the difference in the costs involved and if necessary what do we do for better balance rather than risk trying for a supplemental authorization to make up the difference?

We may have an answer in the sacrifice of Cliff Dam.



**Howard Pyle**

Commentary

The political climate in Washington with respect to approval and funding of long-term water projects has been changed by budget restraints facing Congress.

With all due credit to the determined efforts of our present Congressional delegation the seniority and experience of such old hands as Senators Carl Hayden and Barry Goldwater and Congressmen John Rhodes and Eldon Rudd have to be missed.

Too, environmentalist opposition to the Central Arizona Project, sensing an opportunity to gain ground that has been almost impossible to gain in the past, is losing no time in pressing for recognition.

The pressures of the present must not be allowed to cover up the fact that our only hope of reducing the depletion of our underground water resources in Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties is the Central Arizona Project.

Once the project is operational the potential will be in place to reduce our groundwater imbalance.

*Howard Pyle is former governor of Arizona.*

# CAP board OK's 3-cent property tax hike for 3 counties

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — The Central Arizona Project board voted 8-0 Thursday to raise the property tax it levies in Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties from 7 cents to 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

That means the owner of a \$100,000 home in one of the three counties that receive or ultimately will receive CAP water will pay \$10 next year instead of \$7.

It also means the powerful water district will increase its annual tax take from \$14 million to \$19.4 million, said Tom Clark, district general manager.

Without the hike, the CAP could have gone into the red in 1991 because of its commitment to pay \$175 million to the federal government by 1992 for construction of the Plan 6 portion of the \$3.3 billion water project, Clark said.

But even with the increased tax, the district might deplete its cash reserve to below \$5.5 million — the minimum required by the federal government — in five years, he said.

Clark said he hopes the region's electricity market improves before then, so the CAP can cover itself by selling bonds backed by increasing power sales. He said money from water sales can't be used because it barely covers costs.

"We have \$44.5 million in the bank now, and that comes almost exclusively from tax monies," he said.

Although many Valley cities have decided to withhold additional Plan 6 payments because they're unsure how much water they'll get without Cliff Dam, the CAP board agreed Thursday to keep paying its share and mail in the next payment early.

Instead of paying the federal government \$5.3 million in October, the board will send a \$1 million check immediately and the remaining \$4.3 million in late July.

Clark said that will allow the government to help two Pinal County irrigation districts

finish canals designed to deliver CAP water to farmers within their jurisdictions. He said the districts are running out of money, and completion of the projects could be jeopardized.

The 330-mile CAP aqueduct system will carry Colorado River water to central and southern Arizona when completed to Tucson in 1991. It already serves Valley farmers and cities.

Under construction since 1973, the system will deliver an average of 1.5 million acre-feet a year, with a capacity of 2 million acre-feet a year, officials say.

## CAP board delays request for funds to lobbyist group

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — The Central Arizona Project board Thursday postponed acting on a request to give a CAP lobbying group \$10,000 after several members questioned its propriety.

The group, the Phoenix-based Central Arizona Project Association, hired former Congressman Eldon Rudd to lobby on its behalf in Washington and needs money for his salary.

The \$10,000 would be an addition to the \$6,000 the CAP contributes annually to the group.

But member Clyde Bowden questioned whether the contribution would duplicate a service already provided by the board's own lobbyist in Washington, former Congress-

man John Rhodes, at a cost of \$60,000.

Board member and former Gov. Sam Goddard characterized the proposed contribution as inappropriate and perhaps illegal.

"This isn't the kind of thing that a public entity is obligated or really permitted to do," Goddard said. "I have a feeling that we are embarking on things that are shaky."

But board member and past board president George Barr countered, "If it's legal and proper to contribute \$6,000, which we have done for a long time, then it's probably legal to contribute \$16,000."

Members also clashed over board president Rod McMullin's decision to raise the issue earlier in a closed meeting.

# CAP water tastier than expected

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Central Arizona Project water, pumped 190 miles from Lake Havasu to quench the thirsts of an estimated 275,000 people, is turning out to be cleaner and sweeter than anticipated.

Officials in Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix and Scottsdale say the water is much better than expected. Some say it tastes better than the well water they had been drinking.

Before the water began flowing across the desert through the CAP canal, it was described as swamp water that would need exotic treatment to make it drinkable.

The first of the CAP water arrived in the Phoenix area a year ago. With the exception of needed chlorination, the water meets minimum federal standards before it is treated, said Jim Kaylor, Glendale's utilities director.

"Many cities in the United States would love to have water so clean before it is treated," he said.

Apparently, the CAP water is naturally

cleansed as it travels across the desert to the Valley. Chemists' reports show that the CAP water is substantially cleaner when it arrives at the Phoenix water treatment plant than it was when it left the lake, said Charles White, community relations officer for the Phoenix Water Department.

Because the water is better than anticipated, the cost to treat it is less than city officials had planned.

Glendale is the only Valley city that has some residents drinking CAP water exclusively. Residents living north of the Arizona Canal receive CAP water. But in portions of north Phoenix, north Scottsdale and east Mesa, CAP water is blended with well water in the distribution lines.

When Glendale switched 40,000 people from well water to CAP water in January, the city got only three inquiries, Kaylor said.

"Those people said something was different. The water tastes better," he said.

Kaylor said the CAP water quality has been

more stable than water from the Arizona Canal, which comes from the Salt and Verde rivers.

Phoenix's treatment plant at Cave Creek Road near Beardsley Road was the first in the Valley to treat the CAP water a year ago this week. The quality of the raw CAP water has improved during the past four months as other treatment plants have started production, White said.

"Because of the increased demand, the water is flowing faster and algae can't form as readily," he said.

Officials in Scottsdale and Mesa said they have heard no complaints about the CAP water.

Scottsdale began full production of about 4.5 million gallons per day of CAP water April 22 at its plant near Union Hills Drive and Pima Road. Mesa started pumping about 14 million gallons a day May 17 at its plant on Brown Road east of the Bush Highway.

CAP plants in Valley cities are capable of treating about 137 million gallons of water daily, and the plants are running at about half capacity now.

## House OK's underground storage for CAP

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

The House of Representatives approved 43-9 and sent to Gov. Evan Mecham Monday a bill that empowers the Central Arizona Project to store Colorado River water underground.

Sponsored by Rep. Jenny Norton, R-Tempe, the legislation is aimed at the billions of gallons running down the Colorado into the Gulf of California because Arizona can't immediately use all the water the CAP can deliver.

If signed into law, it will accelerate construction of underground storage projects and allow future generations to drink water not needed now.

The bill was stalled in the Senate Republican caucus because of a technical amendment cities and farmers were in sharp disagreement over. But a compromise was struck and it was able to win passage in the session's final hours.

The bill authorizes the CAP board to store water underground and to sell bonds backed by long-term contracts for recharged CAP water to finance such projects.

Previously, only cities could store water in the ground.

East Valley cities, with Mesa taking the lead, already were planning to store up to 200,000 acre-feet — enough for 1 million people for a year — beneath the Salt River bed.

If the CAP jumps into the arena, more similar projects will be attempted.

California has stored surplus Colorado River water underground for more than 30 years.

Under the compromise, however, farmers will get first crack through 1993 at water cities intend to store for future "dry years."

The Arizona Municipal Water Users Association blasted the compromise.

"It is now the public policy of this state to prohibit the use of drinking water in private, decorative lakes," said AMWUA lobbyist Bob McCain, referring to a new law.

"Will the Legislature now say that it is preferable to use drinking water today to grow subsidized surplus crops in Pinal County instead of storing and saving drinking water today for future drinking water use during times of shortage?"

Sen. James Sossaman, R-Higley, said farmers had counted on getting water cities otherwise wouldn't take for many years.

# CAP cost limit hike is disputed

By Dave Downey  
and Bill Roberts  
Tribune writers

In a potentially serious blow to the Central Arizona Project, the U.S. General Accounting Office has concluded the Interior Department was not authorized to raise the CAP spending limit to cover unforeseen costs of complying with new environmental laws.

Most recent estimates peg the total CAP cost at \$3.32 billion — within the \$3.57 billion spending limit calculated by the Interior Department.

But the spending ceiling wasn't supposed to include \$353 million for features added to comply with laws passed after the CAP was authorized in 1968, the GAO said in a Feb. 20 letter.

Without that figured in, the spending limit falls to \$3.22 billion and the total cost rises above it by \$100 million.

Larry Dozier, assistant general manager for the Central Arizona Project, said, "I have read (the GAO report), but I haven't really analyzed it."

Salt River Project spokesman Mike Rappoport declined comment on the conclusion, but said the Department of the Interior had "made a good case" that it had not exceeded the spending limit.

The CAP, the nation's most expensive water project, is being built by the Bureau of Reclamation, a branch of the Interior Department. When completed, the CAP is expected to deliver a yearly average of 1.2 million acre-feet of Colorado River water to Arizona.

Spokesmen for the bureau in Phoenix could not be reached late Friday.

GAO opinions do not carry the force of law, but they are considered to be significant. The report was made public Friday by Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz.

DeConcini spokesman Bob Maynes said if

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the opinion is obeyed, it probably will affect the final leg of the CAP between Phoenix and Tucson.

The canal system has been completed to the East Valley and is scheduled to reach Tucson in 1991.

Maynes said, "The good news, basically, is that the GAO gives the opinion there's no legal basis for opposing implementation of Plan 6" because Congress has approved money for it three years in a row.

The GAO said Congress did not break the law by going ahead with Plan 6, the alternative selected to Orme Dam, which was scrapped. Plan 6 includes Cliff Dam on the Verde River and rebuilt Roosevelt and Waddell dams on the Salt and Agua Fria rivers.

Longtime CAP foe Frank Welsh, executive director of Citizens

Concerned About the Project, said the opinion may force CAP backers to drop the controversial Cliff Dam — an expensive project component — to stay within authorized limits.

Or, backers may have to ask Congress to reauthorize the CAP with a higher spending limit, Welsh said.

The GAO report suggests the Interior Department "restructure the project to reduce project costs without substantially reducing project benefits, or seek legislation permitting a higher authorized cost ceiling."

The GAO report also concluded:

■ Federal Safety of Dams money can't be used for the \$390 million Cliff Dam, which would be built 40 miles north of the East Valley, as backers had hoped. It said that money could be used only to strengthen existing dams.

■ The Interior Department can't raise the spending limit by adding to

it the \$348 million Arizona government agencies have agreed to pay up front to speed the CAP's completion.

Arizona ultimately is going to pay for the project, but it isn't obligated to start paying until the CAP is "substantially complete" in 1995.

■ Arizona can use profits from the sale of power from Hoover Dam, a federal hydroelectric project, to help pay CAP costs.

The GAO report also indicated Plan 6, which so far has cost \$1.1 billion, is not an appropriate alternative to Orme Dam, which would cost \$166 million if built today.

"What appears to have been contemplated by the Congress was a small dam of modest cost and dimensions," the GAO said. "What is proposed in its place is a vast and immensely expensive complex."

The report was requested by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio.

# CAP water won't go sour in lake, officials maintain

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — Contrary to Valley cities' fears, Central Arizona Project water won't go sour as it sits in Lake Pleasant, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation officials say.

"We don't expect the algae problem to be a serious one," Tom Burbey, chief of the bureau's Phoenix operations division, told CAP board members this week.

Algae can cause water to taste and smell bad.

The cities have asked the 15-member CAP board to examine ways to control odor and taste problems, and the panel is studying the matter.

What has cities worried is this: Some Colorado River water will be pumped out of the canal during winter into Lake Pleasant, where it will be stored until it's needed in summer.

"Over the course of the summer, the water will sit there and grow various algae forms," said Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, which represents Mesa, Chandler, Tempe, Phoenix, Scottsdale and Glendale.

But Burbey said chances of large amounts of algae being produced in Lake Pleasant are slim because water levels will fall through summer. Algae doesn't

grow well when water levels are constantly changing, he said.

California has had odor and taste problems, he said, but water levels in reservoirs that hold that state's Colorado River water are more stable.

Leonard Dueker, executive assistant to the Scottsdale city manager, isn't convinced. "Southern California's point is that you just can't outguess what's going to happen in a reservoir," he said.

The cities have suggested building a multilevel intake structure at the proposed new Waddell Dam to allow dam operators to draw out water where it is at its best quality. If algae was concentrated in an upper layer, operators could pull water out of the middle.

Burbey estimated such a structure would cost \$5 million to \$10 million. He said the government, for about \$350,000, could install aerators that would do the job just as well.

However, Dueker said aeration systems have been only marginally successful in California.

Mesa Water Resources Manager Karl Kohlhoff said "it's so blatantly obvious that you should" build a multilevel intake structure.

The cost would amount to about 66 cents an acre-foot, Manning said. He said cities might have to spend more than \$30 an acre-foot to eliminate bad odor and taste at their treatment plants.



## Rio Salado's tricks

Rio Salado District proponents should be commended for their response to criticism that the project is flood-prone. Critics have repeatedly and correctly pointed out that our 1891 (200-year) flood, even with all Plan 6 dams in place, would be twice as large a flood as Rio Salado could handle.

Last year the district inserted language in their enabling legislation saying that they "may" build at the safer 200-year floodplain, not the 100-year floodplain. The wording in that legislation, to be credible, should have said "shall" instead of "may."

Allowing developers to move development deep into the riverbed after upstream dams have made it "safe" does not decrease the percentage of flood risk one iota.

It does, however, make riverbed landowners and developers very rich. It also imposes a costly financial burden on flood victims and taxpayers if those dams fail to perform as promised. FEMA and the Corps state that the flood risk during a 50-year occupancy along Rio Salado's 100-year floodplain frontage is 40 percent.

Rio Salado's proposal to develop at the 200-year floodplain still presents serious risk. Floodplain development must not move inside today's 100-year Salt River floodplain boundary after upstream control.

Whether private or taxpayer-funded developers ultimately develop our Salt, let us avoid the perilous temptation of moving down into the mighty river's bed. That would free Rio Salado and the gravel operators from the charge that they are profiteering at taxpayer expense.

Charles Babbitt  
Vice President

Maricopa Audubon Society

# Backing Rio Salado

**R**io Salado backers, in trying to gain support for their project, have traveled a road that is often as rocky as the Salt River bottom itself. The Phoenix 40's pledge of \$40,000 to Citizens for Rio Salado will help smooth over part of that road as the group gets ready for a Nov. 3 special election on the project.

The Phoenix 40 has been split on the Rio Salado in the past, but has now agreed to a plan to phase in proposed property tax hikes over a five-year period.

"This contribution and agreement sends a signal to others in the community that Rio Salado is viewed as a critical element of the future of the Valley of the Sun," said Dennis Mitchem, chairman of the Rio Salado group and a member of the Phoenix 40.

The Rio Salado is an ugly, dry wash of

rock and gravel stretching across the Valley. Occasionally it runs with muddy, slow-moving water that destroys a few roads, ties up traffic, then sits and dries until all that is left are little pools of dirty backwater.

We deserve better.

The goal of the Rio Salado project is to clean up this useless wash, to let the Salt flow again, to build parks and businesses along its banks, to make it into something the Valley can be proud of. That's a good goal to work for, but it would be difficult to accomplish without the support of the business community.

It appears that the Phoenix 40 has settled its conflicts over the project. What's needed now is leadership that will sell the idea of just how important this project is for Arizona.

Mesa Tribune  
8-12-87

# Leaders say Audubon agreement with Rio Salado backers is dying

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

Rio Salado backers' tentative agreement with the Maricopa Audubon Society aimed at heading off environmental opposition to the parks project is unraveling, leaders of both groups said Tuesday.

The groups haven't agreed on terms, and the Rio Salado Development District has taken the item off its agenda for Thursday's board meeting.

Maricopa County voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to be taxed up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed value to pay for the Rio Salado project.

The additional tax — up to \$21 a year for the owner of a \$100,000 home — would raise \$1.3 billion for the \$2.7 billion project over 25 years.

The point of contention is Audubon's insistence the district prohibit real-estate development below the current 100-year flood level, even when it becomes the 200-year flood level after Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River is raised.

Project backers want to reserve the right to move down to the new 100-year flood level. As a result, progress is stalled.

"The deal is not necessarily dead, but right now we're waiting to see

what Audubon does," said Rio Salado Executive Director Aaron Kizer.

Rio Salado backers were hoping to head off opposition by making a concession to Audubon in exchange for its promise to remain neutral in the campaign.

But Audubon spokesman Bob Witzeman said that as long as backers are unwilling to give prospective Rio Salado employers and homeowners more flood protection than they are entitled to by law, the deal is dead.

If developers are allowed to build

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## Audubon

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down to the new 100-year flood level, then any new dam projects only will have allowed more

real-estate development to take place, Witzeman said.

The dams, which would be built at huge taxpayer expense, will not have provided additional flood protection — the main reason for building them, he said.

"The Rio Salado Development

District has shown its true colors," said Scott Burge, Audubon education chairman.

"What the Rio Salado Project has done now, in its most succinct form, is prove once and for all this is a real-estate scam because this has nothing to do with park land or golf

courses or stream beds," Burge said.

He said the public would get more from the project if Rio Salado held to the 200-year flood level because the public park areas would be larger.

Mesa Tribune  
8-12-87

## Rio Salado supporters plan to raise \$650,000

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

About 20 prominent East Valley business leaders met Tuesday at the Mesa Conference Center to devise a strategy to raise \$650,000 in support of the Rio Salado development campaign.

The campaign will end Nov. 3 when Maricopa County voters decide whether to be taxed up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed value to pay for the Rio Salado project. The additional tax — \$21 a year for the owner of a \$100,000 home — would raise

\$1.3 billion for the \$2.7 billion project over 25 years.

Campaign manager Bryan Schnell said the business leaders, including grocery chain owner Eddie Basha, are members of the approximately 100-member Rio Salado finance committee. The business leaders want to organize their efforts to solicit corporate contributions this fall in the East Valley, he said.

"This kind of fund-raising is one-on-one, and it takes personal relationships," said Milt Lee, president of Mesa United Way. "If you do it any

other way, it's not going to work."

Schnell said a specific contribution target won't be set for the East Valley.

Rio Salado promises to convert a barren, polluted 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a series of clean and attractive public recreational areas, ringed with new homes, businesses and industries.

Schnell said the campaign is nearly halfway to the \$650,000 goal, having received last week the \$40,000 contribution pledged earlier by the powerful Phoenix 40 business lobby.

## Title objection

I was delighted to see my "Rio Salado" letter on July 28. Please allow me to object, mildly, to the heading "Dumb development." It was my intent to object to the method of funding the development district and the desire to vote on specifics instead of a concept, rather than to condemn the project itself.

Others have expressed my third concern which is: no ELECTED body or official can be held responsible for whatever direction the "Project" would take!!!

Bill Hegarty  
Tempe

## Flood vote

The Salt River should not be developed because of dangerous floods. Proper planning and zoning by existing local governments can plan open space and recreation on the Salt. County voters should remember the floods and vote *no* on Nov. 3, 1987 on the proposed Rio Salado development tax.

Joyce Ward  
Phoenix

## Private welfare

Despite all the media hoopla and praises from the city governments, the Rio Salado Project is still a gigantic welfare scheme. It will take 1.3 billion dollars from taxpayers throughout the county, to foster commercial and industrial development in a favored area. And the developers and investors who will benefit from this redistribution of wealth are not even poor. If Rio Salado is so profitable, private enterprise will do it without government aid. We don't need another property tax!

Vaughn L. Treude  
Phoenix

## Salty thinking

The developers of the Rio Salado scheme are busily flexing their muscles and setting themselves for the grand push to cajole the taxpayers in the county into voting yes on their project. But they also want us to pony up for it as well to the tune of \$2.7 billion. Now that's a ton of *mucho pesos* for prettying up 17 miles of the Salt River at our expense.

The kicker here is that feeling of chicanery being done, like the one I had when the Palo Verde was being talked about, then finally built. Recall the overruns on that much-touted little deal? We were told that that structure would cost just so much, but the money spent over the original amount was boosted up so often, with such glib reasons it became laughable.

So before we vote for Rio Salado let's satisfy ourselves that it is not one of those cost-plus deals that can grow so quickly into such an outrageous fortune that it could make that first \$2.7 billion look like the stuff one strews out for the chickens. It happens. Ask the Pentagon about its coffee pot, screw driver and toilet seat. So let's not get too fired up about primping and gussying up the Salt. Let's think long and soundly on it.

M. Jolin  
Mesa

Mesa Tribune  
8-14-87

# Revised Rio Salado plan trims project's price

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — Rio Salado officials Thursday unveiled a revised master plan that says the Salt River parks project can be built for \$2.98 billion instead of \$3.10 billion.

Calling for parks and private development on 11,215 acres instead of 9,870, they said the new plan was needed because Cliff Dam's demise rendered the old plan obsolete.

"The project is still do-able, and it costs slightly less," said Dennis Davis, deputy director of the Rio Salado Development District.

However, the numbers do not include a Rio Salado park in the works for Mesa between Country Club Drive and Higley Road, which could cover 2,400 acres and wipe out the savings. The Mesa City Council is to vote on that Sept. 21.

The district board approved the revised plan Thursday in a meeting marked by several heated exchanges between environmentalists and district officials.

The board also agreed not to use its total taxing authority for four years, if Maricopa County voters on Nov. 3 give it authority to increase property taxes 25 cents per \$100 assessed value

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**'The old plan did include some desert vegetation, but it was primarily an irrigated situation.'**

— Dennis Davis, deputy director of the Rio Salado Development District

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— \$21 for a \$100,000 home.

The board, instead, promised to set the tax at 10 cents the first two years, 15 cents the third, 20 cents the fourth and 25 cents the fifth. That's a concession to the Phoenix 40 business lobby.

"The old plan did include some desert vegetation, but it was primarily an irrigated situation," Davis said.

The revised plan calls for 1,025 acres of water features instead of 1,525; 2,325 acres of irrigated parks instead of 2,945; and 3,165 acres of desert parks instead of none, he said.

The number of acres in private development stands unchanged at 4,330, he said.

