



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

## NEWS RELEASE

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### WIFA Announces Stimulus Funds Part of \$63.5 Million in Loans to Cities, Water District in Maricopa County

PHOENIX (June 25, 2009) – The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) announced today a second round of loans which include in part federal stimulus money to the cities of Phoenix, Tempe, and Tolleson, and the Water Utility of Greater Tonopah in Maricopa County.

Phoenix received four loans totaling \$32.3 million for the rehabilitation of 41,000 feet of small diameter sewage lines along with backup sewage lines for the southwest Phoenix area. Other projects include installation of 8,600 feet of new sewer main along with 25 new fire hydrants, upgrades to more than 55,000 electronic meters and the replacement of a main sewage line between 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue on Broadway Road.

Tempe received two loans totaling \$18.1 million that will allow the city to pump groundwater from its existing wells to the South Tempe Water Treatment Plant, in the southern part of the city and the J. G. Martinez Water Treatment Plant, located in North Tempe near Papago Park to blend with surface water. These projects also will add to the emergency backup water supply for the city.

Tolleson received an \$11.6 million loan to rehabilitate the electrical power supply and update control systems at the city's wastewater treatment plant.

The Water Utility of Greater Tonopah, the major water provider west of the Hassayampa River in Maricopa County, received a loan totaling \$1.5 million to build a monitoring system for more efficient utility operations, instant access to information and improving customer service.

“These funds provide much-needed help for important wastewater treatment and drinking water supply projects in Maricopa County. We're pleased to make these loans,

making the most of Arizona's precious water resources and boosting infrastructure services to protect public health and safety," said WIFA Board Chairman Benjamin H. Grumbles, who is also Director of the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

WIFA received about \$82 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 to fund wastewater and drinking water projects in Arizona. One of the goals of ARRA was to have at least 50 percent of the total amount of grant proceeds allocated to projects under construction by June 17, 2009. There are presently 32 projects under construction in Arizona representing 62 percent of the grant proceeds for the state.

WIFA maintains and improves water quality in Arizona by providing communities and private water systems with access to low-interest financial assistance and technical assistance needed for basic water infrastructure. For more information, please visit WIFA's Web site at [www.azwifa.gov](http://www.azwifa.gov).