

..Number

171523

..Version

Proposed Substitute A

..Reference

170523

..Sponsor

ALD. ZIELINSKI

..Title

Substitute resolution relating to Milwaukee Water Works water bill lead-in-water safety inserts and dissemination of other lead-related information.

..Analysis

This resolution directs the Milwaukee Water Works to include lead safety inserts with every City water bill, rather than semi-annually, and to meet the same standards that the Health Department is held to for providing ongoing community updates to the public related to lead safety. The Water Works is also directed to incorporate a secondary lead safety insert with City water bills on a semi-annual basis with additional lead safety and lead service line replacement information.

This resolution also directs the Milwaukee Water Works to identify, on every City water bill, whether the City-owned portion of the service line serving the premises being billed is made of lead, and to make publicly available the details of all lead-related testing, monitoring and control treatments conducted by the Milwaukee Water Works.

..Body

Whereas, Lead exposure poses a significant threat to public health and safety, with infants, young children, and pregnant women being at the greatest risk of adverse health impacts from lead exposure; and

Whereas, Milwaukee Water Works regularly tests Lake Michigan source water, treated water from Milwaukee water treatment plants, and distribution system water, including tap water, for the presence of lead; and

Whereas, Lead service lines and plumbing can introduce lead into tap water; and

Whereas, Approximately 74,600 properties in the city, including 68,300 residential properties comprising 54.2% of all residential properties in the city, receive water through City-owned lead service lines, and according to the Milwaukee Water Works, a property with City-owned lead service lines is likely to also have privately-owned lead service lines; and

Whereas, The City of Milwaukee recognizes that all residents of the community need access to information on how best to protect themselves and their children from lead in drinking water; and

Whereas, Under Common Council File No. 170253, the Milwaukee Water Works was directed to incorporate lead-in-water and lead public education materials with City water bills on a semi-annual basis; and

Whereas, More recently, under Common Council File No. 170131, the Health Department was directed to provide ongoing community updates to the public with an expanded identification of at-risk populations and recommendations for lead safety; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Milwaukee Water Works is directed to increase the frequency at which lead-in-water and lead public education materials are included with City water bills, from semi-annually as directed in Common Council File No. 170523, to every regularly-issued City water bill; and, be it

Further Resolved, That lead-in-water and lead public education materials included with City water bills shall meet the same standards that the Health Department is held to for providing ongoing community updates to the public related to lead safety under Common Council File No. 170131; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Milwaukee Water Works shall update all lead-in-water and drinking water safety initiatives, websites, social media messaging, printed materials, outdoor and media advertisements and campaigns under the authority of the Milwaukee Water Works to meet the same standards; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Milwaukee Water Works shall ensure that the use of water filtration systems certified to remove lead according to NSF/ANSI Standard 53 is promoted to the public as the most thorough means of lead-water safety; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Milwaukee Water Works shall include, in any discussion of flushing drinking water by running taps, a warning to the public of the risk of lead exposure from failing to adhere to flushing guidelines; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Milwaukee Water Works is directed to incorporate secondary lead-in-water and lead public education materials with all City water bills on a semi-annual basis; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the secondary lead-in-water and lead public education materials shall include information about at-risk populations, the benefits of healthy eating to reduce potential lead poisoning, how to identify lead in internal plumbing fixtures, options for testing tap water for the presence of lead, information about NSF/ANSI certified lead filters, information about the importance of following installation and maintenance guidelines for lead-removing filters, and information about City programs that provide lead-removing filters or assistance in replacing lead service lines or internal plumbing; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Milwaukee Water Works shall identify, on every City water bill, whether the City-owned portion of the service line serving the premises being billed is made of lead; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the Milwaukee Water Works shall make publicly available the details of all lead-related testing, monitoring and control treatments conducted by the Water Works on Lake Michigan source water, treated water from Milwaukee water treatment plants and tap water, including site selection and sampling protocols, the date of construction of sampled sites, the presence of lead service lines at sampled sites, dates of collection, disclosure of invalidated samples and reasons for invalidation, testing results and the details of lead-related corrosion control treatments.

..Requestor

..Drafter  
LRB170556-3  
Dana J. Zelazny  
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