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Letters to the editor

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Water shortage causes deserve more attention

Having served as vice chair of the city's Waste Water Oversight Committee (one of the predecessor components of the current Public Utilities Advisory Group), I must note that for over 10 years we urged the city to require double plumbing on all new construction (residential, commercial and industrial). Our continuing pleas were dismissed, in large part because recycled water was available only in some sections of the city. The fact that double plumbing in new construction only costs pennies while retrofitting existing facilities costs many dollars was ignored.

Can you imagine what our current potential for greater reuse of this ever scarcer resource would be if every home, store or factory built over the past decade had been double plumbed? We must implement this piece of the solution immediately. Every day that passes without such a requirement will make our reuse ever more expensive and ever less efficient.

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