Davis added that, under the new plan, the district will need 18,000 acre-feet of water a year instead of 21,000 to operate the lakes and water

features.

However, the plan does not obligate the district to a certain ratio of parks to private development. Officials indicated Thursday they may propose more real estate development at the expense of parks if new dams are built on the Verde River, reducing the potential size of floods.

That drew immediate criticism from Maricopa Audubon Society member Bob Witzeman. If private development boundaries change, he said, new homes and businesses may not get any more flood protection after a dam is built than they are entitled to under current law.

"But if you keep people out of the way, you don't build the dam," said Dan Sagramaso, board member and general manager of the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

Sagramaso said Arizona may not be able to justify a Verde River dam to the federal government if the district prohibits buildings behind the current 100-year-flood level — which will become the 200-year-flood level when Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River is raised.

# Rio Salado seeks agreement with sand, gravel companies

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — Rock companies, a major obstacle to the Rio Salado project, may be persuaded to stay neutral in the campaign to build parks in the Salt River if a new legal opinion is correct, project backers say.

Sand and gravel company operators, who own more than 2,700 acres in the project's path, fear the Rio Salado Development District will condemn their property.

Although officials promise not to, the operators contend the district cannot legally give up its eminent domain powers through an agreement. They say a law is needed.

But Rio Salado Executive Director Aaron Kizer said a Phoenix 40 attorney has determined the district could protect itself against condemnation by signing a pact with Mesa, Tempe, Phoenix and Maricopa County. The opinion was issued by Bill Hicks of the Phoenix law firm of Snell & Wilmer.

Voters countywide will be asked Nov. 3 to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed value for 25 years. The tax would raise \$1.3 billion for the \$2.7 billion project.

The Rio Salado dream is to take a barren 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix and turn it into a series of public recreational areas next to new homes, businesses and industries.

Kizer said an inter-governmental pact, which the district's 16-member board endorsed Thursday, would obligate the district to sign agreements with individual landowners, promising not to condemn them.

Robert Robb, spokesman for the Arizona Rock Products Association, said, "We are in the process of reviewing (the opinion) very, very carefully."

If ARPA attorneys agree with it, sand and gravel operators will try to sign agreements before the

election, Robb said.

ARPA Executive Director Phil Gagle said Thursday preliminary indications were mixed. Some attorneys looked favorably on the opinion, while others were skeptical.

His statement drew fire from board member and Tempe councilman Bill Ream.

"I don't think we have to bend over backward for the sand and gravel people. I don't think they're that strong. I don't think they can defeat this project," he said.

"When we have to prostitute ourselves for one small group . . . I find it very difficult."

Polls indicate the November vote could be close, and backers are trying to mollify the opposition. They want to satisfy the powerful sand and gravel lobby, which has the financial backing to launch a hard-hitting television campaign, and to head off opposition from environmental groups.

A deal with the vocal Maricopa Audubon Society is stalled.

Audubon negotiator Bob Witzeman has asked Rio Salado to prohibit real estate development below the current 100-year-flood level, even if it becomes the 200-year-flood level when Roosevelt Dam is raised eight years from now.

Backers, who prefer to build down to the new 100-year-flood level, are willing to go along with Audubon's request, Kizer said. But the sides can't agree on specific resolution language.

Witzeman said proposed language would make it easy for the district to renege. Kizer said water officials want protections so the resolution doesn't rule out future dams on the Verde River.

Kizer said Rio Salado also is talking with the Sierra Club.

Mesa Tribune  
8-9-87

## Supervisors hope to settle Rio Salado ballot dispute

PHOENIX — The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors could settle the dispute over ballot language for November's Rio Salado Project tax-increase election when they meet Monday.

House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff and the backers of the Rio Salado Project agreed Friday to include wording on the project's election ballot that had originally been proposed, plus some elaboration by Ratliff.

The agreement was reached during a 40-minute meeting at the Maricopa County Elections Department that was marked by a sometimes heated discussion about the merits of the project.

At issue is the language that will be printed on ballots for a Nov. 3 special election on whether a

countywide property tax should be levied to help build the Rio Salado Project. The \$3 billion project would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a series of public parks and waterways surrounded by private development.

Ratliff told the group he has incorrectly been portrayed as an opponent of the Rio Salado Project.

"I am not an opponent of Rio Salado, but I'm an opponent of the way it has been handled," he said.

# Valley pride, escalating land values make it a bargain

Dennis Mitchem is a senior partner of Arthur Andersen & Co. and a member of the Phoenix 40. A longtime Valley resident, Mitchem has been active in Phoenix civic affairs, including the freeway initiative, for many years.

By Dennis E. Mitchem  
Chairman  
Citizens for Rio Salado

**W**hy should the people of Maricopa County vote to tax themselves to pay for Rio Salado?

Strip away all the extraneous issues and that is the central question facing voters Nov. 3.

Think of Central Park in New York, Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, the Emerald Necklace of Cleveland's magnificent Metroparks system, the River Walk in San Antonio or Balboa Park in San Diego. Those parks help define their cities. So it could be in the Valley with Rio Salado.

The symbol of Rio Salado, the unity that it could bring to the Valley, the sense of achieved excellence would make the project worthwhile.

But there are hard dollars-and-cents reasons, too.

The public 25-year tax contribution of \$1.3 billion will be more than matched by the \$1.4 billion privately generated by the sale and lease of land in the district for development,



Dennis Mitchem at McKellips Park on the south end of the Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale, an area on the Superfund list for TCE contamination.

or by contributions by property owners within the district to help pay for construction, maintenance and operation.

The improvements of the park system and recreational facilities will enhance property values to generate an additional \$5 billion or more in new tax revenue over the next 25 years.

There will be 74,000 jobs created in the district. There will be 16,000 new housing units built. Those jobs and homes represent people who will not be contributing to urban sprawl. They can live and work in the same area and will not be commuting long distances.

How will Rio Salado be funded?

The financing mechanism is twofold. Just under half of the project will be paid for by the property tax voters will be asked to approve Nov. 3.

The other half will be paid for by

the sale and lease of lands within the district that will be purchased in the first five years of the project, and then banked against the day they become desirable for commercial development.

Provisions have been made to allow current property owners who wish to develop their own property to do so in a manner consistent with the Rio Salado master plan. They will contribute to a district or fund to help build and maintain the public facilities.

There are a number of misconceptions about Rio Salado that are in some cases being used by opponents to sow voter confusion.

Does Rio Salado call for construction on toxic waste dumps?

Absolutely not. The location of most dumps is known, but there may be more. One of the first activities of

Please see **Mitchem / C4**

# Private sector is the best tool for developing Salt River bed

Scott Burge, a Tempe resident for 12 years, is a consultant in hazardous waste matters. He is the owner of Burge and Associates and has been with the Tempe Rio Salado Advisory Commission for 9 years. He holds a doctorate in chemistry and a law degree.

By Scott Burge

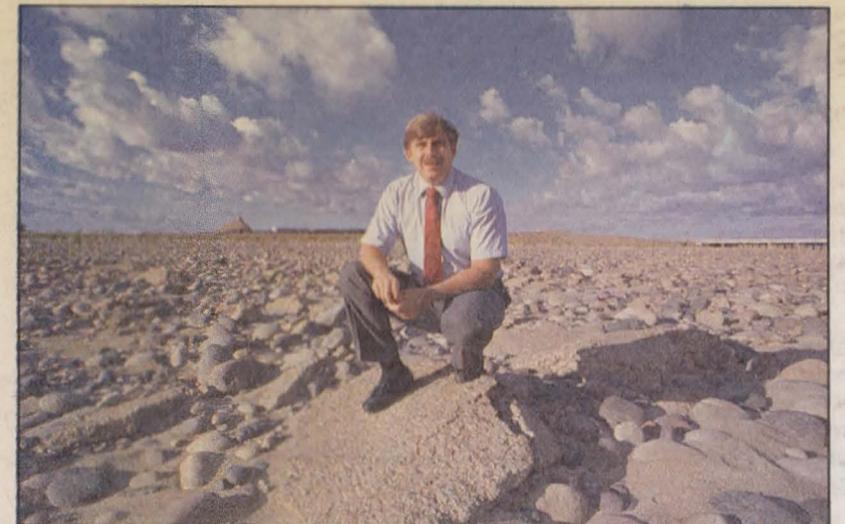
**F**or every job there is a correct tool. When it comes to land development, the best tool is the private sector with local and city control.

Zoning, building density, building safety and review of final design are the traditional tasks of local government. The purchase of land, financing, design, engineering and architectural aspects of the development are primarily the responsibilities of the private developer.

When government attempts to replace the private developer, the result will inevitably be inefficient management and unfair competition against the private sector.

Although the concept of Rio Salado will make Phoenix a world-class city, the implementation of the project should be primarily the responsibility of the private developer, not government.

The current proposal for making Rio Salado a reality requires billions of dollars of Maricopa County



Scott Burge at Alma School Road and the Salt River bottom, the beginning of the proposed Rio Salado project.

property taxes to fund a bureaucracy called the Rio Salado District. If Rio Salado will result in all the benefits the proponents attribute to the project, the project should not require a subsidy of billions of taxpayers' dollars to this bureaucracy.

The bureaucracy, by adding another layer of cost to the Rio Salado Project, will make its implementation more expensive. Today private developers, independent of the proposed Rio Salado district, are creating quality developments along the Salt River in Tempe and Phoenix.

Tempe should be congratulated for its foresight in working with private enterprise in improving the river banks. The success of Rio Salado lies in this type of local government-private relationship, not massive subsidies from Maricopa County taxpayers.

Due to the uncertainty associated with flood control measures for the Salt River and the cost of removing and controlling the toxic landfills along the riverbed, it would be unwise to let bureaucrats buy land along the Salt River with taxpayers' money. The land may either prove to be worthless, or even worse, require hundreds of millions of dollars to remove toxic pollutants. The expense of the cleanup of the toxic landfills along the Salt River should be borne by the responsible parties, not the Maricopa County taxpayer.

The Rio Salado District board members are appointed, not elected by the very people who are taxed. Since a majority of the board members are appointed by just three cities, the other Maricopa County communities such as Sun City, Glendale, Scottsdale, Chan-

Please see **Burge / C4**

Mesa Tribune 8/2/87

Mesa Tribune  
8/2/87



Artist's rendition of the proposed Rio Salado project.

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

The dream to turn the Salt River in metropolitan Phoenix from a barren waste to a lush oasis faces a major test this fall.

On Nov. 3, Maricopa County voters, including those as far away as Gila Bend, will decide whether to give the Rio Salado Development District authority to assess as much as 25 cents per \$100 property valuation for 25 years to build a 5,000-acre Rio Salado park system.

If levied in full, the tax would produce \$27 million the first year and \$1.3 billion over 25 years, district Executive Director Aaron Kizer said.

Developers would throw in another \$1.4 billion for businesses and homes on the periphery of the skinny, 17-mile-long park, bringing the total price tag to \$2.7 billion, Kizer said.

"It's probably pie in the sky any way you look at it," said Bob Witzeman of the Maricopa Audubon Society, a critic. "It's a scheme that will never come to fruition as it's written."

The park system, which would stretch

# RIO SALADO

## Development realities test park dream

from Country Club Drive in Mesa to 43rd Avenue in Phoenix, grew out of an idea born in 1966 in an architecture class at Arizona State University. It was the dream of students to convert the lifeless, polluted bed of the Salt River into a flourishing greenbelt, much like the Indian Bend Wash in Scottsdale.

Officials propose to raise the once-mighty Salt River from the dead. Roosevelt Dam stopped the stream's year-round flow 76 years ago by building a series of lakes and waterways.

The Salt would become a virtual Mecca for recreation enthusiasts.

It would be ringed with ball fields, golf courses, indoor sports facilities, equestrian

centers, campgrounds and trails. Hiking, fishing, swimming, boating, horseback riding, camping, golf, tennis, racquetball, baseball, football and basketball could be enjoyed at one spot or another.

Also proposed is a children's museum, desert arboretum and water museum depicting water use by ancient societies.

Two parkways on either side of the river would provide access for motorists, according to the Rio Salado master plan, produced by Carr-Lynch Associates, a Boston-based environmental design firm.

Beyond the city parks, roughly 4,000 acres would be set aside for private development, including 16,000 houses and condominiums and businesses providing

74,000 permanent jobs.

Elliott Pollack, chief economist for Valley National Bank, estimates Rio Salado will produce at least \$5.3 billion in new public revenue and \$2.4 billion in private-sector profits over a 50-year period.

"It's certainly going to take an ugly scar in the middle of this Valley and turn it into something beautiful," said Mesa Mayor Al Brooks.

Mayor Jerry Brooks of Chandler added, "When I was a kid in the '30s there were big cottonwood trees down through the river bed and a lot of greenery." But the trees have since disappeared, exposing barren rocks, weeds and litter.



The first clean-up step is testing along the riverbed. Many old dumpsites have already been covered and forgotten.



The Tempe Landfill on First Street is one of many that will need to be cleaned up if the project is to be built.

Photos by Dave Seibert

"I think Rio Salado offers an opportunity for Chandler that we can't let pass," Jerry Brooks said.

Said Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell: "I think Rio Salado is a vital issue for everybody in the Valley, even though some people quite a few miles from the river may not think so. It certainly adds to the economic viability of this whole area."

Mitchell said the Salt River is one of the first things people flying into Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport see and it's little more than a black eye right now.

"It certainly doesn't make a very good first impression," he said.

Backers say Rio Salado would increase land values greatly, fueling redevelopment in downtown areas and revitalizing depressed neighborhoods.

Backers also say it would slow urban sprawl by redirecting the focus of new development to the center of the metropolitan area.

But Rio Salado has its problems, and it faces an uphill climb.

A spring *Arizona Republic* survey

Please see **Rio Salado** / C4

# Change in law won't cut costs of Rio Salado

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

A constitutional challenge to a law giving up longtime state claims to most Arizona rivers won't trim costs of the \$2.7 billion Rio Salado project, according to a project spokesman.

"We don't think it will affect the Rio Salado project at all, either way," said press secretary John DeWitt.

The Arizona Center for Law in the Public Interest filed a lawsuit in Maricopa County Superior Court last week challenging the statute's constitutionality.

Introduced by Rep. Bob Denny, R-Litchfield Park, the legislation was signed into law last spring by Gov. Evan Mecham.

The law relinquishes most riverbeds except the Colorado, and permits businesses to clear title to land they occupied for years in the Salt, Verde and Gila River beds. A fee of \$25 an acre is charged.

"We believe that this law is a giveaway of massive proportions, and it will result in the destruction of many, many miles of precious riverbed land," said David Baron, the center's assistant director.

Regardless of how the courts rule, though, Rio Salado still expects to pay top dollar for Salt River land needed for the proposed 17-mile park system.

"The Rio Salado master plan, and all the assumptions about the cost of riverbed land, were made assuming that we would have to purchase the property from private landowners at whatever the market rate was," DeWitt said.

"If the property should wind up back in the hands of the state, some people seem to think that Rio Salado would benefit in that it would not have to pay as much for that property. But we hasten to point out that

## In Perspective / C1



### Rio Salado project

Plans to turn the barren Salt River bed into a lush greenbelt will be put to voters who must decide whether to give the Rio Salado Development District authority to levy taxes.

Opponents say the project should be financed by the private sector.

that land would be state property . . . and we'd have to buy or lease that land from the state," he said.

The Rio Salado Development District likely would have to pay market value, he said, meaning county property-tax payers would be hit as hard as if land were purchased from private parties.

But Baron said taxpayers would benefit indirectly because land sales profits would go into public coffers instead of sand and gravel operators' pockets, possibly eliminating the need to raise other taxes for state programs.

Baron said the lawsuit could directly affect Rio Salado if litigation dragged on many months, stalling land purchases because of uncertainty over who owns it.

"So I suspect they have an interest in getting the issue resolved quickly," he said.

The suit asserts Arizona owned all

Please see **Law / A4**

## Law

From page A1

navigable rivers within its boundaries when it became a state in 1912. A navigable river is defined as one with enough water to float a boat on.

Although the Salt and Gila rivers are dry today for long stretches, they flowed freely in 1912. The land beneath them collectively could be worth many millions of dollars, Baron said.

"But rather than directing the bureaucrats to do some serious studies to determine the value of the state's lands, the

Legislature just gave them all up," he said.

Superior Court Judge Ruth Hilliard scheduled a Sept. 11 hearing on the center's request for a preliminary injunction to halt granting of titles until the case is decided.

Richard Oxford, Land Department director of contracts and records, said one title has been granted under the law to Valley Concrete and Materials Co. of Cottonwood on the Verde River.

To date, more than 50 companies have applied for titles, Oxford said.

"We have no injunction or stay to stop us, so we're continuing to process the applications."

Mesa Tribune  
8-2-87

# Local/State

## 'Pick' numbers

Winning numbers in this week's 'Pick' drawing are 2, 3, 18, 26, 29 and 31. The bonus number is 1. The jackpot is \$2,050,000.

## SECTION B

Obituaries / B2  
Your Health / B8  
Ann Landers / B9

# Rio Salado project called scheme, asset

By Emil Venere  
Tribune writer

A political activist told a group of Democrats in Mesa Saturday that the proposed Rio Salado project is little more than a scheme to con taxpayers into cleaning up the Salt River.

Scott Burge, a hazardous waste specialist, also said the proposed \$3-billion project smacked of socialism and would provide "no benefits" to Maricopa County residents.

But Bryan Schnell, campaign manager for Citizens for Rio Salado, said \$1.3 billion of the project's cost

## Benefits weighed at breakfast debate

would be paid for through land sales and leases, not taxes.

Schnell, during a debate with Burge in a meeting of the East Valley Democratic Breakfast Club, said Rio Salado would be a way "to take what is a liability on this community and turn it into an asset."

"It would turn the dry scar of the Salt River bed into a 17-mile stretch of parks, bike paths, jogging trails, some water features, intermixed with desert

landscaping and development on the sides of the banks out of the flood plain as well."

Rio Salado would stretch from Mesa to Phoenix. Voters will decide the issue in a Nov. 3 referendum. About \$1.7 billion of the project's cost would be financed by increasing the property tax. The tax revenue would be collected over the 25 years it would take to build the project.

The plan calls for a maximum tax increase of 25 cents

per \$100 of assessed property valuation. For a \$75,000 home, that adds up to \$15 per year. Another issue in the referendum calls for the purchasing of \$325 million in bonds.

Schnell said the Rio Salado Development District would use the bonds to buy land "from willing sellers" along the development route. The property would be sold later at a vast profit, generating the balance of the project's cost, he said.

"It's a chance for us to look inward and do something very positive," Schnell told the gathering of about 42

Please see **Debate / B3**

MESA TRIBUNE  
7-19-87

# Mecham says Rio Salado tax plan is 'scam'

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — The Rio Salado Development District's board of directors has received a tax plan that could raise more than \$472 million over 25 years for construction and maintenance of the proposed, 17-mile greenbelt on the Salt River.

Under the plan, which will be negotiated during the next few weeks, a tax would be assessed on property owners adjacent to Rio Salado parks who would choose to privately develop their land.

Gov. Evan Mecham blasted the proposal Thursday as a tax scam.

"I'm totally opposed to the election. They're going to have to try to kid you into giving them the

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**'I'm totally opposed to the election. They're going to have to try to kid you into giving them the money to operate on, and actually to confiscate other people's property,'**

— Gov. Evan Mecham

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money to operate on, and actually to confiscate other people's property," he said.

The plan would replace "land banking," a process by which the district would buy the

adjacent land, sell it years later for commercial development and put the profits toward maintenance and improvements, said John DeWitt, spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado.

Property owners would pay \$5 per \$100 on the portion of the assessed value that has increased from the 1987 amount, according to the plan.

In a memo, Aaron Kizer, executive director of the district, gave an example: The value of land adjacent to a Rio Salado park could shoot from \$100,000 in 1987 to \$1 million after the owner builds a restaurant. The assessed value would be 28 percent of \$900,000, or \$252,000. With the \$5 per \$100 assessment rate, the property owner would pay a tax of \$12,600 a year.

# Mecham to name sand-gravel man to Rio Salado post

By Doug MacEachern  
Tribune writer

PHOENIX — Gov. Evan Mecham will appoint a second representative of the state's sand-and-gravel industry — which owns large tracts of Salt River-bottom property — to the Rio Salado Board of Directors.

A representative of the governor's office contacted Phil Gagle, executive director of Arizona Rock Products Association, Tuesday and asked if he would replace Mesa United Way director Milt Lee on the board, Gagle said.

"I got a call from (Mecham assistant) Sam Udall," Gagle said, "and I was told the appointment was going to take place. I think the governor's intention in appointing me was to see that the landowners in the area were very well represented."

Ousted board member Milt Lee, an appointee of Gov. Bruce Babbitt, said he anticipated the change and that "there is no animosity."

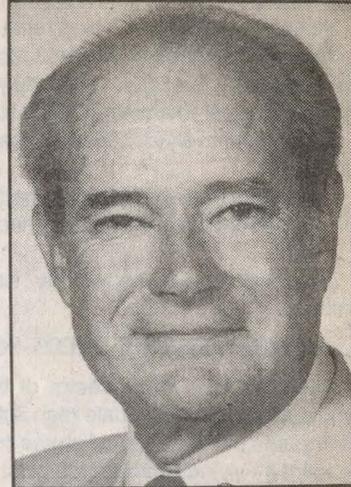
"The news is not me as much as it is this sand-and-gravel man. The timing (of the appointment) is of critical importance (because of the upcoming board meeting)," Lee said.

The board is currently working on an agreement with river-area landowners, including the sand-and-gravel industry, that would allow landowners to retain their property and develop it themselves if Maricopa County voters approve a property-tax assessment this fall.

The assessment would be earmarked for a plan to turn 17 miles of barren Salt River bed into a verdant ribbon of development and recreation.

According to Rio Salado Development District Director Aaron Kiser, landowners would pay into a "maintenance district" if they were allowed to develop the land themselves, theoretically lowering the overall cost of the project.

