



Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona

## NEWS RELEASE

1110 West Washington, Suite 290 • Phoenix, Arizona  
85007 • [www.azwifa.gov](http://www.azwifa.gov)

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**Date:** December 18, 2009, , 2009

**Contact:** Veronica Rivera, Communications Director: (602) 364-1236

### WIFA Announces \$1.5 Million Loan Closing with the City of Surprise - Part of Federal Stimulus Funds

PHOENIX (Dec 18, 2009) – The Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA) announced today that it has closed a \$1.5 million loan which includes in part federal stimulus money, with the City of Surprise in Maricopa County.

The \$1.5 million loan to Surprise will fund the increased use of reclaimed water by modifying their current booster station to create a point of connection to the City’s reclaimed water system at Litchfield Road and Waddell Road. The booster station will provide pressurized reclaimed water to water parks, baseball fields, and landscaping.

The City estimates that approximately 2,000 acre feet of ground water will not be pumped due to the use of reclaimed water. This will save on energy costs, water quality treatment costs and groundwater replenishment costs.

“This loan will help the City of Surprise finish this important clean water project. We’re pleased that this loan will make 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 approximately \$82 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, to fund wastewater and drinking water projects in Arizona. All of the Recovery funds have been committed to projects throughout the state through reduced interest loans, with half of the funds distributed as forgivable principal. In an effort to leverage the funds, WIFA blended Recovery funds with its own state revolving funds. Judy Navarrete, Executive Director of WIFA stated, “When construction is completed on these projects, the \$82 Million in Recovery funds will result in approximately \$180

Million in actual wastewater and drinking water infrastructure improvements for Arizona”.

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).

**Deleted:** 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. ¶

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