AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
For science. For action. For health.

October 9, 2014

Water Utility Board
City of Madison
119 East Olin Avenue
Madison, WI 53713
water@cityofmadison.com

Dear Members of the Water Utility Board:

On behalf of the American Public Health Association, a diverse community of public health professionals who champion the health of all people and communities, I write to urge you to maintain the fluoridation of community water supplies in the city of Madison. APHA has supported community water fluoridation as a safe and effective means of preventing tooth decay for more than 60 years. The association most recently reiterated its support for community water fluoridation by adopting the policy statement *Community Water Fluoridation in the United States* in 2008.

The overwhelming preponderance of scientific evidence supports community water fluoridation as a safe, effective and cost-saving public health measure for the prevention of dental caries that benefits all segments of the community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recognized water fluoridation as one of ten great public health achievements of the twentieth century. The U.S. government's Healthy People initiative has included the expansion of community water fluoridation as a national health objective in every iteration since it began in 1990, including Healthy People 2020, the most recent agenda to improve the health of all Americans.

Consistent with the recommendation of virtually every major public health, medical and dental organization in the U.S., APHA urges you to continue the important public health strategy of community water fluoridation.

Sincerely,

Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Executive Director

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