A board meeting is planned for Thursday. At least two agenda items that include the sand-and-gravel industry are scheduled, Gagle said. "I think the governor wanted to



**'The news is not me as much as it is this sand-and-gravel man. The timing (of the appointment) is of critical importance.'**

— Milt Lee  
Ousted board member

make the change before the meeting," he added.

Gagle is the governor's only appointee to the 12-voting-member board. The other industry representative, Ed Belt, general manager of Phoenix Redi-Mix Corp., was appointed by the state legislature. Phoenix Redi-Mix is "a major landowner" of river-bottom property, according to Gagle.

Mecham press secretary Ron Bellus and appointments assistant Sam Udall were not available Tuesday for comment on the appointment.

House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City, who opposes the proposed property tax assessment, said he expects both Gagle and Belt to "represent our position quite well."

"Phil has got a good head on him. I think it's a good appointment. He's very reliable," Ratliff said.

*Mass Tribune*  
*7-4-87*

### **Hance group backing Rio Salado tax**

PHOENIX — Former Phoenix Mayor Margaret Hance says she and six other ex-state political leaders will campaign for a tax increase to finance the Rio Salado Project.

Serving with Hance as honorary co-chairmen of Citizens for Rio Salado will be former Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., former Rep. John Rhodes, R-Ariz., former Republican Govs. Paul Fannin and Jack Williams and former Democratic Govs. Bruce Babbitt and Raul Castro.

"The Rio Salado Project is one of the most exciting opportunities that we who live in Arizona will encounter in our lifetimes," Hance, a spokeswoman for the group, said Thursday. "It will transform the unsightly Salt River bed into a continuous park that will become a magnet for economic growth and a visual signature for the entire Valley. Its potential benefits are enormous."

Maricopa County voters will be asked in a special election Nov. 3 to approve a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to help build the project.

# Companies seek Rio Salado restriction

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

A powerful group of sand and gravel companies that wants a state law restricting Rio Salado's condemnation powers isn't giving up in its effort to persuade Gov. Evan Mecham to put the issue on his agenda for the June 29 special session.

Saying, "I personally haven't heard from them," Mecham announced a five-issue agenda Thursday but left out the bill requested by rock companies.

"This isn't meant to be another regular session," Mecham said. He said several "mandatory" issues must be dealt with in the two-day session and added he didn't want to

clutter the agenda with special-interest legislation.

But Phoenix Redi-Mix general manager Ed Belt said he and Phoenix public relations consultant Robert Robb, employed by rock companies to speak on their behalf, are trying to change Mecham's mind. They were scheduled to meet with the governor Friday afternoon.

"Legally, he can amend the call right up to the day of the session," Belt said. "We're working vigorously to get him to do that."

Rio Salado would transform a 17-mile barren stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a 10,000-acre oasis of parks, lakes, ball fields and commercial

and residential development.

The Rio Salado Development District had planned to acquire or condemn 5,130 acres and resell 44 percent for commercial development. That did not sit well with rock companies that own more than 2,700 acres, most slated to be purchased.

The sand and gravel operators want to keep the portion of their land slated for commercial use. In exchange for their promise to develop it in line with the master plan, Rio Salado promised not to condemn it.

But that wasn't enough for the operators.

"There's no way a public entity can contract away its powers of eminent domain," Robb said.

The proposed legislation would restrict the district's eminent domain powers to lands slated for public use. It also would force the rock companies to develop their commercial land according to the master plan and pay some of the costs of building parks.

Failing passage of a law, the rock companies likely will oppose Rio Salado, Belt said.

Maricopa County voters go to the polls Nov. 3 to decide whether to approve a countywide property tax of up 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation (\$25 for a \$100,000 home) and a \$325 million bond issue. The tax would produce \$1.3 billion over 25 years, and the bonds would enable construction to begin immediately.

## Rio Salado's benefits

At least Marilyn Deprest of Mesa doesn't accuse Rio Salado of wanting to build *on top* of toxic waste dumps as some of the more hysterical opponents of the project allege — falsely, of course.

Nonetheless, I would ask Ms. Deprest what would be the single greatest incentive in the direction of cleaning up the admittedly serious toxic waste problem in the Salt River bed? Rio Salado, of course.

The creation of a 17-mile-long park system will create such pressure to develop adjacent lands that the toxic wastes that prevent such development will move to the top of the priority list.

The 300,000 cubic feet per second flood that Ms. Deprest mentions occurred in 1890, when the Salt and Verde rivers were completely uncontrolled. There are now six major flood control dams on those rivers. At some point a line has to be drawn and a decision made that risk is acceptable on this side and not on that side. Everybody lives in the Noah's flood floodplain.

The sad thing about these arguments is that they mislead the public into worrying about imaginary risks instead of weighing the costs of Rio Salado against its very real benefits.

On that basis, as the Phoenix Metro Chamber of Commerce found, the benefits so far outweigh the costs that there is no question that Rio Salado should be built.

Tracey Pappas  
Mesa

## Make Rio Salado pay-as-you-go

Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater has every right to be proud of the Indian Bend Wash's 267 acres of parks and golf courses, which dramatically transformed a blighted area in Scottsdale into a showcase of beauty (*Tribune*, June 4). His support for the Rio Salado proposal is erroneously based upon his assumption that there exists a meaningful parallel between the Salt River flood plain and the Indian Bend Wash.

Both the Salt and the Indian Bend are channels permitting the flow of water, but that is where the similarity ends. Little comparison can be drawn between the flow rates and the velocities of these water courses. To control and design for the Indian Wash, which is local, is much different from that of the Salt, which involves a vast watershed area, less predictability, and which is much more powerful and destructive in times of flood.

Taxing the people of Maricopa County \$1.3 billion for an extensive park system might certainly be justified:

- If there were *no* chance of either losing the entire project through a quirk of Mother Nature or experiencing damages which periodically will require extensive, costly maintenance.
- If water demands for the project were minimal.
- If the project benefited people in the entire county; i.e., if the project were neighborhood oriented.
- If it were not so obvious that its benefits were tilted toward the big developers.

It would be much more acceptable if taxpayers could be assured that the Rio Salado proposal could be constructed and maintained on a pay-as-you-go basis. In a county where day-to-day operations are in jeopardy, pay-as-you-go is the only, though impossible, alternative.

George K. Tinetti  
Mesa

## Letters

### Rio Salado partnership could reduce risks of taxpayers

Rio Salado is more than just a plan to turn a dry riverbed into a recreational and economic greenbelt. Done properly, it can give the Valley of the Sun a defining landmark of character and excellence.

The members of the Arizona Rock Products Association own a substantial amount of the land within the Rio Salado planning area. We are strongly supportive of the Rio Salado concept.

However, we are deeply troubled by the existing financing plan for Rio Salado, which is not realistic or sensible.

The financing plan calls for Rio Salado to acquire, with taxpayer dollars, 2,245 acres of land that is to be commercially developed. In fact, 44 percent of the land to be purchased with taxpayer money is actually scheduled for private commercial development.

This will require taxpayers to pay much more than is necessary for Rio Salado land acquisition, and put the

taxpayers at risk for commercial development that belongs in the private sector.

Instead, we believe that Rio Salado should be a partnership between the public and private sectors. Rio Salado would develop the public uses for the project, such as parks, waterways, equestrian and bike trails. But landowners would not have their land condemned for commercial purposes if they built compatibly with the Rio Salado master plan and in a timely fashion.

This would reduce taxpayer costs and put the risk in the private sector where it belongs, rather than on the backs of the taxpayers.

Delbert H. Tanner  
President  
Arizona Rock Products Association  
Ed Belt, chairman  
Rio Salado Subcommittee

## Poll finds county residents split over taxes for Rio Salado plan

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Three of every four Maricopa County residents surveyed support development of the Rio Salado Project, but they are still divided over the taxes that will have to be collected to pay for it, according to a newspaper poll.

The results of the poll, by *The Phoenix Gazette*, indicate that despite strong support for the project, a fierce battle can be expected in November when voters decide whether to tax themselves to pay for the Salt River beautification plan.

Of the 603 respondents interviewed last month, 63 percent said they would like to see the proposed series of public parks and waterways along the riverbed through the Phoenix area developed.

Paying for it is another matter. Only 47 percent said they would vote to approve a tax levy to pay for the project that would add between \$15 and \$20 a year for an average home.

Nearly as many, 44 percent, said they would vote against such a tax increase, while 9 percent had no opinion.

The fall referendum will ask voters to approve a secondary property tax to finance Rio Salado development, and to approve issuing up to \$325 million in bonds for the same purpose.

Rio Salado proponents admit that without a victory at the polls in November, the development will likely be a dead issue.

## The Rio truth

Those who would say Rio Salado is comparable to Indian Bend Wash need a geography lesson on the differences between a river and a wash. The Salt River is a 12,000-square-mile watershed. Indian Bend Wash is only 200 square miles. The largest flood in the Salt was 300,000 cubic feet per second, but only 20,000 in Indian Bend Wash.

The price tags on the two projects differ greatly with Indian Bend Wash at \$54 million and Rio Salado officially at \$3.1 billion.

One wonders how eager developers will be to pay the district top dollar for "scenic" frontage on a riverbed to which the government assigns a 40 percent flood risk during a 50-year occupancy. It also takes a special sort of courage for a developer to want to build along a river course studded with toxic landfills emitting carcinogens and explosive methane gas. This year some 150 Phoenix employees have been evacuated from an explosion-prone building on south 22nd Avenue which the city inadvertently built near an unknown Salt River landfill. The city said they didn't know there was a dump there.

The Salt, unlike Indian Bend Wash, is peppered with scores of unknown dumps. If there are any developers to take these sort of risks, they are the type who would get in and build fast, sell and get out before the law of averages catches up.

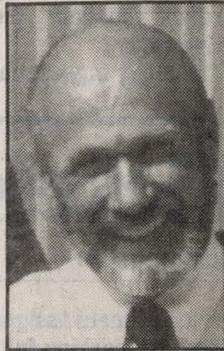
Marilyn Deprest  
Mesa

# Drinkwater calls on Valley to back Rio Salado plan

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

SCOTTSDALE — Mayor Herb Drinkwater on Wednesday called upon the Valley to support the Rio Salado development project, saying his city's highly successful Indian Bend Wash is a showcase for what the Salt River can become.

The 7½-mile park system replaced a blighted, flood-prone area littered with junk cars and trash, Drinkwater said. The \$54 million beautification and flood control project was completed two years ago.



Drinkwater

"There's no question our investment was worth it. The Indian Bend Wash has paid for itself already," Drinkwater said, adding it has produced an additional \$50 million in tax revenue in a dozen years.

He said 2.8 million visits were recorded at Indian Bend Wash's 267 acres of parks, golf courses and ballfields last year, and the number grows 20 percent a year.

Although the parks occasionally fill with water after storms or floods, little debris is left, and the parks are useful again in two or three days, the mayor said.

Mesa Tribune  
6-1-87

## At last

In spite of some speculation in the press that there might be a delay of the Rio Salado election, I hope everyone noticed that Monday the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors called the election for Nov. 3.

That means that on Nov. 3, after 20 years of talking, dreaming and planning, Maricopa County voters will finally have a chance to vote to obliterate a scar across our Valley and replace it with a beautiful, useful and economic project of benefit to every county resident.

It is also gratifying to see nearly all the major Valley civic groups rallying around the project. Perhaps following the lead of their East Valley Partnership brethren, even the Phoenix 40 has come around.

Rep. Don Strauch  
District 29

# Salt River advisers seek input

## Public has voice in land-use plan

**By Robert Perez**  
Tribune writer

A land-use plan for the area adjacent to the Rio Salado Project and the proposed Red Mountain Freeway should be completed within three months if all goes as planned.

The Mesa Rio Salado Advisory Board unanimously decided Wednesday to seek public input as part of a series of three meetings on the proposed plan before a final version is adopted at the end of August.

The Rio Salado project would turn a portion of the Salt River into a linear greenbelt and waterway, which would include recreational sports facilities, fishing and boating.

County voters will go to the polls Nov. 3 to vote on a property tax for the project not to exceed 25 cents per \$100 of assessed property valuation.

The total cost of the project to taxpayers would be \$1.3 billion, financed over 25 years. Developers on the periphery would fund the remaining \$1.4 billion as the project is developed.

The incorporated land-use plan — being prepared by Sverdrup Corp., BRW Inc., Hammer, Siler, George Associates and Publicorp Inc. — would be sent to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council for final approval.

Daniel Lare, Sverdrup planning manager, said the advisory board will be shown two or three alternative plans at its June 23 meeting, seek input on the proposals at its July meeting and vote on a final version at its August meeting.

The board should encourage the public to attend and comment on the land-use plan, said chairman Rockne Arnett. The board also asked city staff to prepare a list of Lehi residents to be contacted, he said.

"I'm wondering if (the incorporated land-use plan) doesn't add to our sizzle of selling the freeway to the Lehi people," Arnett said.

The Rio Salado Project and proposed freeway both are in the Lehi area in North Mesa.

## Blame it on Rio

The much-touted Rio Salado Project is, without doubt, the biggest, most impractical, wasteful boondoggle to come out of the scheming minds of the big-money developers in recent history of the Valley.

As county taxpayers we are being asked to approve this project to the tune of \$1.3 billion. That boils down to just about \$4,600 per average county home over the next 25 years. Voting regarding this plan is planned for November.

The taxpayers' part of the Rio Salado boondoggle consists, to a large measure, of the creation of a 17-mile-long recreational park within the very bottom of the Salt River flood plain. This will consist of recreation facilities dependent upon water. In fact, the project will *require* a flowing stream of water.

All of this within the path of flow of a powerful and unpredictable river which could easily wash the entire flood plain project away overnight. No doubt we will soon hear that the only flood we have to be concerned about is the 100-year flood. Interestingly, the 100-year flood can occur every year for consecutive years.

Developers expect to build high-priced resorts on the high ground along this project; and while we, the taxpayers, will be paying 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation on our property remote, for the most part, from the project, they will be paying only 10 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

There should be no doubt in the minds of the residents of the county that the developers expect to turn a very good profit from our generosity. The taxpayers of the county will be strapped with the maintenance of a single park that will never be used by the majority of the county residents.

Assume that the county accepted a bonding indebtedness of \$1.3 billion for recreational facilities. That could mean 200 parks located throughout the county each of which could cost \$4 million dollars, and leaving a maintenance fund of \$500 million for perpetual care and maintenance.

This is next to impossible for a couple of reasons. First, no one would profit financially from such a dream. Secondly, Maricopa County is presently broke. They are at this moment borrowing money from their bond fund just to meet everyday expenses.

This can only mean one thing. Our property taxes, without the Rio Salado Project, are going to have to increase dramatically just to maintain our county services and this without the added tax of the Rio Salado boondoggle.

George Tinetti  
Mesa

Mesa Tribune  
5-19-87

## Rio Salado supporters divided over whether to seek Nov. 3 vote

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Supporters of the Rio Salado Project are considering whether to go ahead with a Nov. 3 election or to cut back the scope of the \$3 billion project before taking it to the voters.

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors set the election date in a Monday meeting.

One side argues that it is "do or die" time for the system of public parks, waterways and private development that has been on the drawing board for 23 years.

Others want to make sure the idea is approved, even if it has to be scaled down.

Maricopa County voters would be asked to approve a property tax to pay for buying land for the project

and developing parks along the 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix.

Jim Pederson, chairman of the Rio Salado Development District, said polls show "strong grass-roots support" and argued that "it's time to make it work or put it to rest."

William J. Ream, vice mayor of Tempe and a member of the district board, said he opposed delay because there is no guarantee that the Legislature will agree to fund the district beyond this year.

"We're all afraid that the sand-and-gravel companies will lobby against the election," Ream added. "I don't think we should be intimidated."

Other Rio Salado supporters said they'd rather scale back the existing

plan or postpone the election than see voters shoot down the idea.

"My attitude is, the fewer enemies, the better," said Aaron Kizer, executive director of the Rio Salado district.

Backers had expected the project's foes would include environmentalists and taxpayer groups, who long have criticized the project as destructive and unnecessary.

The Phoenix 40's rejection of an appeal for seed money for the \$650,000 election campaign led to negotiations that ended with the group of Phoenix business and corporate leaders agreeing to donate \$40,000 and to endorse the project — if certain conditions were met by June 30.

Mesa Tribune  
5-5-87

# Rio Salado backers kick off support campaign

From staff reports

PHOENIX — If Citizens for Rio Salado have their way, the rocky dust bowl of the Salt River bottom will become a green cornucopia of development and recreation.

The group of about 30 kicked off its campaign Monday to win voter support in the Nov. 3 election for a property tax and approval to issue bonds to pay for the project.

The tax would be 25 cents per \$100 of assessed property value equaling about \$100 a year for a home assessed at \$100,000. It would run for 20 years, providing voters approve,

and raise approximately \$1.3 billion.

The money raised would be combined with \$1.4 billion in private funds to develop 17 miles of the Salt River bed that winds through Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix for recreational, residential, commercial and light industrial uses.

Campaign press secretary John DeWitt said the money initially will be used to buy land and to clean up the river bed and banks.

Phase II of the project, the construction, cannot proceed until the fate of upstream flood control is determined. Two Rio Salado

Project plans have evolved, one without building upstream flood control and one including the dam system.

At the press conference Monday, Citizens for Rio Salado chairman Dennis Mitchem announced donations totaling \$55,000 from First Interstate and Valley National banks. The money will go toward the estimated \$650,000 cost of swaying voters to the side of Rio Salado.

The group has collected about \$100,000, including Monday's donations, he said, and has pledged for about \$50,000 more.

Mitchem, a partner in the Arthur Anderson

accounting company, also said the group has the support of the 3,000-member Rio Salado Association, Valley Forward, the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce and the East Valley Partnership.

But Mitchem said he wanted to emphasize, "the success of our campaign is dependent on citizen-voter support, and we will aggressively seek and welcome personal contributions and volunteer efforts."

Monday also was the official opening of the group's campaign headquarters at 1111 N. Central Ave., where it will take donations and volunteers.

## Bell and Rio Salado

In a recent article, the Maricopa Audubon Society assailed Mountain Bell Telephone company for donating \$10,000 to the Rio Salado District. The telephone company responded that the \$10,000 came from the shareholders' pockets and not the ratepayers.

The purpose of the donation was to help the Rio Salado District devise a plan to convince Maricopa taxpayers to support a countywide property tax for the Rio Salado. If the tax passes, the average homeowner's property tax will increase by approximately \$16. However the phone company's property tax will increase by \$750,000 per year which it will pass on to the ratepayers. The property tax on all the phone company's supplies will also increase, adding another increment to the cost of telephone service.

This increased cost will also be passed on to the ratepayers. Mountain Bell's activities of trying to force the property tax on others will result in the increased property tax on other utility bills, goods and services throughout the county.

Mountain Bell's apparently altruistic motive of community improvement by a \$10,000 donation to the Rio Salado District will cost the ratepayers plenty. Mountain Bell spends \$10,000 of its shareholders' money making it possible that a much larger cost, the property tax, can be shifted to its ratepayers. The phone company may support a tax-funded Rio Salado Project, but it will be the ratepayers, not the shareholders, who will end up paying for the company's support of Rio Salado.

Rosa Gill  
Tempe

Mesa Tribune  
3/6/87

## No Rio Salado

Valley property taxpayers are about to be asked to finance a type of Rio Salado project which gets developers to move people deep into the flood plain of a major river. That is the same misguided land-use planning in which the Army Corps of Engineers has been embroiled for years back East.

The Phoenix City Council officially approved a Rio Salado development district plan, which assumes Cliff Dam would make it "safe" for people to move from a current flood plain width of some 200,000 cubic feet per second down to 55,000 cfs. The Corps has made a career of moving people and intense development deep into urban watercourses. It guarantees that federal agency's self-perpetuation-building projects to protect the project. Always there comes that unexpectedly large flood, or the levees fail or the dam was inadequate, operated incorrectly or silted-in.

The Cliff Dam-Rio Salado project is urban hari-kari with federally guaranteed catastrophic damages and loss of life. The Corps, acting as consultants for Cliff Dam's Bureau of Reclamation builders, presented figures in that dam's environmental impact statement to show that a Rio Salado real estate project which puts hundreds of acres of homes and property down into the 55,000 cfs riverbed would have disastrous consequences.

They stated that even with all the proposed dams in place (including Cliff), if a flood were to occur such as occurred here 96 years ago, it would dump twice as much water on top of Rio Salado as it would be able to handle.

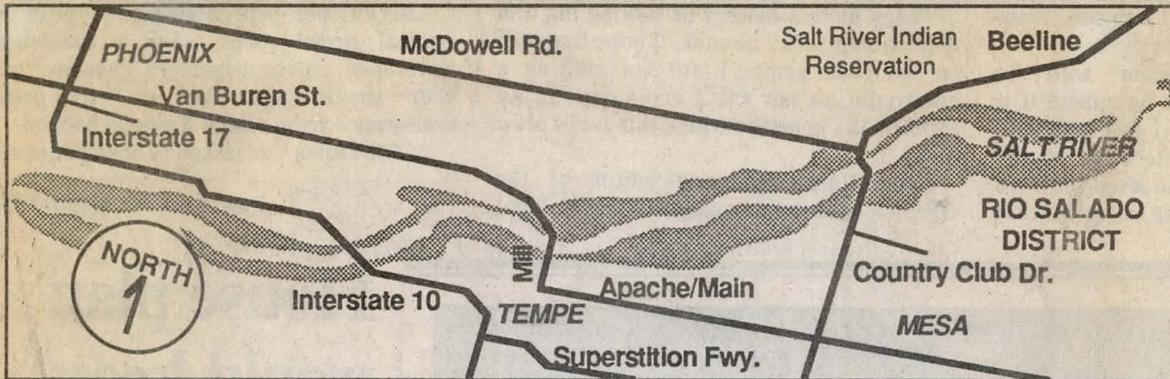
But Rio Salado developers, who are building a plan based on the economics of making a killing on river-bottom real estate, are probably the last ones to be reading environmental impact statements.

