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# COMPLIANCE COOPERATIVES: A NEW MODEL FOR REGULATORY PARTNERSHIPS

www.tempe.gov/grease

WESTCAS October 26, 2016 Phoenix, AZ

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WESTCAS GOAL #1

Advocate laws, regulations, standards and policies that provide for environmentally sound, science-based protection and wise use of water resources in unique Arid West ecosystems.



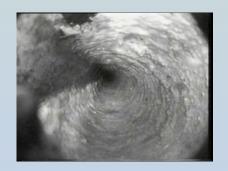


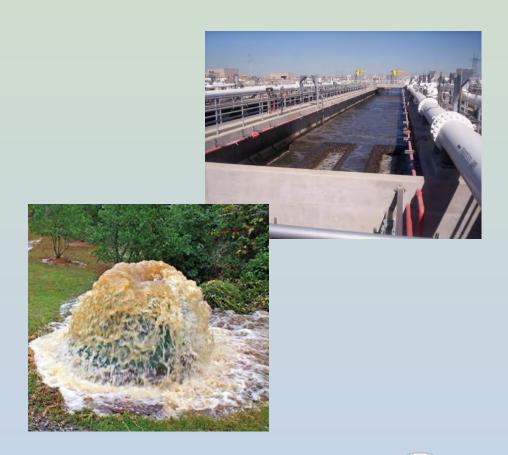
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#### THE PROBLEM WITH FATS, OILS, AND GREASE (FOG)

- Clogs, corrodes and destroys sanitary sewer systems
- Increases sewer operational costs
- Sanitary/combined sewer overflows
- Treatment plant loading









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#### THE PROBLEM

(2004 EPA Report to Congress)

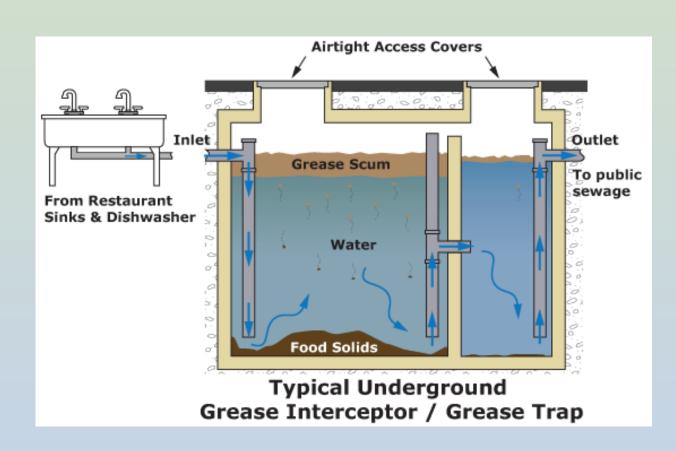
- Up to 75,000 sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs)/an
- Between 3-10 billion gals of sewage
- 6% of beach closures from SSOs
- ≈ 5,600 illnesses/an
- Est. \$4 billion / an spent on SSO control
- 48% of SSOs caused by sewer blockages
- 51% of blockages caused by grease
- Uncollected grease entering sewer systems ≈ 800 1,700
   lbs/an/food service establishment (FSE)





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SOLUTION: GREASE TRAPS/INTERCEPTORS





**CLEANING & DISPOSAL** 

**INFRASTRUCTURE** 



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SOLUTION: PROPER CLEANING AND DISPOSAL

Frequency

Procedures

Removal/disposal





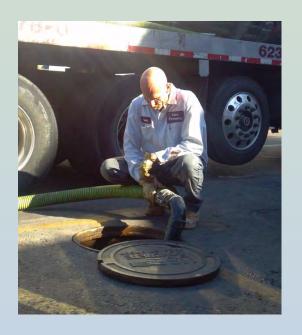


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#### (UTILITY) INDUSTRY SOLUTION: (LINEAR) REGULATION

- For Food Service establishments (FSEs):
  - Frequency requirements
  - Cleaning procedures







