Statement by City of Milwaukee Commissioner of Health Regarding Alderman's Resolution on Removal of Fluoride from Milwaukee's Drinking Water

The City of Milwaukee Health Department (MHD) has conducted a review of current research and relevant studies in response to a recently-proposed resolution by Alderman Jim Bohl ordering the immediate cessation and prohibition of the introduction of any fluoride compound into drinking water distributed by the Milwaukee Water Works.

At this time, the MHD does not support the removal of fluoride from drinking water provided by the City of Milwaukee Water Works. The MHD recognizes the scientific evidence showing that appropriate levels of fluoride in drinking water do not have significant adverse health effects, and that water fluoridation continues to be the most cost-effective means of preventing dental caries (tooth decay) for both children and adults in the community.

Should the United States Department Health and Human Services and the United States Environmental Protection Agency change their recommendations on the optimal level of fluoride in public drinking water, the MHD will recommend compliance with the new guidelines.