Bob Witzeman, M.D.  
Conservation Chairperson  
Maricopa Audubon Society

MESA  
TRIBUNE

3-6-87

## Rio Salado District



MICHELLE WISE/Tribune

# Rio Salado promotion firm picked

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

A Washington, D.C., campaign consulting firm has been selected by a Valley citizens' committee to promote the ambitious Rio Salado development project.

Dennis Mitchem, Citizens for Rio Salado committee chairman, said Smith and Harroff Inc. emerged as the favorite over two Arizona firms — Nelson-Padberg Communications and WFC Public Relations.

Mitchem said Smith and Harroff was chosen because of its international reputation and familiarity with Arizona politics. The firm ran successful campaigns for former Congressman John Rhodes and U.S. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz.

The firm's political win-loss record is 47-7, according to Jay Smith, president.

Rio Salado would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a billion-dollar oasis of public parks and recreational areas.

Maricopa County voters probably will be asked in November to increase property taxes up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to pay for Rio Salado. The tax would amount to \$25 a year for the owner of a \$100,000 home.

A \$20,000 survey done for the citizens group concluded county residents favor Rio Salado by more than 2-1, Mitchem said.

"But an awful lot of those people don't know very much about it," he said. Consequently, Mitchem said promoters fear opposition groups could sway public opinion quickly with "misinformation or incomplete information."

Smith, in a telephone interview Monday, said, "We know they'll be told the down side of it. It's our job to at least make sure that, up or down, they know what it is."

The tax increase is a major problem, Smith said.

A key will be convincing people in Chandler, Peoria and other areas not bordering the project that they

should vote for it, he said.

"If we haven't been able to explain to people outside the immediate construction area what's in it for them, then we will have failed our task."

"It'll radically change the quality of life for the whole county," Smith said.

Mitchem said the cost of the campaign may approach the \$1.5 million spent in 1985 to promote the freeway tax.

"Our basic thrust is going to be, 'What would New York City be without Central Park? What would Baltimore be without Harborplace?'" Smith said.

Smith said Rio Salado can be successful with or without controversial Cliff Dam, which would narrow the Salt River's floodplain and free additional land for development.

Smith's firm has involved itself in Arizona politics since 1973.

### **Are taxes worth it?**

It is not elected officials like Terry Goddard who are pushing that disaster-prone Cliff Dam-Rio Salado riverbottom scam. It is city bureaucrats like Marvin Andrews, George Britton and Bill Chase who don't mind creating problems. When problems develop they just hire a larger staff to work under them. It increases their importance.

Is the increased tax base Phoenix supposedly gets from Rio Salado worth the disastrous costs resulting from putting people into a Love Canal having a guaranteed flooding risk?

Patrick Smith  
Phoenix

## Bell assailed for donation to study on Rio Salado

By Dave Downey  
Tribune writer

The Maricopa Audubon Society has criticized Mountain Bell for contributing \$10,000 to a study aimed at learning whether Valley residents want the ambitious Rio Salado project.

But Bell spokesman Gus Miller said the telephone company is obligated to support major projects that bolster the business climate. He said the money came out of shareholders' pockets, not from ratepayers.

Rio Salado, proposed to be built over 25 years, would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River into a recreational oasis of lakes, parks, golf courses and shops.

Audubon members have fought Rio Salado and Cliff Dam, a main component of the project.

Bell's \$10,000 covered half the cost of a poll conducted by Behavioral Research Center of Phoenix. The remaining money is being raised by Citizens for Rio Salado.

Aaron Kizer, Rio Salado Development District executive director, said written results aren't available. When they are, the citizens

group will decide when to release them.

Kizer said preliminary results are encouraging enough to ask voters this fall if they're willing to pay property taxes of up to \$25 a year on a \$100,000 house to support the Rio Salado project. Under state law, the district can hold an election this year or next.

In his letter to Bell this week, Audubon spokesman Bob Witzeman wrote: "We are deeply disturbed that our telephone company is promoting a floodplain real estate scheme in central Phoenix at the expense of some of the last remaining desert-nesting bald eagle habitat in this nation.

"Your company's \$10,000 contribution to the Rio Salado developers promotes a project which denies the primary tenets of good land-use planning."

Miller said the Rio Salado proposal calls for "responsible, well-planned growth."

"We're a part of this community, and we have a leadership obligation to take in this community," Miller said. "We intend to stand up and do that."

## Rio Salado hype

Most of the 36,000 people whom Rio Salado boasts will move into the (Salt) riverbed will be within the Phoenix city limits. Because the river banks are steeper in Tempe, little flood-plain real estate profiteering could result here from Rio Salado's Cliff Dam. We Tempeans already have our own Rio Salado plan. We don't need a billion-dollar property tax or a dangerous dirt Cliff Dam upstream to make us "safe."

Despite Rio Salado hype, Mesa has essentially no land in the riverbed. Luckily they are saved from this risky scheme. However, like all other Valley residents, they will pay dearly for it with their property taxes.

Does Mayor Goddard believe 1,400 acres of Bermuda grass and 2,000 acres of ornamental lakes are anything but world-class water waste here in our desert environment? Every square foot of the riverbed must be lined with grass for flood control. Otherwise, Rio Salado's Boston planners say, their riverbed developments would be swept away with the first rainstorm — even with Cliff Dam in place.

The Rio Salado developers rejected the more sensible plan of their Boston consultants which used a water-frugal, naturally landscaped riverbed and didn't need the Cliff Dam boondoggle. The Board opted for the grandiose Cliff Dam version. They said the profits from selling river-bottom land after Cliff was built would finance their \$650 million grass-and-lakes river-bottom channel.

And if Mayor Goddard also thinks he needs Cliff Dam for the water, did he ever stop to think that Rio Salado's grass and lakes would use much more water (21,100 acre-feet) than Cliff would provide (15,800 acre-feet). Buying three cotton farms could provide that much water at far less cost.

Patti Watkins  
Tempe



# Rio Verde road extension studied

A series of public meetings have been scheduled on the study to improve northern Valley access to the Beeline Highway, including the proposal to extend Rio Verde Drive through the Tonto National Forest.

JHK and Associates will conduct a detailed review of a Beeline traffic study at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1212 E. Glendale Ave.

Three meetings to obtain public comment and review the alternatives being looked at also will be held in Scottsdale, Rio Verde and Tempe through Thursday.

The Scottsdale meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Mountain View Recreation Center, 8625 E. Mountain View Road.

The Maricopa County Highway Department initially proposed looking into possibilities to alleviate traffic congestion on Beeline Highway, which provides Valley residents with access to recreational areas toward the north.

"Shea Boulevard is the only real access to the Beeline," said Joyce

Hassell, public information officer for Tonto National Forest.

She said possible alternatives include extension of Rio Verde Drive at Fort McDowell Road across the forest to the Beeline Highway, bridging Bartlett Reservoir or following an existing transmission line corridor to the south. Other potential alternatives include the extension of Usery Pass Road or Higley Road from the eastern Valley northward to the Beeline Highway. There also is a no-action alternative.

Protests from residents objecting to roads being built through the forest were voiced at preliminary meetings on the study earlier this year.

A draft Environmental Impact Statement is scheduled for August 1988, at which time a preferred route alternative may be selected, said Hassell.

The county highway department is funding the cost of the environmental studies and will cover the cost of any road construction.

# Palo Verde allows reduced fuel costs

PHOENIX (AP) — An executive of the utility testified Thursday that Arizona Public Service Co. has cut its fuel costs by almost 35 percent since it began getting power from the Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station.

William J. Post, vice president of finance and rates, told the state Corporation Commission that the company spends \$210 million annually on fuel to power its generators. That is down from \$319 million annually, he said.

Post's testimony before the commission came during the opening day of a fuel-adjustment hearing in which APS is seeking to be allowed reduce the amount it charges its customers for fuel expenses.

APS has proposed trimming the fuel charge Jan. 1 to 1.0834 cents per kilowatt-hour of electricity, which would mean a 9.2 percent reduction on the average monthly electric bill.

However, the company has proposed coupling the reduction with a two-step, 18.1 percent general rate increase, which APS has pending before the commission. If both requests are approved, it would boost annual revenues for the utility by \$183 million and result in a 6.3 percent rate increase in January and a 2.6 percent increase a year later.

Post said APS has saved money on fuel by using nuclear power to meet some of its needs, rather than more-expensive natural gas, oil and coal.

Palo Verde, a triple-reactor power plant 50 miles west of downtown Phoenix that APS owns along with six other utilities, began producing power with its first unit in January 1986 and its second in September 1986. The third unit is scheduled to begin commercial operations in late December or early January.

# Campbell comes out last in supervisor popularity

A survey of Maricopa County residents indicates that Scottsdale's George Campbell has the least favorable, although far from poor, job rating of the five members of the Board of Supervisors, according to the Behavior Research Center.

Campbell, 65, who represents Scottsdale and other northeast Valley areas on the board, was rated as a good or excellent public official by 46 percent of those polled. Another 46 percent rated his job performance as fair and 8 percent said it was poor or very poor.

All four of the other county supervisors had good or excellent ratings from more than half of those polled.

Campbell said the survey did not indicate what his job rating was in the region he represents, District 2, and he believes it would be high. The lower ratings could be coming from Sun City residents unhappy with his statements that the retirement community receives more than its share of county services, said Campbell.

"This is a poor barometer," he said. "I'm not really hung up on polls."

District 4 supervisor Carol Carpenter had the highest favorable



Campbell

rating in the survey with 64 percent. Only 5 percent said she is doing a poor job. Carpenter represents the northwest Valley and Sun City.

Campbell faces re-election in November 1988 after the district boundaries are redrawn to account for a shift in population density in

the county.

Campbell, who is a part-time consultant for Building Products Co. in Phoenix, said he plans on running for re-election.

Campbell has been a supervisor since 1977, but like his colleagues he is not widely known. Only 34 percent of those polled know that Campbell is a member of the Board of Supervisors.

Carpenter is the best known supervisor, with 42 percent identifying her correctly.

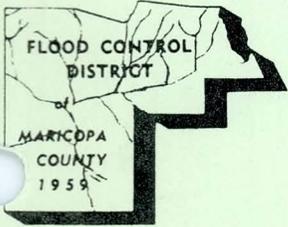
The job ratings for the other supervisors are:

— Tom Freestone, 61 percent good or excellent, 30 percent fair, 9 percent poor and 32 percent recognition factor.

— Fred Koory, 53 percent good or excellent, 43 percent fair, 4 percent poor and a 34 percent recognition factor.

— Ed Pastor, 53 percent good or excellent, 43 percent fair, 4 percent poor and 27 percent recognition factor.

The survey was based on 605 telephone interviews conducted last month with adult heads of household throughout Maricopa County.



FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT of Maricopa County

Interoffice Memorandum

CMT. NO.	SUBJECT: <i>Scottsdale Progress Article</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> FILE _____ <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY _____
	TO: <i>DES 8/19</i> <i>dispose</i>	FROM: <i>EDO</i> DATE: <i>8/10/87</i>

*8/7*

# Scottsdale joins Mesa groundwater recharge project

By PETER CORBETT  
Progress Staff Writer

Scottsdale and seven other Valley cities will share the costs of a pilot groundwater recharging project in the Salt River bed in east Mesa.

The project will be operated by Salt River Project.

Scottsdale will get a share of the water from the project and plans to keep it in storage for use in the event of a drought, said Floyd Marsh, city water resources director.

Groundwater recharging involves introducing surface water into the ground and storing it for future use, which can be a low-cost alternative to building dams to store water, said Gary Small, SRP manager of water quality and geohydrology.

Marsh said the city is just beginning its involvement in groundwater recharging and it will be an important component of water resources management for Scottsdale in the future.

Small said groundwater recharging provides some drought protection, reduces the need to pump existing groundwater and allows flexibility with regard to SRP's well and reservoir operations.

The Granite Reef Storage and Recovery Project was approved by SRP earlier this week and negotiations will now begin to decide how much each city in the Arizona Municipal Water Users' Association should pay, said SRP spokeswoman Susanne Tso. The cost of the project and each city's share has not been determined, she said.

The eight cities in the water users' association and SRP will meet Friday to begin discussions on the project, said Marsh.

During the first two years of the project, SRP will recharge about 100 acres in the Salt River bed between Greenfield and Gilbert roads. Surplus Salt and Verde river water and the cities' Central Arizona Project water could be used to recharge the groundwater table.

Earthen dikes will be built in the river bed to slow the water flow, allowing it to seep into the ground.

SRP estimates that the recharging project could yield an additional 24,000 acre feet of water annually. The extra water could help offset water losses due to the cancellation of Cliff Dam, said Small.

Scottsdale also hopes to receive a \$1 million federal grant for a demonstration groundwater recharging project of its own, said Marsh. The city would put up \$260,000 for the \$1.26 million project, which would be located near Pima and Bell roads on the eastern end of the Tournament Players Club of Scottsdale Desert Course, he said.

The basin for the groundwater recharging would serve as a lake for the municipal golf course, said Marsh.

The city's project is third on a priority list for Arizona groundwater recharge projects, which are subject to congressional approval this fall. Twenty-one Western groundwater recharging projects will be funded, said Marsh.

Scottsdale Progress

8/1/87

# Storm halts traffic, cuts power

## Some areas receive two inches of rain

By MARK FLATTEN  
Progress Staff Writer

The storm that blew as much as two inches of rain in some areas of Scottsdale caused inconvenience, traffic delays and stalled vehicles, but there were no reports of serious injuries or major damage, police said.

The storm hit the Scottsdale area about 6 p.m. and carried strong winds and heavy rains for about an hour.

The National Weather Service did not have official reports on how much rain fell in the Valley, but reports from several locations throughout the city indicated between one and two inches.

Wind gusts reportedly reached 57 mph.

There were no major injuries or traffic accidents due to the storm, according to a dispatcher at the Rural/Metro Fire Department.

Though there were several reports of lightning strikes, the only fire occurred when lightning struck the steeple of the First Southern Baptist Church, 5230 N. Scottsdale Road, said the dispatcher.

That caused a small fire that was quickly extinguished, he said.

One man was plucked from floodwaters when the Scottsdale city bus he was driving stalled in high water in the Indian Bend Wash at Roosevelt Street, police said.

The driver, whose name was not available, was rescued when a man in a four-wheel-drive truck used a winch cable to steady himself as he made his way out to the stranded van, according to police and firefighters at the scene.

Several traffic signals were put out by the storm, said Sgt. Frank

Hylton of the Scottsdale Police Department.

Traffic had to be directed by officers at six major intersections in north Scottsdale and several more in the downtown area.

The traffic signal at 68th Street and Thomas Road was blown over and completely submerged in water, but continued to function.

The signal on Pima Road and McDonald Drive was blown off its pole and into the roadway.

The heaviest flooding was reported in the areas of north Scottsdale and McCormick Ranch, he added.

Although the storm rose the level of water in Indian Bend Wash, there were no complete road closures, Hylton said.

Salt River Project reported power outages beginning about 6:30 p.m. in the areas bounded by:

— Pima Road, Civic Center Plaza, Osborn Road and Indian Bend Road.

— Scottsdale, Hayden, McKellips and McDowell roads.

— Hayden Road, the Indian Bend Wash, McDowell and Thomas roads.

There were also SRP power outages on the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Fountain Hills and in east Phoenix.

About 3,000 SRP customers lost power Valleywide, but company officials did not have a breakdown of how many were in Scottsdale.

Wayne Kaplan, spokesman for Arizona Public Service Co., said about 2,500 Scottsdale homes were without power because of the storm, most for about an hour but some until about 1 a.m. today.

Paradise Valley had about 4,000 APS customers without power, Kaplan said.



A SCOTTSDALE BUS is inundated by floodwaters where it stalled in the Indian Bend Wash at Roosevelt

Street. The driver reportedly was rescued by an unidentified man.

Scottsdale Progress  
7-22-87

# City OKs continuing Plan 6 contributions

By SUSAN KEATON  
Progress Staff Writer

Scottsdale will continue making Plan 6 contributions in the hope that federal officials can find alternative water supplies to the recently killed Cliff Dam, City Council members agreed in a 6-1 vote Tuesday.

Councilman Myron Deibel dissented, saying the city should not be sending money to the federal government unless it knows what it is buying.

Scottsdale and other Valley cities have been making quarterly payments to an escrow account to pay for Cliff Dam, which was to be built on the Verde River near Horseshoe Lake. The dam was a major component of Plan 6, a \$1.7 billion flood-control and water-storage project on the Salt, Verde and Agua Fria rivers.

Scottsdale was to pay \$4.5 million toward development of Plan 6 in return for 2,000 to

3,000 acre-feet of water annually.

Congress recently dropped Cliff Dam from the project because of environmental groups' concerns that it would destroy wildlife, and Scottsdale officials did not know whether they should make the \$100,000 payment due this month.

But under an agreement approved by the Department of Interior this week, cities' contributions will continue to go into an escrow account that will pay for future water supplies, said Bill Farrell, city attorney.

The city would be able to recoup its investment with interest if alternatives are not found by 1991, he said.

Deibel said he would prefer to hold Scottsdale's payments until the Interior Department can show the city how it plans to use the money.

"If Congress didn't support us on Cliff

Dam, then I'm not sure why we should support them when we don't even know what we're supporting," he said.

But other council members said the city needs to take advantage of possible water resources. They said that if Scottsdale does not approve the alternatives, it will be able to recoup its investment.

# City may continue Plan 6 payments

By SUSAN KEATON  
Progress Staff Writer

Scottsdale will consider making its July Plan 6 payment if the federal government agrees to find alternative water sources to the recently eliminated Cliff Dam, the city's water resources director said today.

Leonard Dueker, executive assistant to the city manager, said he will recommend the City Council continue making its quarterly Plan 6 payments as long as the Department of Interior is looking for more water sources for the Valley.

Dueker had recommended the council withhold this month's \$100,000 payment after Congress dropped Cliff Dam from Plan 6, a \$1.7 billion flood-control and water-storage project on the Salt, Verde and Agua Fria rivers.

Cliff Dam, which was to be built on the Verde River near Horseshoe Lake, was dropped after a coalition of environmental groups protested it

would destroy wildlife.

Scottsdale had agreed to pay about \$4.5 million toward development of Plan 6 in return for 2,000 to 3,000 acre-feet of water annually.

Dueker said he expected to hear today if the Department of Interior has agreed to the new plan. The City Council will be asked to approve it Tuesday.

The money from Scottsdale and other Valley cities had been put in an escrow account to pay for construction of Cliff. The money will continue to go into an escrow account to pay for the future water supplies, although neither Valley cities nor Congress yet knows what the supplies will be, said Bill Farrell, city attorney.

"With Cliff it was a specific," Farrell said. "Now all we have is a congressional promise."

Dueker said the new plan allows the city to recoup its investment if a replacement for Cliff is not found.

THE SCOTTSDALE PROGRESS  
7-20-87

# Scottsdale advised to hold Plan 6 payment for July

By MARK FLATTEN  
Progress Staff Writer

Scottsdale's payments to pay for Plan 6 probably should be suspended until the city gets some assurance of benefits it will receive with the elimination of Cliff Dam, the city's adviser for water issues said today.

Leonard Dueker said he will recommend to the City Council that the city not make the \$100,000 payment due in July.

The city will be seeking assurances from the federal govern-

ment that it will be getting the water from Plan 6 that officials had thought would come from the additional storage behind Cliff Dam, which was dropped last week from the plan.

"My recommendation to the council will be that we do withhold the payment until we do resolve that we will receive the benefits," Dueker said. "The water we were to get from Cliff, somehow the federal government is planning on getting it but they haven't told us where."

Scottsdale had agreed to pay about \$4.5 million toward development of Plan 6, a \$1.7 billion flood control and water storage project on the Salt, Verde and Agua Fria rivers.

Cliff Dam was to be built on the Verde River near Horseshoe Lake.

It was dropped under an agreement between Arizona's congressional delegation and a coalition of environmental groups, who sought to block implementation of Plan 6

because of concerns about the destruction of wildlife.

Scottsdale was to get about 2,000 to 3,000 acre feet of water annually that was to be stored behind Cliff Dam.

Rep. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said last week alternative water supplies would be found, suggesting such things as reallocations of Central Arizona Project water and the purchase of private groundwater wells.

Cliff Dam was dropped after the delegation received commitments the environmentalists would drop

future challenges to other components of Plan 6.

The other components include improvements to Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt River and construction of the New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River at Lake Pleasant.

Cities and other water users agreed to pay up-front costs of the plan rather than repaying the federal government for those costs.

Dueker said he will take his recommendation to the council at its

meeting on July 6.

Representatives from other cities and water users in the Valley already have said their payments will be suspended.

In a related development, the House on Wednesday passed the \$16.15 billion energy and water development appropriations bill that includes funding for CAP construction.

However, the Office of Management and Budget is recommending that President Reagan veto the bill.

Scottsdale Prog.  
6-15-87

## Water bill in Congress worries Arizona

PHOENIX (AP) — Arizona officials are nervous about a bill introduced in Congress that could take water from the Central Arizona Project, which supplies the Phoenix area and central Arizona farms.

Introduced last week by Rep. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colo., the bill would validate a Dec. 10, 1986, water rights agreement between the Southern Ute and Mountain Ute Indian reservations in southwestern Colorado and several other parties in New Mexico and Colorado.

"The Indians have senior rights on any water that flows through or into their reservations," Carol Knight, Campbell's press secretary, said

Friday.

Several rivers that ultimately empty into the Colorado River — the source of the CAP's water — cross the reservations. The tribes agreed to trade that water for water collected from the Animas and La Plata rivers in Colorado and northern New Mexico and stored in Ridges Basin Reservoir, Knight said.

"This is water that would be lost to downstream interests," Campbell said. "If it is stored, it would be put to beneficial use in Colorado."

That's what has Arizona officials worried.

For a long time, they have known

the waters of the Colorado are over-allocated and that less will be available for Arizona when upper basin states — Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Wyoming — take their full share.