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#### **LINEAR REGULATION**





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#### THE PROBLEM WITH LINEAR REGULATION FOR FOG

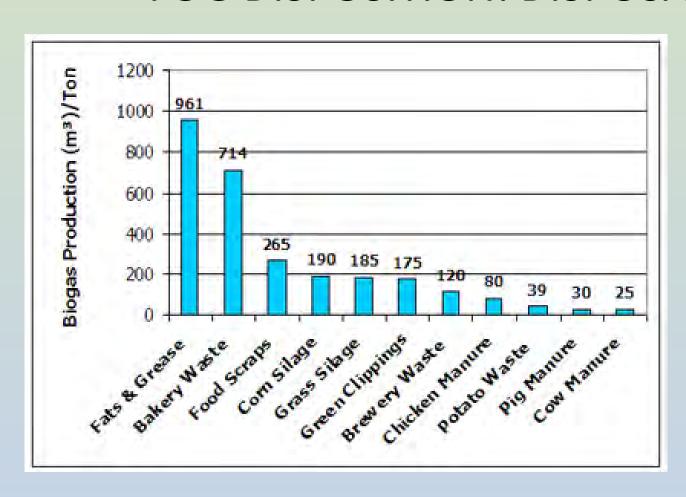






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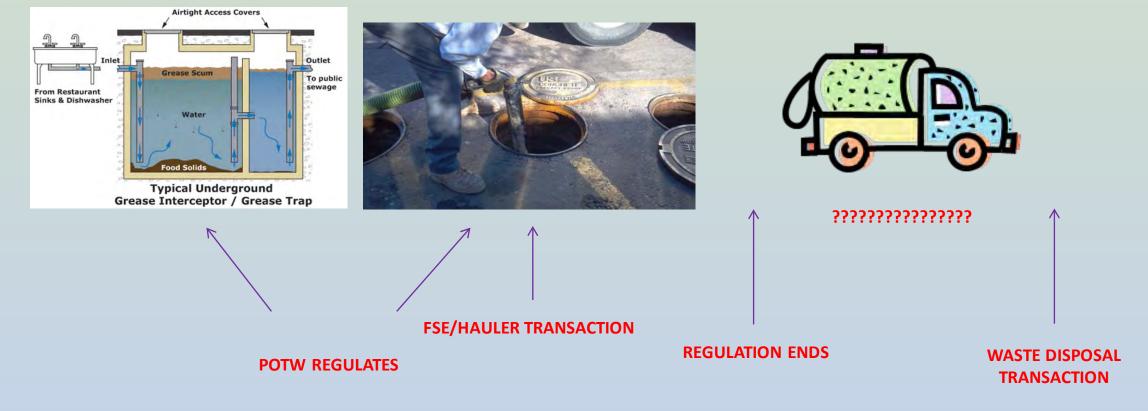
FOG DISPOSITION: DISPOSAL v. RESOURCE RECOVERY







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CODIGESTION CHALLENGES





UNCONTROLLED FEEDSTOCK / QUALITY
EXTENSIVE PRETREATMENT
DELIVERY UNCERTAINTY / STAFFING
COMMERCIAL WASTE FACILITY
FOAMING / BIOLOGICAL UPSETS
MARKET FLUCTUATIONS

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#### CONCLUSIONS ABOUT TRADITIONAL FOG REGULATION

- Regulatory burden / enforceability
- Accountability gap
- Uncontrolled disposition
  - waste
  - resource
- = Compliance rates < 30% (EPA 2004)



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#### EPA/ADEQ PRETREATMENT PROGRAM AUDIT, MAY 2010

"The restaurant grease interceptor was said to have been pumped the day before. The 3 ports revealed heavy grease in all 3 chambers with rancid odors. The store manager advised that the pumping contractor had been doing a poor job of cleaning the interceptors.

Recommendation 1: "Apply more resources to the FOG program, including more inspectors and a higher frequency of visits to commercial establishments."

