



Support for Statewide Water Storage Coordinated Planning and Development

The Association of Idaho Cities (AIC), representing Idaho's 197 incorporated cities, strongly supports a comprehensive, forward-looking approach to water storage planning and development across the state. The majority of the approximately 78% of Idahoans who live and work in and around Idaho's cities receive their water from municipal water systems.

We therefore recognize the importance of ensuring reliable, and affordable long-term water supplies to meet the needs of our growing communities, support economic development, and build resilience in the face of drought, climate variability, and increasing system demands.

AIC supports the spirit and intent of Senate Joint Memorial 101 (2025), which urges state and federal agencies to work together to evaluate, plan, and develop additional water storage capacity throughout Idaho. The goals outlined in the memorial align with the priorities of Idaho's cities, ensuring access to clean, dependable water and protecting the sustainability of our municipal systems.

AIC encourages state and federal partners to:

- Conduct regional studies assessing both surface and groundwater storage opportunities;
- Integrate municipal infrastructure and land use planning into broader water planning efforts;
- Pursue feasible, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible projects;
- Secure funding and streamline permitting processes to support implementation.

We call upon Idaho's municipalities, the Idaho Legislature, the Governor's Office, the Idaho Water Resource Board, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho's Congressional Delegation, and other relevant federal agencies and stakeholders to advance these goals through proactive coordinated planning and investment.

Idaho's cities stand ready as committed and constructive partners in building a secure water future for all Idahoans.

Kelley Packer, Executive Director

On Behalf of the Association of Idaho Cities Board of Directors