"They're concerned that the (Ute) water could maintain higher priority," said Doug Cole, press secretary for Rep. Jay Rhodes, R-Ariz. The CAP and southern California's Metropolitan Water District get last crack at the Colorado water, meaning other users must be satisfied first.

Officials also fear that if the tribes' water were sold to someone in Arizona, it would be counted

against Arizona's 2.8-million-acre-foot allocation of river water, Cole said.

Cole said officials also worry that other tribes could be granted rights to Colorado River water, further squeezing what's available to the CAP. "Maybe the Navajos will come in and take something," Cole said.

Campbell's bill, assigned to the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, was introduced with more than 20 co-sponsors, many of them from Colorado and New Mexico. Cole said the Arizona and California delegations are fighting it.

# MAG panel approves 1-mile Hohokam extension

A one-mile extension of the Hohokam Expressway north to Thomas Road was approved Wednesday by the Maricopa Association of Governments Management Committee, which also passed air pollution control guidelines.

The committee voted unanimously for the four-lane parkway that is to be built along the Old Crosscut Canal near 48th Street.

Susan Goldsmith, of the Hohokam Parkway Citizens' Advisory Committee, had urged the MAG committee to oppose construction of the parkway, saying it was a one-mile stretch of freeway to nowhere that

would create traffic congestion on Thomas Road at 48th and 44th streets.

The advisory committee studied the parkway for 18 months and rejected building it through the east Phoenix neighborhoods along 48th Street, she said.

Goldsmith also questioned whether there would be funding available to build the parkway, which could cost up to \$15 million.

Severo Esquivel, Phoenix surface transportation manager, said funding will be available because the extension of the Hohokam Expressway was part of the original MAG system that is to be funded by

the half-cent state sales tax increase approved by voters in 1985.

The approval of the parkway by the MAG committee means the project has cleared another hurdle on its way to becoming part of the state highway system and being eligible for funding. The MAG Regional Council also will consider approval of the parkway.

Last month, the Phoenix City Council approved the parkway over the objections of the citizens' advisory committee.

A realignment of the Hohokam Expressway to the east of its current path and extending it north from Washington Street to McDowell

Road already is planned.

In other action at the MAG meeting, the Management Committee approved an air quality policy intended to reduce carbon monoxide and ozone pollution in the Valley. The guidelines in the policy call for a variety of pollution-control measures such as ride sharing, mass transit, flexible work schedules, expanding emissions testing, parking fees, synchronized traffic signals, reversible traffic lanes, voluntary no-drive days and winter daylight savings time.

One of the more controversial measures intended to reduce ozone pollution is a vapor recovery system

that would require gasoline dealers to retrofit pump nozzles to prevent hydrocarbons from escaping into the air during refueling.

California filling stations are equipped with the vapor-recovery devices and a study showed it cost consumers about 1/3-cent per gallon, said Lindy Bauer, MAG environmental programs coordinator.

Spokesmen representing oil companies and Arizona gasoline dealers said they oppose the vapor-recovery systems claiming it would cost about \$22,000 to retrofit a gas station with nine nozzles.

Bauer argued that the vapor-recovery systems for gas stations

would bring more immediate results than a plan to install the devices on automobiles starting in 1991.

She also said that the EPA is considering requiring the oil companies to lower the volatility of gasoline, which would help reduce ozone pollution. But it also could cause some problems with engine performance, especially in cold weather, Bauer said.

MAG also approved recommendations urging the county and all the Valley cities to adopt strict regulations to control billboards along the 233-miles of freeways that will be built in the county as part of the MAG system. —PETER CORBETT

## SRP ready for canal crackdown

By CHRIS COPPOLA  
Progress Staff Writer

The Salt River Project is warning Valley residents that they can be cited for swimming or water skiing in canals, or driving motor vehicles along Project canal banks.

SRP patrol officers regularly check the canals, especially in summer, looking for violators. People found in the water or driving on the banks are issued a warning by SRP. A second violation and the matter can be referred to a local police

department.

The Arizona Canal and Arizona Cross Cut Canal run through central and south Scottsdale.

SRP canal banks are federal property. The banks were opened for bicycling, jogging, horseback riding and licensed fishing in 1964.

"Water activities in canals are prohibited," said Jeff Wilt, SRP security supervisor. "In cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, SRP patrol officers enforce the

law to save lives and prevent serious injuries."

People who attempt to swim in the canal may have difficulty getting out once they have entered the water because of the canals' concrete slopes, he said.

People also are in danger of becoming tangled in weeds that grow in some canals or being swept into canal gates by an undercurrent.

Driving along canals also is prohibited because the banks can be slippery and vehicles will kick up

dust. Only SRP service vehicles are allowed to drive along a canal.

Last year, SRP canal patrol officers issued 920 written warnings between May 5 and Sept. 1. Swimming accounted for 690 violations and motor vehicles on the canal banks accounted for 227, Wilt said.

The remainder were for illegal dumping and dumping of trash.

Anyone who wishes to report a violation should call SRP, 24 hours a day.

# Scottsdale Skeptical Of Approved Development

By EDYTHE JENSEN  
Gazette County Reporter

A mountainside luxury housing development near Pinnacle Peak and Pima roads has been approved by the Maricopa Planning and Zoning Commission, although Scottsdale officials say the plan may pose problems to residents' safety.

County zoning officials learned Thursday that 47 custom homes will be built at the base of the McDowell Mountains in a 240-acre develop-

ment which will feature a 20-acre common area for residents.

**THE LOCATION** is not within Scottsdale city limits, although Scottsdale planner Don Hadder said annexation is expected in the near future.

"The homes are built around long cul-de-sacs, which could make access by emergency vehicles difficult," Hadder said. "There are potential flooding problems in the area, and if

flooding cuts off one part of one street, there would be no way to get help to someone in the development."

Scottsdale planners would never allow such a street plan, but Hadder said the city's hands are tied because the area is under county jurisdiction.

Scott Buchanan of the county Flood Control District told planners the luxury homesites are subject to substantial water runoff during

PG-6-19-81  
rains, and that drainage is often random and unpredictable.

**IN A** report submitted Thursday, he said proposed homesites do not follow natural land contours and access to the homesites may be somewhat difficult during runoff events and driveways may be damaged.

Only one of Hadder's suggestions was approved by the zoning commission — that was his proposal that the

development provide for future access to nearby state land.

Other suggestions — including the maintenance of an historic equestrian trail and stricter limitations on mountainside development — were not included in the county's approval.

Plans for the development will now go to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

Turn to • FLOOD, Page B-2

## • FLOOD

(Concluded from Page B-1)

"I WOULD like to see the development keep equestrian trail access along the larger washes. It is the only way horse riders can get into the mountains, and they have enjoyed the area for years. The McDowell Mountains trail blends with Scottsdale's own extensive equestrian trail plan," said Hadder.

Tom Anderson of Pinnacle Peak Land Company told county planning staff members he is building an attractive, low density development in an area which originally was approved for 2,000 homes.

According to Anderson's plan, the proposal approved Thursday features one home to every five acres of land.

Hadder estimated the home prices would start at \$250,000, and praised the developer for attractive sites which seek to preserve desert foliage.



## Cliff is no loss

Cliff Dam's water is such a small portion of the future water budget of Valley cities that one wonders why some Valley mayors are listening to the water shortage scare tactics of their advisors.

Cliff Dam's 15,800 acre-feet (a.f.) Plan 6 yield is miniscule beside the 1,500,000 a.f. of CAP aqueduct. If Arizona ever grows to where CAP is entirely urbanized, two thirds of CAP or one million acre feet would go to Valley cities — and the rest to 'Baja' Arizona cities. Furthermore, the Arizona Water Commission's Phase II, State Water Plan shows a renewable Maricopa County supply of 971,000 a.f. — in addition to CAP.

Cliff's 15,800 a.f. is a tiny fraction of that total 1,971,000 a.f. renewable supply. That renewable supply is sufficient to increase our Valley's 1.9 million population to 10-12 million. If we still want more people, golf courses, ornamental lakes, swimming pools or bermuda lawns, we can buy more water ranches, treat more wastewater, or increase conservation.

And we couldn't breathe or get around with that many people. Thank goodness the magnificent Verde River is still here. It's one of those quality-of-life reasons people come to Arizona.

LIZ HATCHER  
Phoenix

# Cliff Dam dumped

**C**ONTROVERSIAL CLIFF DAM has been eliminated from flood control plans for Arizona. As part of a compromise, members of the state's congressional delegation agreed to drop the proposed \$316 million structure.

Originally the flood control project had included Orme Dam, at the juncture of the Verde and Salt Rivers, which would have flooded Indian lands. But no one had consulted the Indian leaders who objected vehemently.

Cliff Dam further up on the Verde also was controversial. A coalition of major environmental groups argued that it would destroy nesting places of endangered bald eagles and would eliminate one of the last unspoiled stretches of a free-flowing river in Arizona.

In return for dropping Cliff, environmentalists have agreed not to oppose other aspects of the project which is described as Plan 6. It would include improvements to Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams and construction of a new Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River at Lake Pleasant.

Last year environmentalists had filed a lawsuit challenging Cliff Dam. They also had lined up enough votes in Congress to kill the whole project if Cliff was included.

The compromise virtually assures that other aspects of Plan 6 will be funded. It makes sense because it will provide necessary flood control without seriously harming the environment.

# Dam alternative needed, says Kyl

By MARK FLATTEN  
Progress Staff Writer

The agreement that removes Cliff Dam from the \$1.7 billion Plan 6 will benefit the state only if alternative water supplies and flood-control measures can be found, U.S. Rep. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said Friday.

Weakening support in Congress and legal tangles that could have killed the entire plan left the state's congressional delegation with little choice but to accept an agreement with environmentalists, said Kyl, who is acting as spokesman for the delegation.

The agreement requires the coalition of environmental groups to drop a lawsuit challenging Cliff Dam and agree not to fight other components of Plan 6 in return for elimination of the controversial dam, which may have threatened nesting grounds of bald eagles on the Verde River.

"We got a great deal from this agreement — certainty of the completion of Plan 6 and the rest of the Central Arizona Project," Kyl said. "But I don't want to suggest we don't give something else up. How important that is will depend on whether we can come up with flood-control and water-storage alternatives. I think we can. I'll certainly be working very hard for it. And if we can there is no question that it is a good agreement."

Possible sources of water to replace the 15,000 to 20,000 acre feet that would have been stored behind Cliff Dam include Central Arizona Project allocations that have been refused, underground wells or private water allotments that owners may be willing to sell, Kyl said.

The pact was announced late Thursday.

It outlines six points of understanding between environmentalists and the delegation, which agreed to drop support for Cliff Dam, a \$316 million project that had been planned on the Verde River near Horseshoe Lake.

Representatives of the National Audubon Society, the National

Wildlife Federation and Friends of the Earth and the state's congressional delegation were parties to the agreement.

Plan 6 is a series of improvements to increase the safety and storage capacities of the Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt River and to construct a New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River at Lake Pleasant.

Cliff Dam was a component of the plan.

No additional federal money will be appropriated to study or construct Cliff Dam or any similar facility on the Verde River, under the agreement.

In return, the environmental groups will drop the federal lawsuit filed last year challenging Plan 6 and Cliff Dam as environmental hazards and beyond the scope of the dam safety appropriations that were to pay for it.

They also agreed not to pursue any further action to block the remaining components of Plan 6.

That assures Plan 6 will win continued funding in Congress, Kyl said.

Environmentalists probably had lined up enough votes to kill further appropriations on the House floor, he added.

There also were questions whether Cliff Dam and Plan 6 would qualify as dam safety projects for which federal money had been allocated, Kyl said.

If congressional support for Plan 6 had failed or the lawsuit had succeeded, it would have been impossible to resurrect, he said.

"A week ago Plan 6 had a huge cloud hanging over it," Kyl said. "A lot of people felt we could lose that lawsuit. And, depending upon how the lawsuit was structured at that time, we could have lost a lot more than just Cliff Dam. We could have lost Waddell. We could have lost the safety-of-dams money. We could have lost the essential features of Plan 6. Uncertainty is a very bad thing in this process."

# Cliff Dam dies in compromise

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Arizona congressional delegation, seeing support eroding in Congress for the proposed Cliff Dam, has agreed to shelve the controversial component of the Central Arizona Project.

In return, the lawmakers told a news conference here Thursday, environmentalists have agreed to drop their lawsuit against the dam — proposed for the Verde River northeast of Phoenix — and CAP's Plan 6 and to refrain from opposing funding for the remaining features of Plan 6.

Delegation members, who said they unanimously agreed to drop Cliff Dam, said the action virtually assures timely completion of the mammoth water project that carries Colorado River water to cities and other users in central and southern Arizona.

"To me, this is a victory for everyone," said Sen. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz. "This is a historic moment," added Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-

Ariz.

Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., said he went along with the deal "with the greatest reluctance. I have the feeling we may have moved too fast and that there are people in Arizona who won't be happy."

Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., said the National Coalition to Stop Cliff Dam had been gaining ground in Congress to the point that it appeared the House next week might vote to deny a \$1.2 million appropriation for the dam.

"We just don't have the clout we had before," Udall said. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., said that "the votes had changed."

Rep. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., said that had the delegation carried the battle to the House floor, it risked losing the entire Plan 6 to environmental forces led by Rep. Lawrence Coughlin, R-Pa.

Udall said the water that Cliff Dam would have provided would have to come from a variety of

smaller steps, including conservation. He said the agreement would not void the CAP cost-sharing arrangement.

But Roger Manning, executive director of the Arizona Municipal Water Users Association, said the agreement for local water users to provide \$370 in up-front financing for Plan 6 is "if not dead, close to it."

"We were guaranteed a certain amount of storage space behind that dam," Manning said. "Without that dam there is no space. Without that space there is no water. And without that water there is no money."

Manning said local water users had hoped that the agreement would contain assurances that the water that would have been stored behind Cliff Dam would be found from other sources. But, he said, there are no such assurances.

"We had a contract that said we were to get something," Manning said. "That contract has been abrogated and by parties that were

not party to the contract."

The dam was a "very central part" of the funding agreement, Manning said, and he said he could not predict what steps will be taken now that it has been scrapped.

"I know I can't go to my board, which is made up of the cities that signed the agreement, and tell them that it would be of value for them to remain in it," he said.

The Cliff Dam deal came out of a series of 13 meetings this week attended by all seven members of the delegation, participants said.

The agreement with the coalition provides for the dropping of the legal challenges in return for the delegation not seeking funding for Cliff Dam or any similar water conservation feature on the Verde River.

The coalition agreed to support appropriations under the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act to complete safety-related improvements at Horseshoe, Bartlett, Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams.

6 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress Friday, June 19, 1987



U.S. SEN. Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz., Rep. Morris Udall, D-Ariz., and Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., speak at a press conference Thursday in

Washington, D.C., to announce that plans for Cliff Dam have been scrapped.

AP Laserphoto

# Deal would kill Cliff Dam

By MARK FLATTEN  
Progress Staff Writer

An agreement to eliminate Cliff Dam from the Plan 6 flood-control, dam-safety and water-storage project may be announced in Washington, D.C., today, the Maricopa County head of the National Audubon Society said.

Elimination of the proposed dam on the Verde River will not hamper flood control or mean the loss of any water for Valley cities, said Dr. Robert Witzeman, conservation chairman of the Maricopa Audubon Society.

A tentative agreement, reached between Arizona's congressional delegation and environmental groups, would allow all necessary dam improvements and deliver the same amount of water to cities as construction of the controversial dam, Witzeman said.

However, Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., contacted in Washington, said today it is not accurate to say the agreement would provide the same level of dam safety, flood control and water supp-

ly of Cliff Dam.

"We're talking about other ways of finding flood control with the elimination of Cliff Dam, but you can't wave the magic wand and say it's replaced that flood control (function of Cliff Dam)."

Kyl said a news conference is planned this afternoon in Washington. "We have the basic principles of an agreement worked out. There's no final agreement. We're still trying to figure out if we can make it work," he said.

Mayor Herb Drinkwater said today that the \$1.7 billion Plan 6, an adjunct of the Central Arizona Project, would have little benefit for Scottsdale without Cliff Dam, which would be on the Verde River near Horseshoe Lake.

Drinkwater, after talking to Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., this morning, said of Cliff Dam, "From what I can find out, it's not dead yet, it's just badly injured."

Witzeman said the tentative agreement was reached Wednesday after a series of closed-door

meetings between Arizona's congressional delegation and representatives of the National Audubon Society, the National Wildlife Federation and the Friends of the Earth.

It would delete Cliff Dam from Plan 6, said Witzeman, who was involved in negotiations through the society's national office.

In return, environmentalists would drop a federal lawsuit aimed at blocking Plan 6.

Plan 6 would increase the storage capacities of dams on the Salt and Verde rivers and fund construction of New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River at Lake Pleasant.

Part of the agreement, which should be completed today, would allow flood-control and dam-safety projects and identify a source of water to replace the water that would be stored behind Cliff Dam, Witzeman said.

He declined to name the alternative source of water, but said it had been identified in private meetings.

"The winners here are going to be the people of Arizona and their environment," said Witzeman. "Flood-control and dam-safety needs will be met and the water-storage needs would be met if the agreement goes forward. People won't be getting anything less than they had with Cliff."

The \$316 million Cliff Dam was headed for stiff opposition in House floor debates because of its cost and charges it would destroy nesting areas of bald eagles on the Verde River.

It was designed in 1981 after environmental concerns killed the planned Orme Dam, which was to have been built at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers.

Drinkwater said he is concerned that deletion of Cliff Dam would leave the city with no benefits from Plan 6 while it is being asked to pay part of the cost.

Scottsdale is committed to spending about \$4.5 million toward improvements to the dam system that will increase storage capacities.



10-24-87

Progress

2 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress Saturday, October 24, 1987

# CAP cost-sharing plan signed over objections

PHOENIX (AP) — Over objections from environmentalists, state and federal officials on Friday signed a new cost-sharing plan intended to keep the Central Arizona Project's Plan 6 on track.

The plan was signed by Gov. Evan Mecham, Secretary of State Rose Mofford and assistant U.S. Interior Secretary James Ziglar in a ceremony at the governor's office. Also attending were Republican U.S. Reps. Jon Kyl and Jay Rhodes.

The \$373 million agreement essentially is a "holding action" to keep the Plan 6 project going while officials seek alternatives to Cliff Dam, which was dropped earlier this year due to opposition from environmentalists, Ziglar said.

Plan 6 is a regulatory water storage and flood control segment of the \$3.6 billion CAP, which carries

Colorado River water to central Arizona and is intended to be completed to Tucson by 1991. In 1986 a number of cities and other water interests agreed to contribute \$373 million to speed its completion in the face of increasing congressional opposition to paying the entire bill.

At the signing ceremony, Mecham took a swipe at his predecessor, former Democratic Gov. Bruce Babbitt, noting that as a car dealer, Mecham has to provide warranties on the products he sells. "I'm trying to get Babbitt to make good on his warranty on Plan 6 cause something went wrong and he hasn't been around to pay the warranty," Mecham said.

Under Friday's agreement, local governments will pay their share of the Cliff Dam funds into an escrow account while officials consider

other alternatives for water replacement supplies and flood control.

Cliff Dam would have provided cities 30,000 acre-feet of water a year, and cities balked at paying their shares of the cost-sharing plan unless some other way is found to provide the water. If an alternative is not found, the money would be returned to the cities.

However, the National Wildlife Federation and the National Audubon Society on Thursday sent a letter to federal officials saying the cost-sharing plan was premature because Congress has not yet passed the 1988 Energy and Water Development Appropriation bill.

Phoenix city water adviser Bill Chase said the environmentalists' objection "raises a big question" about their willingness to cooperate in finding alternatives to Cliff Dam.

# Scottsdale pumps 7 million gallons of CAP water a day

By SUSAN KEATON  
Progress Staff Writer

Seven million gallons of Central Arizona Project water is being used daily in Scottsdale, and the city hopes to increase its daily usage to 10 million gallons within the next few weeks.

The \$25 million CAP water treatment plant was pumping only a million gallons a day when it opened in late March, but Scottsdale's CAP allocation eventually will be 20 million gallons a day.

The CAP water is blended with pumped groundwater and sent to houses and businesses between Bell and Doubletree Ranch roads, said Rick Gregoire, Scottsdale's water resources administrative manager.

Each gallon of the Colorado River water used results in a gallon less water being pumped from

underground aquifers, Gregoire said. Later this year, Scottsdale probably will begin recharging some CAP water into the aquifer to replenish the water table.

These efforts will help the city comply with Arizona's Groundwater Management Act, which requires that, by the year 2025, water users draw no more water from underground aquifers than is replaced naturally or through recharge.

Scottsdale water customers now use about 40 million gallons of water a day in the summer and 11 million a day in the winter.

The CAP water treatment plant is run by the Scottsdale Water Service Co. limited partnership, which was formed specifically to build and run the plant northwest of the intersection of Union Hills Drive and Pima Road.

The city is paying off the bonds

that financed its construction and pays SWSC for the water and its treatment costs.

The payments vary from month to month depending on the bond interest rate and the amount of water used, Gregoire said. He said he expects the city to spend between \$30,000 and \$35,000 a month for the water alone.

In May, the city paid the SWSC \$135,000 for bond principle and interest and \$131,000 for water used during March and April and testing in February, he said.

Scottsdale originally intended to build up to its 20-million-gallon allocation in five years, but Gregoire said it probably will speed up that schedule. The more CAP water used, the cheaper its per-gallon price, he said.

But "a lot of things have to happen," before the city is ready to buy

that much water each month, Gregoire said.

Pumps will have to be installed to serve land north of Bell, which is of higher elevation than the plant, he said. To serve lower elevations south of Doubletree, the city will have to install pressure-reduction valves in water lines.

Gregoire said neither addition is included in the budget for the 1987-88 fiscal year, which begins Wednesday.

Pumps for the north area probably will be delayed until the area is developed further, he said.

"We expect developers to pay part of the costs of getting lines and pumps up there," he said.