Recommendation 2: "Find a better way to hold pumping companies accountable for non-performance. Indirectly holding them accountable by pressuring pumping company customers is a start, but a more direct method should be considered."



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#### RETAILERS' COOPERATIVE

A group of independently owned businesses that pool their resources to purchase in bulk, usually by establishing a central buying organization.

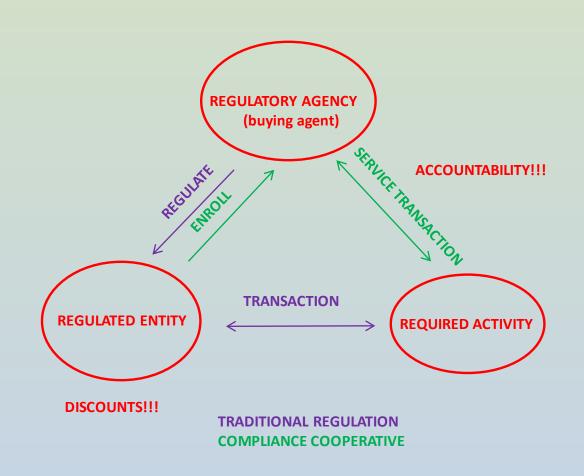




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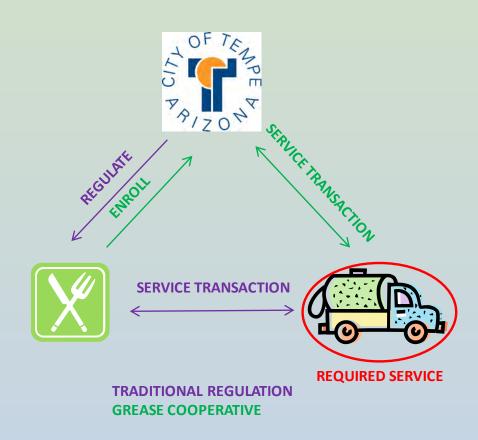
#### **COMPLIANCE COOPERATIVE**

A program in which a regulatory agency brokers both pricing and quality for the activities it requires on behalf of regulated entities who enroll in the program as an alternative to being held responsible for the business practices of their hired vendors.





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#### TEMPE GREASE COOPERATIVE

The first program in the world in which a regulatory sewer authority brokers both pricing and service quality on behalf of member restaurants that voluntarily enroll in the program as an alternative to being held responsible for the FOG cleaning and maintenance practices of their hired vendors



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#### **REGULATOR BENEFITS**

- Enforceability
  - vendors v. cleanings
- Accountability
  - transaction v. regulation
- Disposition
  - waste
  - resource
- Trust and partnership

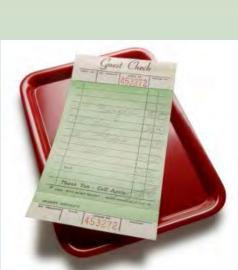




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#### MEMBER BENEFITS

- Discounts
- Service / quality assurance
- Compliance assurance
- Regulatory flexibility (frequency)
- Dividends
- Finder's credits
- Fryer grease offsets
- Infrastructure assessments
- Green marketing
- Trust / partnership





