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Circulate San Diego Releases Report on Benefit of Infill Development to Water Quality and Supply

San Diego (June 1, 2015) - Circulate San Diego, a local organization that educates and advocates for transportation choices and smart land uses, released a report today on the benefits that infill development provides to the region's water quality and supply.

Circulate's Water-Infill report details how infill development, with smaller lot sizes, tends to use less water for landscaping, and helps preserve water quality by not creating polluted stormwater runoff.

The report draws on research from a variety of sources, including the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, academic works, and local water usage and planning data.

"This report helps show how an infill development strategy can help preserve the San Diego region's water quality and supply," said Joe Cosgrove, a researcher with Circulate San Diego who is the lead author of the report.

"In recent years, the water shortage has been used by opponents of smart growth to oppose infill projects. This report helps explain how infill can help manage the region's water supply efficiently," said Colin Parent, Policy Counsel at Circulate San Diego and editor of the report.

The Water-Infill report is available at <http://www.circulatesd.org/waterinfill>.

The report contains some key findings:

- Infill development uses less landscaping, which can contribute between 50% and 70% of household water use.
- Infill development uses less impervious surfaces, like driveways and connecting roads, which can contribute to pollution in stormwater systems.
- Pipes conveying water experience substantial leakage, which is reduced when new development is closer to existing water infrastructure.

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About: [Circulate San Diego](http://www.circulatesd.org) is a regional non-profit organization dedicated to creating excellent mobility choices and vibrant, healthy neighborhoods.