The CAP canal brings Colorado River water nearly 200 miles to the Valley. The \$3.6 billion project eventually will carry river water all the way to Tucson.

# House approves Cliff Dam-CAP deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House today approved an amendment containing a compromise in which Arizona's delegation sacrificed the planned Cliff Dam in exchange for environmentalists' dropping their fight against the dam and an overall Central Arizona Project cost-sharing agreement.

Meanwhile, representatives of Phoenix-area cities and other water

interests were questioning whether a cost-sharing agreement for the CAP could survive without benefits which some participating interests were to have obtained from Cliff.

The House approved the Cliff Dam measure on a voice vote, said Ken Burton, a spokesman for the House Interior Committee.

"Adoption of this amendment will begin a process of ending this war-

fare before it takes an increasingly greater toll of time, energy, resources and political apital which the Arizona delegation needs to pursue successfully other objectives beneficial to Arizona and the nation," said Rep. Morris K. Udall, D-Ariz. "Chief among these objectives is completion of the Central Arizona Project."

Udall and other delegation

members last week announced agreement with a coalition of environmentalists who'd opposed Cliff Dam, which was to be built on a section of the Verde River where bald eagles nest. The river is located northeast of Phoenix.

In return for the delegation's dropping of Cliff Dam, the environmentalists agreed to drop their court fight against the project.

# CAP officials seek 3-cent tax hike

PHOENIX (AP) — The Central Arizona Project board will be asked next week for a 42 percent increase in the CAP district's property tax in Maricopa, Pinal and Pima counties.

Raising the Central Arizona Water Conservation District's tax rate from the current 7 cents to 10 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation would increase revenue from an expected \$14 million next year to \$19.4 million, said Tom Clark, district manager.

Without the increase, repayments to the federal government for the

\$3.5 billion CAP will cut the district's legally required cash reserve below \$5.5 million in five years, Clark told the board's executive and finance committees on Thursday.

The district board is expected to act Thursday on the 1987-88 tax-increase proposal.

The CAP is an partially completed aqueduct system to carry Colorado River water from western Arizona to cities, farmers and other users in southern and central Arizona.

The board had attempted to main-

tain the current tax rate, as it has for the past three years, by selling surplus power from the Navajo Generating Station at Page, a plant built to pump CAP water from the Colorado River to Phoenix and Tucson.

"This season, our excess was sold just about at cost," Clark said. "We're unable to generate a net profit in today's market."

Water-sales revenue has not been a major revenue producer because some agricultural customers have

not completed their distribution systems and cities have not begun taking their full allocations.

The CAP, under construction since 1973, is scheduled to deliver an average 1.5 million acre-feet of water annually once it is complete to Tucson in 1991. It is running at about one-third of that rate.

An acre-foot covers an acre to the depth of one foot, and is enough water for five people or one acre of cotton.

# City to conduct hearing on water resources fees

By SUSAN KEATON  
Progress Staff Writer

A public hearing on proposed water resources development fees and presentation of the Charter Review Advisory Commission's final report are on the agenda for the Monday meeting of the Scottsdale City Council.

The council meets at 5 p.m. in the Kiva at City Hall, 3939 Civic Center Plaza.

The city proposes to implement water resources development fees as a way to make developers share the costs of acquiring additional water resources such as Central Arizona Project water or treated wastewater.

Proposed fees are \$1,000 for each single-family dwelling unit, \$600 for each multi-family dwelling unit and \$2,000 per acre-foot of additional estimated annual water use for all other kinds of developments.

Valley home builders have protested the fees, saying they will drive up construction costs.

The final report of the Charter Review Advisory Commission recommends the council allow

citizens to vote on limiting the terms of the mayor, City Council members and members of volunteer commissions.

Perhaps the most controversial part of the report is the 15-member committee's recommendation that the city continue electing council members at large rather than changing to a district system.

Commissioners discussed that issue in several meetings, but those favoring a plan to elect half the council members from districts never could muster a majority. But a modified district plan was supported in public testimony from north Scottsdale residents.

The City Council will decide which of the recommendations to put to a public vote. Those recommendations could be part of the city election ballot next February.

In other business Monday, the council will consider:

—Ordering the sale of \$9.8 million in Highway User Revenue Bonds and \$14.6 million in Street and Highway User Revenue Refunding Bonds to fund street improvement projects in 1987-88.

—Awarding a \$688,004.55 contract to Bentson Contracting Co. for the widening of McDowell Road from 64th Street to the Crosscut Canal as part of a joint project with the city of Phoenix to improve the McDowell and 64th intersection.

—Authorizing a \$42,256 contingency fund transfer and a \$10 user fee to fund a scaled-down bookmobile service in 1987-88.

—Authorizing the K-Lin Corp. to enter a joint venture with Sun State Savings and Loan to finance and build a covered arena and a bridge across the Central Arizona Project Canal at 96th Street.

—Authorizing acquisition of rights of way needed to begin construction of the 70th Street bridge over the Arizona Canal, which will be part of the western leg of the city's planned downtown traffic couplet.

—Authorizing a \$600,000 transfer from unallocated bond interest to pay for completion of the Desert Golf Course at the Tournament Players Club.

—Adopting an updated Human Resources Ordinance to replace the city's Personnel Ordinance.

# City officials pleased with CAP water

PHOENIX (AP) — Water from the Central Arizona Projects is getting good reviews from city utility officials, some of whom say it tastes better than the well water they had been drinking.

The CAP is pumped 190 miles from Lake Havasu to quench the thirst of an estimated 275,000 people, and officials in Glendale, Mesa, Phoenix and Scottsdale say the water is much better than expected.

Before the water began flowing across the desert through the CAP canal, people described it as swamp water that would need exotic treatment to make it drinkable.

The first of the CAP water arrived in the Phoenix area a year ago. With the exception of needed chlorination, the water meets minimum federal standards before it is treated, said Jim Kaylor, Glendale's utilities director.

"Many cities in the United States would love to have water so clean

before it is treated," he said.

Apparently, the CAP water is naturally cleansed as it travels across the desert to the Phoenix metropolitan area. Chemists' reports show that the CAP water is substantially cleaner when it arrives at the Phoenix water treatment plant than it was when it left the lake, said Charles White, community relations officer for the Phoenix Water Department.

Because the water is better than anticipated, the cost to treat it is less than city officials had planned.

Glendale is the only Valley city that has some residents drinking CAP water exclusively. Residents living north of the Arizona Canal receive CAP water. But in portions of north Phoenix, north Scottsdale and east Mesa, CAP water is blend-

ed with well water in the distribution lines.

When Glendale switched 40,000 people from well water to CAP water in January, the city got only three inquiries, Kaylor said.

"Those people said something was different. The water tastes better," he said.

Kaylor said the CAP water quality has been more stable than water from the Arizona Canal, which comes from the Salt and Verde rivers.

Phoenix's treatment plant at Cave Creek Road near Beardsley Road was the first in the Valley to treat the CAP water a year ago this week. The quality of the raw CAP water has improved during the past four months as other treatment plants have started production, White said.

"Because of the increased demand, the water is flowing faster and algae can't form as readily," he said.

Officials in Scottsdale and Mesa said they have heard no complaints about the CAP water.

Scottsdale began full production of about 4.5 million gallons per day of CAP water April 22 at its plant near Union Hills Drive and Pima Road. Mesa started pumping about 14 million gallons a day May 17 at its plant on Brown Road east of the Bush Highway.

CAP plants in Valley cities are capable of treating about 137 million gallons of water daily, and the plants are running at about half-capacity now. There are plans to expand the existing plants as populations grow.

# CAP slips by Senate committee hearing

By Sean Griffin

Gazette Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — At its first public hearing since federal auditors concluded that the cost of the Central Arizona Project would be more than Congress authorized, the \$3.6 billion water project largely escaped detection.

But the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, reviewing the Bureau of Reclamation's proposed 1987-88 budget request, made clear that the CAP and other projects might have to be pared to make room for funding other projects that the bureau proposed to delay.

"I can assure you that as far as this senator is concerned there will be substantial modification of your program," Sen. Quentin Burdick, D-N.D., told Interior Secretary Donald Hodel.

Not coincidentally, North Dakota's Garrison Diversion Project is one of the projects that would be mothballed.

The bureau proposed in its budget request a different scheme for funding water projects. It advocated concentrating available funds on major projects nearing completion, such as the CAP, and critical projects, such as repairing unsafe dams.

Under the proposal, major construction on lower priority projects would be delayed up to five years — well after the Reagan administration and its water policy officials

have left town.

"We like very much your plan of speeding up some existing projects," committee chairman Bennett Johnson, D-La., told Hodel. "We don't like your other idea of slowing down some others."

The budget seeks \$268.7 million for CAP construction in fiscal 1988, an increase of \$64.8 million. The Central Utah Project would get an increase of \$50.7 million, while the department's Safety of Dam Program would get a \$23.9 million boost.

Reclamation Commissioner Dale Duvall said the CAP and CUP increases would allow major components of those projects to be substantially complete by 1992, freeing funds to remove the mothballs from lesser priority projects.

"We are not proposing to cancel ... any projects whatsoever," Duvall told the committee. Later, in an interview, Duvall said a key problem with his proposal is that one administration can bind its successor to its promises. Delaying the bulk of bureau projects, Duvall said, may have undercut much of the program's political support.

Nevertheless, Hodel told *The Gazette*, "Generally, there's more support than I could possibly have expected in the beginning ... There's a desire to find a way to accommodate what I'm proposing without doing too much violence to their projects."

Absent from the session was committee member Howard Metz-enbaum, D-Ohio.

Metzenbaum last summer asked the General Accounting Office to determine whether the Plan 6 component of the Central Arizona Project — consisting of Cliff Dam on the Verde River, New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River and major modifications to Theodore Roosevelt and Stewart Mountain dams on the Salt River — had the necessary congressional authorization.

Metzenbaum also asked GAO whether the CAP's cost exceeded its authorization and whether dam-safety money could be used to build a portion of Cliff Dam.

In a February 20 report released Friday, GAO concluded that:

■ Congress tacitly approved Plan 6 by appropriating funds for it for each of the past three years.

■ The Bureau of Reclamation improperly inflated the approved CAP cost ceiling by adding costs associated with environmental and safety programs ordered by Congress after CAP was authorized in 1968.

■ Dam-safety money could not be used to build any new dam, including Cliff Dam.

■ New authorization should be sought from Congress or the project restructured to bring its price below the congressionally sanctioned ceiling.

# Low-cost CAP water could aid recharge effort

10/27/86

By MARK FLATTEN  
Progress Staff Writer

A pricing system that would make excess Central Arizona Project water available at low cost would speed development of Valley groundwater recharge projects, a group considering the short-term pricing method was told today.

The board of the Central Arizona Water Conservation District, which is responsible for operating the CAP, was told the two-tiered pricing system under review would make it practical for cities to store excess CAP water underground until supplies fall short.

Representatives of several cities testified in favor of the plan, which could guarantee water supplies to users such as cities that have contracted for CAP water at one rate, and make cheaper water available when

there is an excess supply.

Carl Kohlhoff, a representative of the city of Mesa, said Mesa is studying the possibility of artificially recharging groundwater basins with CAP water.

Scottsdale officials also are studying the feasibility of groundwater recharge and Phoenix already has been a test of water recharge.

Although Mesa would take only about one-fifth of its CAP allocation at the normal rate for CAP water, it would be ready to accept its full allocation of about 30,000 acre feet within two years under the proposed pricing plan, Kohlhoff said.

One acre-foot will cover one acre with a foot of water.

"It's in Arizona's best interest to use all of the (CAP) water we can," said Kohlhoff. "We would like to be able to recharge that

water and the only way we can recharge is for you to sell it (at a low cost)."

The cost of the guaranteed water supply would be about \$50 per acre-foot, under the plan.

Additional water that will be available on an uncertain schedule would be sold for \$35 per acre-foot, which is equivalent to the energy costs for pumping that water from the Colorado River to the Valley.

That water would be sold at that price only when available.

The plan is being reviewed by the CAWCD board as a means of getting use from water that otherwise would go unused.

The price of CAP water is higher than the cost of pumping groundwater, which discourages many potential users, said Jay Franson, an engineer with Unger

Engineering Inc., which is working with the CAWCD.

The dual pricing system would be in effect only until 1991, when the CAP aqueduct is completed to Tucson.

The rate for a fixed supply would be the same as it will be when the CAP is completed and repayment of federal money used to build the canal begins, Franson said.

The cost will be higher for the guaranteed water supplies because it will cover the cost of canal maintenance and operation, as well as the energy costs.

If the excess water cannot be sold, it will not be pumped out of the Colorado River and into the CAP canal and probably would be used by California, Franson said.

Although representatives of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation said they favor the

plan, LeGrand Neilson, chief of contracts and repayments for the bureau, said he is concerned that the proposed prices are too low.

The cost of canal maintenance and operations and debt repayment will be about \$65 per acre-foot, Neilson said.

He suggested that the CAWCD should charge a higher rate and begin paying its debt to the federal government before the payments fall due when the canal is completed.

John R. McCain of the Arizona Municipal Water Users' Association, which represents the six largest cities in the Valley, said the proposed pricing system gives no incentive for users to buy the fixed water supplies instead of the cheaper interim supplies when there is abundant water in the Colorado River.

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## SRP canals set for repair

Salt River Project workers will begin draining SRP canals for annual maintenance Friday.

Canals south of the Salt River will be drained beginning midnight Friday and refilled beginning Nov. 13, while canals north of the Salt River will be emptied beginning Nov. 13 and refilled beginning Dec. 12.

The SRP uses the dry-up period to line some sections of the canals with concrete to prevent water loss through seepage.

This year, the SRP will line 2.5 miles of canal banks south of the Salt River from Greenfield to Higley roads along the South Canal and from 7th to 16th streets along the Western Canal.

The utility plans to line about 1.5 miles of canal banks north of the river.

Bridge widenings and the relocation of SRP radial gates also are planned by the Maricopa County Highway Department and SRP at Warner Road on the Eastern and Consolidated canals.

The city of Phoenix plans to widen the bridge at the Western Canal and 40th Street. SRP also plans to relocate its lateral headgate at that site.

The state Department of Transportation plans to relocate a portion of the Grand Canal.

## **PV really does want Reach 4**

A story in Friday's *Scottsdale Progress* incorrectly stated the town of Paradise Valley's position on the Reach Four extension of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel.

The town supports the flood-

control channel parallel to the Arizona Canal as approved last week by the Phoenix City Council, said Joan Lincoln, Paradise Valley's vice mayor.

"We're not opposed to that.

We were down there cheering them on," she said.

The town always had supported the Reach Four plans but opposed an alternative calling for the construction of retention basins in Paradise Valley, Lincoln said.

# PV opposes flood channel OK'd by Phoenix

By CHRIS COPPOLA  
Progress Staff Writer

The town of Paradise Valley remains opposed to the planned Reach Four section of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel, even though the Phoenix City Council has approved a design that would have a lesser impact on the town, Vice Mayor Joan Lincoln said Thursday.

The town wants assurances that the flood-control channel will be aesthetically pleasing, she said during a report to the Town Council at

its meeting Thursday.

On Tuesday, the Phoenix City Council approved a portion of the design for a \$76 million flood-control channel that will run parallel to the Arizona Canal from 12th Street to the Cudia City Wash, near 40th Street and Stanford Court, at the town's western border. The plan is part of a major flood-control plan proposed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers that is to traverse the Valley to the Agua Fria River.

Paradise Valley, along with homeowners in parts of Phoenix,

had opposed the plan primarily because of fears that part of it would wipe out several homes in the far southwest corner of town. The town also is afraid the channel would be a scar on the terrain near the town.

The Phoenix council last month scrapped a plan that would have recommended two 12-acre detention basins at the east end of the channel, in Paradise Valley. The council's recommendations are being forwarded to the Maricopa County and Army Corps officials.

Lincoln said she anticipates that

northeast Phoenix groups strongly opposed to the plan will continue to step up efforts to delay its construction.

"I imagine it will be awhile before they put the shovel to the ground, which is fine as far as Paradise Valley is concerned," she said.

Lincoln said opponents could file a lawsuit to delay the plan and lobby Congress to deny funding for it.

Some of the opponents claim the project is too costly.

Lincoln said that the town intends

to participate in the design of the channel to assure it is not unsightly.

"If the aesthetics are not pleasing after everything is done, I'm sure something would be done by the (Paradise Valley) council," she said.

In other matters Thursday, the Town Council:

— Gave preliminary plat approval to Stanford Court, a proposed 10-lot subdivision at the northeast corner of Bethany Home and Palo Christi roads.

The subdivision, if given final approval, will be developed around a flood plain that runs through the town's western border. Council members indicated Thursday they were reasonably assured that the design of the lots around the flood plain and planned drainage culverts would provide safety.

The plan must now go to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a second phase of approval before it is again brought to the council for final consideration.

# Phoenix gives blessing to ACDC design

After nearly two years of discussion and study, the Phoenix City Council has approved the design originally proposed for the Reach Four section of the Arizona Canal Diversion Channel.

The approval was on an 8-1 vote, with Councilman Ed Korrick supplying the opposition. Reach Four is almost entirely within Phoenix District 6, which Korrick represents.

The \$76 million flood-control channel will run parallel to the Arizona Canal from 12th Street to the Cudia City Wash near 40th Street and Stanford Drive.

It was designed by the Army Corp of Engineers and is to be financed by the federal government and the Maricopa County Flood Control District.

The City Council two years ago approved the first three sections of the ACDC, which begins at 75th Avenue, but delayed approval of Reach Four because of public opposition.

Most of that opposition came from owners of the Arizona Biltmore Resort and people living in nearby neighborhoods. They claimed Reach Four

was ugly, expensive and would not adequately control flooding.

Mayor Terry Goddard in July 1985 appointed a citizens' committee to study Reach Four, even though it was unclear if city opposition would stop the project.

After 10 months of work, the committee said Reach Four appeared to be the best alternative for controlling floods in the northeast part of Phoenix. But it recommended the city study the "mole" proposal for an underground drain from the Arizona Canal to the Salt River.



## Group to fight Rio Salado

PHOENIX (AP) — A new group has been formed to oppose a proposed tax increase in Maricopa County to finance the Rio Salado project.

House Majority Leader Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City, a long-time opponent of the proposal, said Monday the group will be called the Committee for the Project But Against the Taxation.

He said the group has been promised financial support by sand and gravel companies that own land in the Salt River bed, but Ratliff declined to name any other members of the group.

Ratliff said the proposed \$3 billion development of the Salt River bed should be privately financed instead of using taxpayers' money.

"The big objection is the scope of it and that it should not be paid by the taxpayers," Ratliff said.

Under the proposal on the Nov. 3 election ballot, Maricopa County property taxes would be raised by 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation — or about \$20 a year on a \$100,000 home — to buy the land for the project, which in turn would be sold to private developers.

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6 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress Tuesday, September 29, 1987

## Rio Salado supporter accuses media of 'inaccurate' stories

By TODD BENSMAN  
Progress Staff Writer

A spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado this morning criticized the media for incidents of "extremely inaccurate reporting" regarding the proposed Rio Salado development and an upcoming election key to its success.

Bryan Schnell, the group's campaign manager, told reporters that unaccredited proponents of Rio Salado have given erroneous information, and a press briefing was necessary to correct the damage.

"There have been a few instances

of extremely inaccurate reporting and information that was absolutely wrong in communicating, thus far with no correction," Schnell said.

Schnell did not elaborate on his comments, saying the purpose of the forum was not to castigate the media.

He did say contributions to the Citizens for Rio Salado have been lagging, however.

Invited to participate in an open press forum sponsored by Citizens for Rio Salado were spokesmen on water issues, toxic landfills, relocation, flood control and other con-

troversial issues related to the project. No Rio Salado opponents were present.

The forum comes two months before voters go to the polls to consider a 25-year property tax to fund the \$1 billion plan to turn the barren Salt River bed into a 17-mile greenbelt.

Bill Greenslade of the engineering firm of Dames and Moore said the Rio Salado Development District plans a comprehensive study of all toxic waste dumps in the river bed, their locations and their origins, in

See RIO SALADO, Page 2

2 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress Monday, September 28, 1987

## Limits on development please Rio Salado foes

PHOENIX (AP) — A hard-fought agreement over flood-plain development restrictions for the Rio Salado Project has left environmentalists "happy as clams" while causing concern for sand and gravel quarry operators.

Project supporters agreed this week with the Maricopa Audobon Society to keep private development outside the Salt River's 200-year flood plain through metropolitan Phoenix instead of allowing it to be built closer to the river in the 100-year flood plain.

"It creates an additional problem for us," said Robert Robb, spokesman for the Arizona Rock Products Association. Association members operate quarries in the river bed where the Rio Salado development is planned.

A 100-year flood is one of a magnitude that can be expected only once every century.

The agreement was sought by the Rio Salado Development District Board to head off the Audubon Society's opposition when Rio Salado backers ask Maricopa County voters on Nov. 3 to approve a property tax and bonds to help finance the \$2.9 billion project.

"We'll take a neutral position," said society President Herb Fidel.

"We pounded this out for about five hours (Wednesday), and there's blood dripped on every word," said

Scott Burge, Audobon education chairman.

Audubon members had opposed Rio Salado because development along the Salt River could bring a demand for dams that would harm an endangered population of bald eagles on the Verde River.

"We're just as happy as clams with this," Audubon conservation chairman Bob Witzeman said of the agreement.

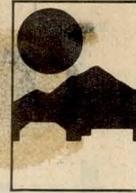
The project's plan calls for private development to flank public parks and recreation areas that would be built along the river if the tax and bonds were approved.

Robb noted that his organization has been negotiating on an agreement to allow gravel companies to develop their own land within Rio Salado while contributing a portion for recreation and flood control.

But under the new agreement between Rio Salado supporters and the Audubon Society, "the current landowners will be out of the action," Robb said.

However, Robb said his organization has not decided whether to finance a campaign against the tax election.

