

## MEMORANDUM

Date: May 26, 2022

To: Water Utility Board

From: Pete Braselton, Mapping/GIS Coordinator

Subject: Amendment of Section 13.18 of the Madison General Ordinances to Update the Lead Water Service Line Replacement Ordinance

## BACKGROUND

The updated lead ordinance is intended to mitigate two issues: 1) rising cost of replacement and 2) enforcement for non-compliance.

### Rising Cost of Replace

The average cost to replace a lead service line was about \$3,000 when we last updated the ordinance and raised the reimbursement amount in 2016. The average cost last year (2021) was about \$4,000. The updated ordinance mitigates the rising cost of lead service lateral replacement two ways:

1. Raise the maximum reimbursement to \$2,500. The property may be reimbursed by the Utility for 50% of the cost to replace the lead service lateral up to a maximum of \$2,500. For example, if the cost to replace the lateral is \$4,000, the property owner would be eligible for \$2,000.
2. Require the property owner to obtain bids from three plumbers in an attempt to force competition and lower prices. Reimbursement will be provided based on the lowest bid.

### Enforcement for Non-Compliance

Additional language has been added to the ordinance to clarify the Utility's right to deny water service for non-compliance. This is a tool that has been available to us and has been effective in enforcing compliance of long term hold outs.

## ATTACHMENT:

1. Copy of Legislation Details (File # 70676)