

Arizona Daily Star

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Section: Opinion

NewsTalk Feedback from Tuesday

* **Summary:** *Should Tucson limit its growth to those areas where providing water service does not require expensive new water lines? If you live outside Tucson's city limits, would you agree to be annexed in exchange for city water service?*

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My answers are no and no. Can you tell me why you're so narrowly focused on just one option? There is at least one other option that bypasses groundwater: skywater. There are homes in Arizona and Colorado that collect water from the sky and store it in modern cisterns below and then use solar-powered pumps to pump it back up. There's no way I would agree to service from an entity that cannot guarantee me water. That's not a smart business or government move.

Peter Bockenthien

Tucson should stop its annexation craze and defend the public interest by not easing urban sprawl through extended waterlines. The city can protect quality of life by carefully conserving our limited water supply and ignoring developers' short-sighted profit motives. Sprawlers will cry for help when they pump fragile aquifers dry, as they realize in horror they cannot drink money and there is not enough water to save them. To curb urban sprawl, drive time, air pollution and neighborhood decline, sustainable development should be encouraged in Tucson's existing urban areas.

Daniel R. Patterson
Ecologist

Water and annexation are not related, but growth and water use certainly are. Providing water service "cheaply" or only in city limits is not a sensible position. Tucson, as well as the county and the state, has to limit growth as well as encourage conservation because growth far exceeds what can be conserved. I would not agree to annexation in exchange for water service because there are far more needs the city did not address, such as emergency medical and fire services in the annexed and surrounding county areas.

Robert Suhocki
Corona de Tucson resident