The agreement, "violates the principles that negotiations have been based on between the association and the district," he said. "We will continue to try to reach an agreement."



## **Mailbag**

### **Fight Rio Salado**

In your Oct. 3 article "Libertarian Party to fight Rio Salado development," John DeWitt, a spokesman for Citizens for Rio Salado, said of the Libertarian party and its members, "I really don't think too many people take them seriously."

Speaking as a Libertarian and as one deeply concerned about the ever-burdensome government intrusions on our lives and pocketbooks, I'd like DeWitt to know that I take him seriously, in much the same way I take cancer seriously.

DeWitt and all the others like him who find it morally permissible to act in concert with government to relieve already beleaguered tax victims of more of their earnings are no different in theory or practice than a malignant cancer — one which should be arrested and reversed for the sake, for the very life, of the patient.

Yes, DeWitt, we take you seriously, and we will fight you as if our lives and freedoms depend on it — because they do.

KATHY L. HARRER  
Phoenix

### **Vote no on Rio Salado**

I urge all the voters to vote "no" on the Rio Salado development project when they go to the polls Nov. 3. Rio Salado is just not compatible with the noise generated from the nearby Sky Harbor Airport. Standard procedure for departing aircraft to the east is to follow the Salt River. In the years to come, Sky Harbor will generate about twice the present noise level which would never be compatible with any park

If Rio Salado should pass Nov. 3, it would spell *finis* for the operation of Sky Harbor. Maybe the \$2.9 billion might only make the down payment to relocate and rebuild Sky Harbor.

For the record, high tide flooding came up to within 600 feet of the north runway in February 1941. Also had flooding 1978, 1979, and the east end of the south runway evaporated to where there was only 6,450 feet usable runway out of 10,300 feet in 1980.

LAWRENCE R. MCCALLY  
Phoenix

9-18-87

Progress

remarks by Sen. Howard M. Metzenberg and said his record shows "no and women, allow "government in the bedroom," oppose consumers,

Friday, September 18, 1987 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress 3

Metzenberg... tacking Bork for writing a judicial opinion on sterilization. In that case, Bork and two other judges upheld a... Bork replied that in the sterilization case, the unanimous panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington

# Backers say Rio Salado would increase tourism

By PETER CORBETT  
Progress Staff Writer

Growth in the Valley is increasing pressure on recreational resources, threatening the quality of life and economic prosperity, but the Rio Salado Project is an opportunity to address those issues, project officials claimed today.

Developing the Salt River bed into a series of parks through the Valley would turn the blighted river channel into an asset that would be second only to the Grand Canyon in attracting tourists, Aaron Kizer, Rio Salado Development District executive director, told 75 people at a Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce Forum at the SunBurst Resort.

Kizer and other Rio Salado officials attempted to answer questions raised by a chamber panel about the economic benefits of Rio Salado to Scottsdale, toxic waste dumps in the Salt River, the potential for floods washing away any Rio Salado development and other questions.

Opponents of Rio Salado claim it is a \$3 billion boondoggle that would be washed away by frequent floods through the Valley.

Concerned Citizens Against Rio Salado did not take part in the forum, but the chamber panel raised some of the same questions the group has posed about the feasibility of Rio Salado.

The chamber has withheld its endorsement of Rio Salado until some of its concerns about the project are answered.

Maricopa County voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to authorize a property tax to pay for the cleanup and development of the Salt River through Mesa, Tempe and Phoenix. The tax would cost the owner of a \$100,000 home about \$20 per year, said Dennis Davis, Rio Salado assistant director.

Chamber panelist Bob Huber questioned whether full engineering studies had been done to determine whether Rio Salado still is feasible in light of cancellation of plans to build

Cliff Dam on the Verde River for flood control.

Davis said the project still is feasible, but the design must be changed to accommodate larger volumes of water passing through the channel. Roosevelt, Bartlett and Horseshoe dams all will be upgraded to provide some flood control to protect Rio Salado development, he said.

Chamber panelist Kurt Brueckner said that the 19th Avenue landfill in the Salt River bed is on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's list of the 300 worst toxic waste dumps and asked Rio Salado officials how it would address the issue of toxic wastes.

Toxic wastes at some 63 sites within the Salt River would be cleaned up through a combined effort of Rio Salado, city, state and federal agencies, Davis said. Rio Salado has allocated \$60 million for studying and dealing with toxic waste, he said.

Huber also questioned Rio  
See RIO SALADO, Page 2

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Thursday, September 10, 1987 Scottsdale (Ariz.) Progress 3

# Chamber puts Rio Salado on hold

By PETER CORBETT  
Progress Staff Writer

Toxic wastes, water conservation and inadequate representation are among the concerns about the Rio Salado project raised by the Scottsdale Chamber of Commerce, which said Wednesday that it is withholding its support.

The chamber said Rio Salado is "a visionary plan" for improving the Salt River channel through the Valley, but it wants Rio Salado officials to respond to its concerns before it will endorse the project.

Maricopa County voters will decide at an election Nov. 3 whether to impose a property tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation to finance the public portion of the project.

The election may decide the fate of the \$3 billion project, which was first envisioned by Arizona State University architect students in the 1960s to transform the riverbed into a recreational greenbelt with commercial development.

The chamber's Rio Salado Task Force identified the following concerns about the project:

—There has been no revised master plan or updated engineering since plans to construct Cliff Dam on the Verde River were eliminated.

—The county property tax imposes a disproportionate burden on property owners in Scottsdale in relation to the revenue sharing and other economic benefits received.

—There is no master plan for dealing with toxic wastes in the riverbed

and cleanup costs are unknown.

—The 1,025 acres of water features in the project are inconsistent with the Valley's need to conserve water.

—The Rio Salado Development District's powers of eminent domain and the issue of streambed ownership are unresolved.

—Scottsdale and the other 19 communities in Maricopa County outside the district boundaries do not have representation on the district's board.

—The actual cost of the project is impossible to calculate because of the history of cost overruns on public works projects.

"We think the voters of Maricopa County need responses to these concerns before they make their decisions at the ballot box," said Bob

Solem, chamber president.

John DeWitt of Citizens for Rio Salado said today that Rio Salado officials will attempt to respond to the chamber's concerns at a forum planned in Scottsdale next week.

The chamber is sponsoring the Rio Salado forum at 7:15 a.m. Sept. 18 at the SunBurst Resort Hotel, 4925 N. Scottsdale Road. Dennis Mitchem, chairman of Citizens for Rio Salado, will attend the forum along with Aaron Kizer, director of Rio Salado Development District, and Dennis Davis, district deputy director.

DeWitt said the master plan for Rio Salado has been revised since Cliff Dam on the Verde River was eliminated.

"Everyone in the county will See RIO SALADO, Page 2

## RIO SALADO

From Page 1

benefit from Rio Salado and the benefit more than outweighs the cost," DeWitt said in response to the chamber's concern about an unfair tax burden on Scottsdale residents.

In response to concerns about toxic wastes, DeWitt said the district's board of directors is scheduled to

discuss today a detailed plan to deal with toxic wastes in the river bed.

"Rio Salado has never pretended to be the ultimate answer for the toxic waste problem," he said, adding that the cleanup is a joint responsibility and will involve funding from federal, state, county and city sources as well as Rio Salado.

# Critics charge Rio Salado jobs-for-votes scam

By PETER CORBETT  
Progress Staff Writer

A survey distributed by the Rio Salado Development District and funded by a federal grant is an attempt to mislead voters that approval of Rio Salado is a guarantee of a job, a critic of the project charged today.

The survey, targeted for South Phoenix, implies that jobs will be available if the Rio Salado Project is approved by Maricopa County voters Nov. 3, said Ken Van Doren, chairman of a Maricopa County Libertarian

Party committee opposing Rio Salado.

A letter accompanying the survey explains that approval of the Rio Salado Project will mean development of a 17-mile-long park along the Salt River and creation of 74,000 jobs.

The survey asks respondents to list up to three jobs for which they would like to be trained.

"I don't think there is any implication that the 74,000 jobs were going to actually go to the people in the survey," said John DeWitt, Citizens for Rio Salado spokesman. "The idea of the

survey is to find out what skills there are down there and what kind of skills would have to be developed to enable people in that area to better compete for some of the jobs that will be available."

The survey was paid for with funds from an \$80,000 federal grant, but only about \$5,000 was spent on the survey, said DeWitt, adding that an administrator also was hired with the federal funds.

"They're using our tax dollars to lobby in favor of this expenditure of more tax dollars," Van Doren said of the survey.

The survey is dated July 24. The timing of it was determined

by the fact that the funds had to be spent before Sept. 30, said DeWitt.

Voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to approve development of the river bed through the Valley and impose a tax on themselves to pay for the project. The tax would be about \$20 per year for the owner of a \$100,000 home, backers say.

Roseann Hughes of the Rio Salado Development District said that callers asking about the anonymous survey are told that approval of the project is no guarantee that they will get a job.

"When Rio Salado is built,

we're looking for it to produce 74,000 new jobs. And because South Phoenix has one of the highest rates of unemployment throughout the Valley, we would like to be able to see to it that the people within the area who need those jobs will be able to obtain them when they come open," said Hughes.

The survey is printed in Spanish and English and the letter is signed by Alfredo Guitierrez, former state Senate minority leader and a Rio Salado Project consultant.

Van Doren said that Rio Salado proponents at a meeting in South

Phoenix were saying, "Rah, rah, here you go guys, we're going to give you all kinds of jobs."

Rio Salado has not acknowledged that the project would displace businesses already in the area and eliminate jobs, said Van Doren, who also is a speaker for Concerned Citizens Against Rio Salado.

Van Doren said he is not against development, but the government should stay out of it and the taxpayers should not subsidize some developers at the expense of totally private projects.

# Rio Salado accord stalls over flood plain dispute

PHOENIX (AP) — Negotiations over a Rio Salado agreement have stalled, but officials for the development project say they still hope to salvage the accord in order to eliminate two potential sources of opposition to a proposed tax increase.

The tentative agreement was announced in July by the Rio Salado Development District, which is seeking to lessen opposition to a question which will be put before Maricopa County voters on Nov. 3.

County voters will decide whether to be taxed up to 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to pay for the project, which would involve development of land along the Salt River.

Under the tentative agreement with the Maricopa Audobon Society and the Arizona Rock Products Association, private landowners would develop their own land under the Rio Salado Project's plans — thereby allowing the sand-and-gravel operators to reap the profits — and buildings would not be allowed in the river's existing 100-year-flood plain.

However, the Rock Products Association has said Rio Salado supporters were premature in announcing the tentative agreement because the gravel group had yet to finish its

review.

And this week, Maricopa Audobon Society leaders said they were unable so far to iron out all differences with Rio Salado officials over the flood-plain issue.

Planned new dams upstream of the Rio Salado area would decrease the 100-year-flood plain, and Rio Salado supporters want the tentative agreement's development limits to apply to the new 100-year-flood plain, not the current, officials said.

In negotiations with the environmentalists, Rio Salado supporters sought to include a clause

which would void the development limits if they would "adversely affect the justification for any of the upstream flood control measures."

"The Rio Salado Development District has shown its true colors," said Scott Burge, Audobon education chairman. "What the Rio Salado has done now, in its most succinct form, is prove once and for all this is a real-estate scam because this has nothing to do with park land or golf courses or stream beds.

Rio Salado spokesmen said they still hoped to complete the agreement.

## House leader attacks Rio Salado wording

Proposed wording on the ballot asking whether voters will allow tax money to be spent on development of Rio Salado "amounts to little more than propaganda in favor of the tax," the Arizona House majority leader said in a letter released today.

"It is a transparent attempt to fix the election through the ballot question," Rep. Jim Ratliff, R-Sun City, said in the letter to Fred Koory, chairman of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

"Such an attempt to slant the ballot question is, in my experience, unprecedented in Arizona," Ratliff's letter states.

The supervisors are responsible for deciding the ballot language for the Rio Salado tax referendum to be placed before county voters Nov. 3.

Members of the Rio Salado Development District, which is pushing passage of the referendum, drafted proposed wording for the ballot, Ratliff wrote.

The ballot proposal as written asks voters whether they would approve the levy to "assist in the solution of flood control problems in riverbeds, encourage optimum development of lands along the river, promote the development of roads and bridges and of regional parks, lakes and other outdoor

facilities, and to combine flood control with environmental design to achieve social and economic benefits for the county and its population, and thus enhance the general welfare of the state."

Ratliff urged the supervisors to reject the language recommended by the Rio Salado board, and to have an independent party draft neutral language for the ballot.

"Anything else would be a disservice to the voters and an attack on the integrity of our election system," Ratliff wrote.

The property-tax rate would be a maximum of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

Scottsdale Progress  
11-22-87

# Rio Salado pact may eliminate organized opposition to project

PHOENIX (AP) — A tentative agreement has been reached by the Rio Salado Project's backers with two major critics that seemingly eliminates any large organized opposition to the district's property-tax election in November.

An agreement with environmentalists would keep buildings outside the Salt River's existing 100-year flood plain, reducing the chances of damage during heavy flooding.

The other would allow private landowners to develop their own land in accordance with the Rio Salado plans and thus reap the profits, instead of facing the loss of their land

through condemnation.

The agreements are the result of down-to-the-wire negotiations designed to head off a major campaign against the project.

Maricopa County voters will be asked at a Nov. 3 special election to approve a tax of up to 25 cents per \$100 in assessed value to help build the \$3 billion project, which would transform a 17-mile stretch of the Salt River through metropolitan Phoenix into a series of public recreational areas surrounded by homes, businesses and industries.

Although there is a loosely knit citizens group that opposes the Rio Salado Project, environmentalists

and sand-and-gravel companies have been considered by Rio Salado backers to be greater threats because they have the money and members to mount a major campaign against the project.

The flood-plain agreement is intended to mollify environmentalists by saying that no buildings would be constructed inside the river's existing 100-year-flood plain. There is a 1 percent chance of a 100-year flood in any year, and there is a 40 percent chance of a flood that size or larger in any 50-year period, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Environmentalists, led by the

Maricopa Audubon Society, have been concerned that politicians could be pressured to build a dam upstream if buildings were located where the flood risk was high and were damaged by flooding.

Such a dam has been strongly opposed by environmentalists because it would have to be built on the Verde River, where they contend it would destroy one of the state's only remaining sections of wild river, and would flood the habitat of desert-nesting bald eagles.

Bob Witzeman, a spokesman for the Maricopa Audubon Society, said the group will not oppose the election in light of the agreement.

## Rock group executive on Rio Salado board

PHOENIX (AP) — Gov. Evan Mecham has appointed an executive of the Arizona Rock Products Association, a trade group battling the Rio Salado Development District over development in the Salt River, to the Rio Salado's board of directors, participants say.

Phil Gagle, the ARPA's executive director, and gubernatorial aide Sam Steiger confirmed that Gagle would replace founding member Milt Lee on the 12-member board.

Lee said he had not been formally notified of his replacement but had asked Mecham, a Republican, to replace him.

"I was very close to (former Democratic Gov. Bruce) Babbitt," Lee said.

He added that, "It would be a disappointment if they placed another rock-products person on

the board."

To date, the only voice of the gravel-and-sand industry on the board has been Ed Belt, general manager of Phoenix Redi-Mix Co.

In a speech Tuesday to real-estate developers, Belt criticized the Rio Salado board as "blatant supporters" of a project that he believes will hurt landowners in the area.

The project would create a greenbelt along a 17-mile stretch of the Salt between Mesa and the area west of Phoenix. Maricopa County voters will be asked Nov. 3 to tax themselves to fund the project.

Although the rock-products interests have not tried to kill the project, they have differed with other planners over the width of the floodplain and the amount of land to be taken.

## Mailbag

### Misguided advice

It took thousands of years for nature to mold that great Sonoran Desert treasure, the Verde River. Mayor Goddard's water advisors would seemingly have him destroy this priceless heritage in an instant.

The Bureau of Reclamation says that Phoenix would purchase 10,000 acre-feet (a.f.) of the 15,800 a.f. annual yield of Cliff Dam. Let us look at the more abundant, less costly alternatives to Cliff water:

- In December Phoenix bought a water ranch which will provide 30,000 a.f. for the next 200 years. Ranch costs are far less than Cliff Dam water when one includes the hidden millions of dollars in County Flood Control taxes, water and electric bills, and federal taxes attached to that \$633 million dam.

- Phoenix will receive 114,000 a.f. annually from the CAP.

- Phoenix receives more than double that from SRP.

- Phoenix' paltry 10,000 a.f. Cliff yield could be saved many times over with urban or rural conservation, or recycling.

- There is available 184,000 a.f. of CAP water turned down by cities, and 215,000 a.f. declined by agriculture. When Cliff was dropped, our Congress-

sional delegation specified reallocation priority for Cliff subscribers.

- a Bureau of Reclamation study cited in the Cliff Dam lawsuit showed that groundwater recharge of Salt-Verde waters would produce more water than Cliff or New Roosevelt Dams. With Cliff dead, such environmentally sound, less costly solutions can now proceed.

Goddard's advisors should be emphasizing these constructive options rather than exhorting our mayor with water shortage scare tactics.

TONY ANTHONY  
Tempe

### Language problem

The Rio Salado District should be commended for their response to criticism that their project is flood-prone. Critics have repeatedly and correctly pointed out that our 1891 (200-year) flood, even with all Plan 6 dams in place, would be twice as large a flood as Rio Salado could handle.

Last year the District inserted language in their enabling legislation saying that they "may" build at the safer 200-year floodplan, not the 100-year floodplain. The wording in that legislation, to be credible, should have said "shall" instead of "may."

Allowing developers to move development deep into the riverbed

after upstream dams have made it "safe," does not decrease the percentage of flood risk one iota. It does, however, make riverbed landowners and developers very rich. It also imposes a costly financial burden on flood victims and taxpayers if those dams fail to perform as promised. FEMA and the Corps state that the flood risk during a 50 year occupancy along Rio Salado's 100-year floodplain frontage is 40 percent.

Rio Salado's proposal to develop at the 200-year floodplain still presents serious risk. Fifty years at the edge of such a floodplain has a 20 percent flood risk. It is like a game of Russian roulette with a gun having one of its five chambers loaded. Floodplain development must not move inside today's 100-year Salt River floodplain boundary after upstream control. In that way risk below 20 percent may be obtained for Rio Salado or private developers!

Whether private or taxpayer-funded developers ultimately develop our Salt, let us avoid the perilous temptation of moving down into that mighty river's bed. That would free Rio Salado and the gravel operators from the charge that they are profiteering at taxpayer expenses.

CHARLES BABBIT,  
Vice-President  
Maricopa Audubon Society

## Plan 6 dams

Tracey Pappas' letter saying there are six flood control dams on the Salt and Verde is incorrect. Those SRP dams are water storage dams and have no space reserved for flood control. Also the conclusion that an 1891 flood would have no impact on Rio Salado is also incorrect. Few citizens have read the Bureau of Reclamation's Plan 6 environmental impact statement which declares that an 1891-sized flood, the so-called 200 year flood, would inflict about twice as much water on top of Rio Salado as its 55,000 cfs channel would handle. That document assumed the proposed Plan 6 dams were in place.

We should congratulate the Rio Salado developers, who, unlike Pappas, have taken the comments of people like Marilyn Deprest very seriously. Rio Salado has declared that they may consider developing only to the 200 year flood channel. Unfortunately their current authorizing legislation says that a majority vote of their Board of Directors could reverse that policy at any time.

Voters may see this 200 year option as eyewash for voters in November. But one should have faith that farsighted, sincere people may be in the majority on the Board. The appearance may be that cities and sand and gravel operators are clearly in the majority with their own special-interest agendas. However, taxpayers should withhold judgment until our Valley's newspapers and media (hopefully) get around to doing an analysis of the makeup and motives of that board.

BETH NEIMAN  
Phoenix

# Rio Salado 'viable' without dam

By MARK FLATTEN  
Progress Staff Writer

The Rio Salado project is still viable without Cliff Dam, a spokesman for the group pushing a \$1.3 billion property tax increase for the ambitious Salt River greenbelt plan said today.

The agreement announced Thursday that eliminates Cliff Dam from the \$1.7 billion Plan 6 will widen the flood plain in the Salt River, meaning there will be more parks than originally planned, said John DeWitt, spokesman for the Rio Salado Development District.

"The demise of Cliff Dam will not affect the progress of Rio Salado at all," DeWitt said. "The project is completely viable and should and will go ahead without Cliff Dam. All we have to do is build around the flood plain so the parks part of it will actually be a bit larger than before."

Rio Salado is a \$2.7 billion project that would transform the Salt River bed into a series of parks similar to the Indian Bend Wash.

Private developments such as hotels and condominiums would be built outside the flood plain.

Voters will be asked Nov. 3 to approve a \$1.3 billion bond issue to pay for the parks, which would raise the property tax rate in Maricopa County by 25 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation.

That would mean a property tax increase of about \$15 to \$20 on a typical home.

Private developers will be expected to pay about \$1.4 billion for improvements to the river bed.

The second issue on the ballot would allow the Rio Salado district to issue bonds to pay for public improvements.

The agreement reached last week

between Arizona's congressional delegation and several environmental groups means Cliff Dam no longer is a part of Plan 6, which would increase the safety and storage capacity of dams on the Salt and Verde rivers, as well as pay for New Waddell Dam at Lake Pleasant on the Agua Fria River.

Cliff Dam was opposed because of fears it would endanger the nesting grounds of bald eagles and other wildlife, said Robert Witzeman of the Maricopa Audubon Society.

Cliff Dam was to control the amount of water released into the Salt River, DeWitt said.

Without it, planners will assume a wider flood plain, he added.

Witzeman agreed Rio Salado still is possible without Cliff Dam.

DeWitt said he does not know how the change in the ratio of park lands to private development would affect

the cost of Rio Salado, but said it would not be significant.

The elimination of Cliff Dam from Plan 6 actually may improve the chances of Rio Salado because many people opposed the project, DeWitt said.