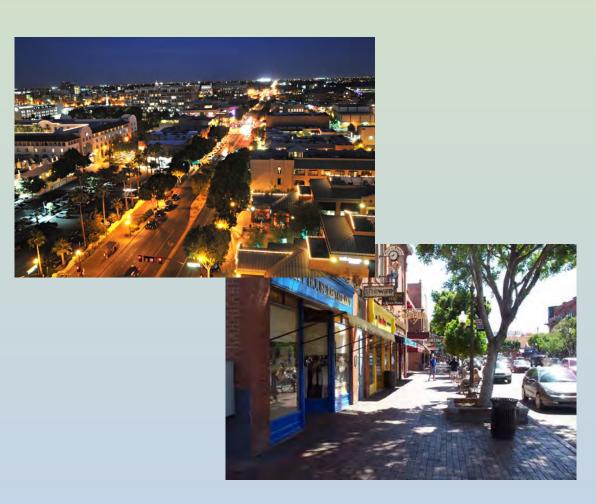




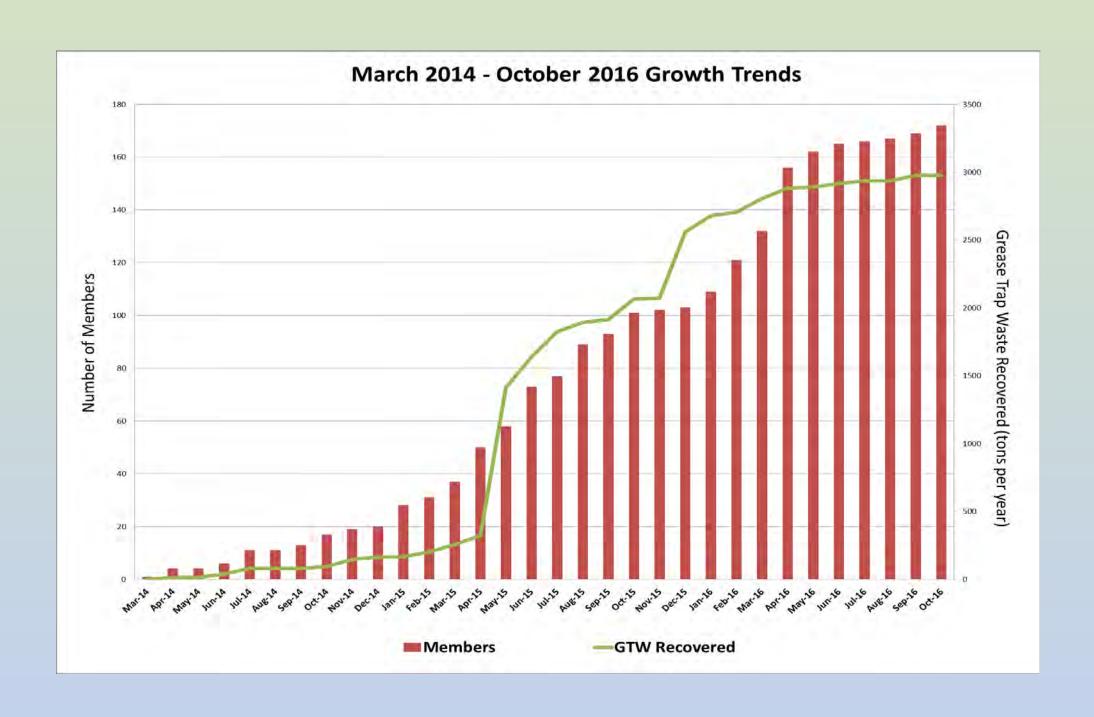
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2011 - 2014

- Stakeholder process
- Council approval for downtown pilot program
- Ordinance modifications
- Rules and procedures / terms of enrollment
- Vendor procurement
- Marketing and enrollment strategy
- March 2014 roll out







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#### OPPORTUNITIES MOVING FORWARD

5-Year Strategic Plan

- Administrative Improvements
- Procurement Strategy
- Energy/Codigestion Hurdles
- Regional Partners and Administration
  - Coop
  - Codigestion





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COOPS AND CODIGESTION





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#### **WESTCAS TAKEAWAYS**



- RegulInnovator
- Regulator as Business Advocate
- Arid West Applications(?)
  - Premise Water Quality Issues
  - Water Conservation / Greywater
  - Organics Diversion (Cal AB1826)
  - Other?



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ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE LIVABLE COMMUNITIES 2014

GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR ARIZONA'S FUTURE 2016



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY 2015, 2016



J. ROBERT HAVLICK AWARD
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION
2016



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This is your sewer...



Any Questions?

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This is your sewer on partnership