"Almost all of the people opposed to Rio Salado opposed it because of Cliff Dam," DeWitt said. "If they're satisfied now without Cliff Dam, we're hoping they drop their opposition to Rio Salado."

Any widening of the flood plain as a result of the loss of Cliff Dam probably will be offset by studies released last year by the Federal Emergency Management Agency showing floods in 1979 and 1980 dug a deeper channel in the river through the Valley.

With a deeper channel, the width of the flood plain is narrower, DeWitt said.

## Drinkwater supports Rio Salado

Developing the Salt River channel into a 17-mile system of parks would turn the blighted river bed into a recreation asset for the people of Maricopa County, Mayor Herb Drinkwater said today.

Drinkwater compared the development of the Salt River through the Rio Salado Project with Scottsdale's Indian Bend Wash project, which transformed the flood-prone, blighted wash into a seven-mile system of parks, lakes, and jogging and biking trails. The effort created the "greatest park system in the world" and was well worth the \$54 million investment, he said.

Maricopa County voters will decide the fate of the Rio Salado Project Nov. 3, when they decide whether to approve the Salt River channel development and a tax of 25 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

During a news conference at the Indian Bend Wash Visitor Center, Drinkwater urged passage of the Rio Salado Project, saying the \$20 tax for the owner of a \$100,000 house is a small price to pay in terms of the benefit of the Rio Salado park system.

If the project is approved, the Indian Bend Wash will be tied into Rio Salado, and Scottsdale residents will be able to hike or ride their bikes all the way from Shea Boulevard through the wash to the Salt River parks.

"What more logical place than the center of the Valley to put a 17-mile park," said Drinkwater, adding that he fears that in the future there will not be open spaces in the Valley for parks as urban state land is sold.

Drinkwater dismissed Rep. Jim Skelly's criticism of the Rio Salado Project, saying the Scottsdale Republican is one of the nicest guys around, but he's wrong about Rio Salado.

Rio Salado will benefit developers, but it also will raise property values and increase the tax base, create jobs and primarily be a "people place," said Drinkwater.

*file*

## ORME IS JUST A FOUR-LETTER WORD BY ATHIA HARDT

For years, it was a given. Orme Dam, the structure at the confluence of the Salt and Verde rivers, would be built — the only question was: How large? Anything the Indians and environmentalists in this state were *that* much against seemed destined to succeed. Anything the “snail-darters” and the “tree-huggers” opposed with such vigor just *had* to be good for growth and good for Arizona.

For while Orme was a four-letter word to those supporting the dwindling Fort McDowell Yavapai Indian tribe, a nesting group of bald eagles and a horde of summer tubers on the Verde and Salt rivers north of Phoenix, it clearly spelled “progress” to its supporters. It meant blocking floods, bringing water to the thirsting Valley of the Sun and nurturing the needs of that amorphous group, “the community,” versus the desires of — as the state’s largest newspaper put it in 1978 — “a couple of hundred Indians.”

The sides lined up for a predictable David-and-Goliath fight; those, like the churches who supported the tribe, whose reservation would be flooded by Orme,

**Suddenly, Orme Dam is no longer a given, and it's the politicians and power elite who are regrouping.**

teamed with the environmentalists in the David role. Those who favored the green-belt recreation area proposed in Rio Salado and who feared the wrath of flood-plagued voters took the Goliath role.

But suddenly, the Biblical comparison is even more accurate than before. The unheard of has happened: A government study has resulted in a *changed* recommendation, and as a result, just about everybody except the state’s Congressional delegation has jumped on the bandwagon to dump Orme in favor of another dam proposal that doesn’t flood the Indians, doesn’t eradicate the eagles’ nests and provides nearly, but not quite, as good flood control and water regulation for the Valley. Suddenly, Orme Dam no longer is a given, and it’s the politicians and power elite — not the Indians and the environmentalists — who are regrouping.

*Phoenix freelance writer Athia Hardt is a former Arizona Republic reporter who later served as press secretary for Gov. Bruce Babbitt.*

In the last month, a legal opinion from U.S. Interior Department attorneys has given viability to a substitute for the already-authorized Orme proposal, saying a “suitable alternative” need not involve building a dam at the confluence of the rivers; preliminary data from a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Bureau of Reclamation study has indicated an alternative is more attractive than ever thought possible and a variety of power groups have indicated support for an alternative.

The final decision on how to handle Arizona’s strange dichotomy — a dearth of water part of the year and too much at other times — while assuring that existing dams are safe will be made by Secretary of the Interior James Watt. That decision may come as long as a year from now, once he has been handed the official results of the Corps-Bureau study, the Central Arizona Water Control Study (CAWCS) and has seen the results of further environmental studies. Nothing about the Orme controversy is simple; once Watt’s decision is made, funding for whatever project is chosen must be secured from an economy-minded Congress.

But already the retreat from Orme has been so widespread that some believe it would be difficult for even those politicians whose support for the dam is deeply entrenched — among them, Rep. John Rhodes — to turn away from what nearly everyone is saying is a reasonable alternative.

“I believe the delegation realizes that things have changed,” one observer close to the situation said, noting that the need for funding will demand a united front in Arizona: “I think they’re not willing to lead a fight against these odds. I think they’re going to go along.”

What happened to turn the momentum away from Orme? Did Orme’s supporters awaken suddenly to the emotional appeal of the Fort McDowell tribe, who have pledged to protect their homes, their lands and their cemetery?

“It may be that the right thing will be done for the wrong reason, but I think the tribe could live with that,” mused tribal supporter Joel T. Schlactenhausen of the Arizona Indian Ministry, in an interview a few weeks ago.

Though the emotion of the Indian issue may have affected some, the move away from the Orme proposal is more clearly tied to two related factors the Arizona hierarchy understands well: (1) expense, and (2) time.

The expense of the high Orme — or “confluence structure,” as the technicians began calling the dam long ago in an attempt to avoid the negative images associated with “Orme” — took the mile-long structure out of the running as a serious possibility as soon as its estimated costs topped \$1 billion and were still

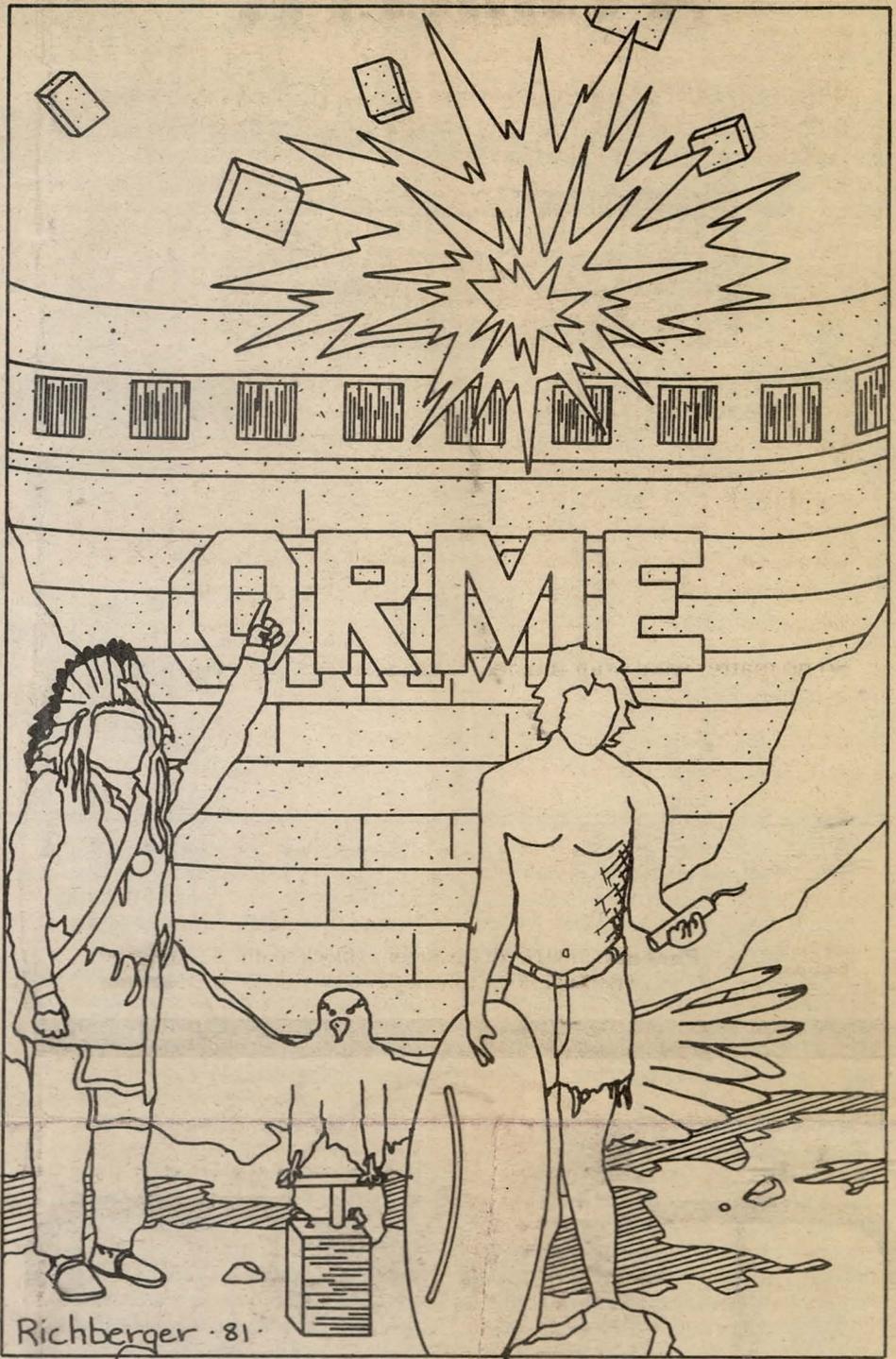


Illustration by Dennis Richberger

rising. Secondly, the possibility that the tribe could tie up construction of the smaller Orme for years with a national publicity campaign and lawsuits made a powerful argument for doing something other than the low Orme structure, if that something could produce comparable results.

What the three-year-old-long CAWCS study turned up was a solution that has become known as the “Waddell” alternative. Under it, a new Waddell Dam would be constructed on the Agua Fria River, a new or enlarged Roosevelt Dam would be built, Stewart Mountain Dam would be reconstructed and a new Cliff Dam would be built on the Verde, providing for the three goals set for Orme: flood control, water regulation and improvement of safety at existing dams.

Though the shift away from Orme appeared to come quickly, it was predictable. As long ago as Oct. 19, 1980, *The Arizona Republic* ran a story by its water expert, Carle Hodge, saying that the odds were turning against a confluence structure because of expense. The story ran front-page but was ignored by the *Republic*’s editorial staff and most other observers of the Orme controversy.

As recently as six weeks ago, *The Arizona Daily Star* in Tucson reported in a comprehensive eight-day series that the “big money” in Phoenix was backing Orme Dam because of the need to control waters sufficiently to build the Rio Salado

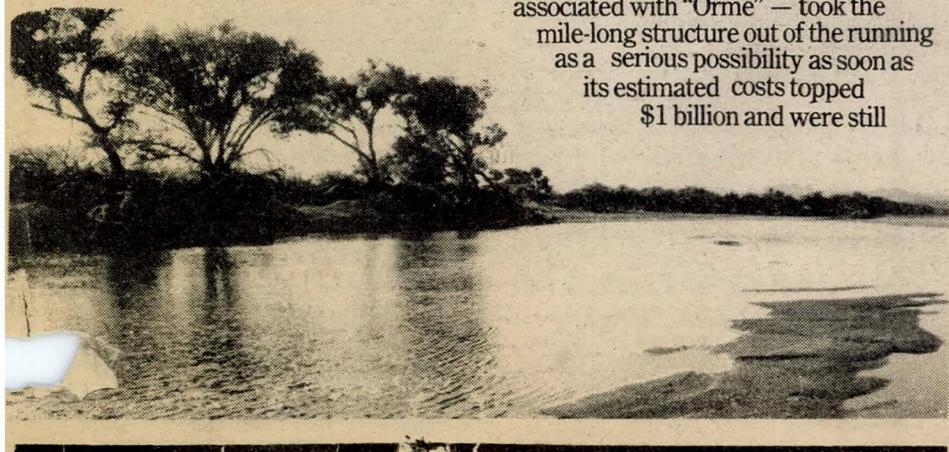
project, and that a Governor’s advisory committee was expected to favor Orme, according to Gov. Bruce Babbitt himself. (The Governor’s 29-member committee has long been considered crucial to the decision, not only because its members included representatives of every interested special interest group, but also because it based its decisions on CAWCS-provided data. Though the official CAWCS recommendation won’t be made until late October, the advisory group is considered a barometer of the CAWCS study.)

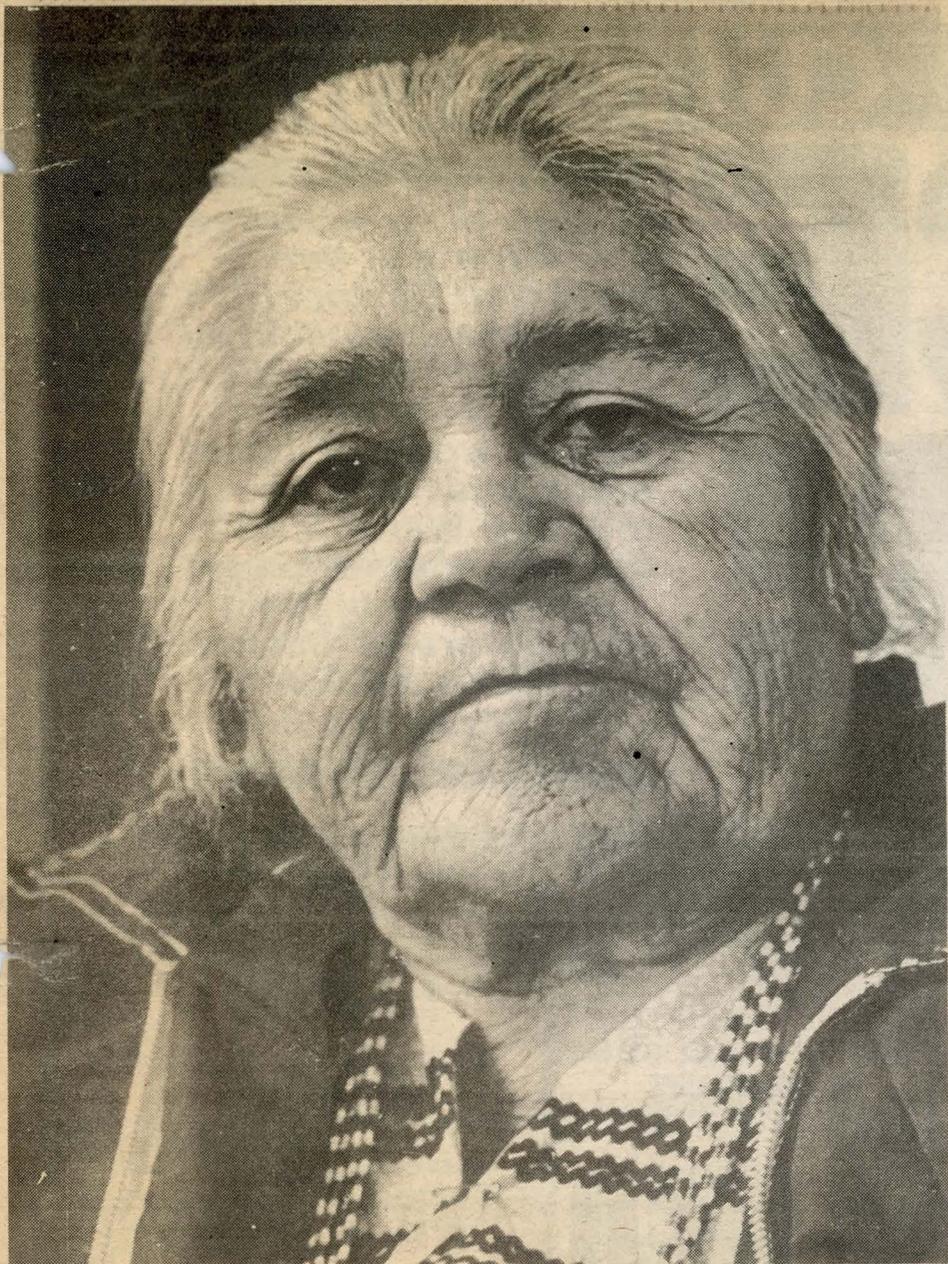
This month, many supporters of Rio Salado (read: “big money”) and the Governor’s committee backed the Waddell alternative. It isn’t that the *Star* did a poor job of reporting; never has so much changed so fast because of a government study. The dollar figures and water flow figures developed by the study over a 2½-year period came together in recent weeks to change so many minds.

“What I think is so amazing,” one state water planning expert said after the advisory committee voted to endorse Waddell, “is not necessarily that it turned out not to be Orme, but that the study process worked . . . a viable alternative was discovered.”

What many also think is so amazing is that it took so long to discover that there was a viable option to the controversial Orme proopsal.

*continued on page 14*





Lula Smith

photo by Terence Moore/AVCB

## ORME

*continued from page 14*

battle to authorize a new water project, and John Rhodes became wedded to the Orme proposal during the authorization fight.

"He knows the agreements that have been hammered out over a long, long history of fighting for the CAP," one of Rhodes' supporters said. "That is why he is the most inflexible of anyone. When you have an agreement that long, you're anxious to keep all the pieces in place."

At times, both sides have been extreme in their positions. Proponents have argued that the Indians don't want

to avoid being flooded as much as they want more money for their land and even have proposed diking the Fort McDowell cemetery. Opponents have been so mystified by the fervor on the other side that, while contending no water shortage exists in the Valley, they have come up with wonderful land exchange conspiracy theories — but no one has ever found proof of any shady dealings.

With every flood of Valley streets has come renewed support for the Orme proposal, although engineers now say adequate flood control could be provided by the Cliff-Roosevelt-Stewart Mountain proposal.

After a series of tropical storms sent 180,000 cubic feet of water per second

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down the Salt River through Phoenix in 1980, plans were initiated for new city, county and state bridges to withstand normal flooding, and the construction of Orme gained support. *The Arizona Republic*, which continues to back Orme today, conducted a campaign to collect 10,000 "I'm Mad As Hell" coupons from readers and deliver them to the Congressional delegation in support of Orme. Gov. Babbitt spoke at a Congressional hearing in favor of Orme. In fact, the only Arizona political leader who did not endorse Orme was Congressman Mo Udall of Tucson, and he came closer than he ever had.

Through it all, the federally financed study continued to progress, and gradually, the flood mania passed and word began to leak out from behind the closed doors where the technicians

### **The only Arizona political leader who did not endorse Orme was Rep. Mo Udall — and he came close.**

studied alternatives that the high Orme was proving to be too expensive and the low Orme offered little more than the Waddell proposal. It started a chain reaction. For the first time in history, the Salt River Project, which had been conducting its own in-house evaluation, said the Waddell alternative was acceptable, although it continued to prefer Orme for technical reasons. The Phoenix City Council endorsed three plans, including both the low Orme and Waddell. The coup de grace came when state water czar Wes Steiner, director of the Department of Water Resources, changed a position he has held for 13 years and announced he would support the Waddell proposal.

"What was convincing to me," Steiner said later, "is that you could get almost the same benefits — only slightly less flood control, only slightly less water supply — and it didn't include the severe detriments — the adverse impacts on the Indians, water quality, the eagles and the other environmental factors."

"It became obvious to me that as long as a reasonable alternative existed, there was no chance of getting a structure at the confluence."

The next day, the governor's advisory committee endorsed Waddell, followed by the Central Arizona Water Conservation District. The staff of the Rio Salado project and Mayor Margaret Hance both indicated afterwards that the Waddell proposal was acceptable to them.

But not everyone is happy with the Waddell selection.

Former Governors Jack Williams, a Republican, and Howard Pyle, a Democrat, voted against the Waddell proposal as members of the conservation district. Pyle said the action was "a sorry tribute to the great Carl Hayden who fought for every drop of water in this state," and Williams commented, "I think we've been had."

The *Republic* recently declared that "the plan that best serves the needs and safety of a metropolitan area could be thwarted by unreasoned and emotional arguments and by fear of a tedious court fight."

While the city folk argue, Lula Smith and Lola Dickson, who live where the eagles circle overhead and the rivers run, continue to gather the willows they use to make baskets and the bushes they use to make medicine.

"I have said it over and over again," Mrs. Smith said. "Leave the riverbed alone. That's what we use to live on. That's very sacred to us."

"This land is ours for good," Mrs. Dickson said. "It belongs to us. No other land could be as beautiful to us."

## **YOUR TURN, MR. WATT**

Just what will James Watt do?

That's a question on a lot of environmentalists' minds regarding a lot of issues these days, but it is particularly pertinent in regard to Orme Dam because the issue affords Watt a chance to show he is not an environmental ogre he has seemed to be to many.

The U.S. Secretary of the Interior was jovial when he appeared before the press last month in Phoenix and evasive when asked what he expected to happen in regards to Orme.

"I keep hoping for something to drop out of the sky that will make everyone happy," he said.

Could that something be the Waddell proposal?

One thing is certain. Watt wants whatever option he chooses to have widespread support in Arizona. He told that to officials he visited with when he was here; a fight for appropriations in an Eastern-oriented Congress will be tough enough without having Arizonans split in their endorsements, he said.

Congressman John Rhodes is expected to have a strong say in Watt's decision.

Some who have spoken with Rhodes regarding the Orme option say he is disappointed, believing the move to support Waddell has come too hastily, but that he is unwilling to lead a fight against so many who are marching in the other direction.

The final decision may not be made for as long as a year. Eugene Hinds, regional director of the Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region, will select a proposed action in the Central Arizona Water Control Study the end of October. Then a lengthy process of public hearings and study for the Environmental Impact Statement on the proposal will begin.

"Whatever we do, it will be 1990 before it's usable," said Tim Henley, director of the CAWCS study, "and that's optimistic."

## **Hardt**