

From: [Deming, Amy](#)
To: [Water Utility Board](#)
Subject: FW: [D6] Fluoride in Madison Water
Date: Monday, August 24, 2020 8:08:20 AM

From: Rummel, Marsha <district6@cityofmadison.com>
Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 3:40 PM
To: Deming, Amy <ADeming@madisonwater.org>
Subject: FW: [D6] Fluoride in Madison Water

Ms Wineland gave me permission to share her comments.

Marsha Rummel
District 6 Alder
City of Madison

You can fill out the census from home. Everyone living in your household should be counted. Census data determines how more than \$675 billion in federal funds are distributed to communities across the country for affordable housing, childcare, healthcare, education, transportation, and more. That's over \$2,000 per person for Madison and Dane County every year. Please remind friends and family to be counted. By law your answers are confidential. Respond online at my2020census.gov, by [phone](#), or by [mail](#)—without having to meet a census taker.

From: akwineland@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, August 23, 2020 9:30 AM
To: [Rummel, Marsha](#)
Subject: [D6] Fluoride in Madison Water

Recipient: District 6, Marsha A. Rummel

Name: Anna Wineland
Address: 5142 Oak Valley Drive, Madison, WI 53704
Phone: 608-843-3851
Email: akwineland@gmail.com

Would you like us to contact you? Yes, by email

Message:

Dear Ms. Rummel,

I am writing because I saw the article in today's Wisconsin State Journal regarding water fluoridation here in Madison.

I respect that you are researching the issue in order to make a well-informed decision. As a lifelong resident of Madison, as well as a mother of three and a dental hygienist, I want to put in my two cents.

I feel strongly that fluoride is extremely beneficial and should be kept in our water.

Fluoride has long been added to the water in many communities. As you may know, the city Grand Rapids, Michigan, was the first in the US to add fluoride to its water. This measure decreased the rate of tooth decay by more than 50%, and has done the same in the other communities who have adopted it since. The CDC has proclaimed water fluoridation “one of the most successful public health achievements of the 20th century.” The practice has also been endorsed by the World Health Organization, the US Surgeon General General, and the American Public Health Association.

I work in the dental clinic at Access Community Health Center, which serves mainly low-income patients, most of whom have other challenges with their health and in the rest of their daily lives.

Many of our patients are low-income children, who are at an especially high risk for tooth decay. I can say from experience how heartbreaking it is to see children with badly decayed teeth and need extensive dental treatment, including multiple tooth extractions.

The population we serve face multiple obstacles in accessing the dental care they need due to their income, access to transportation, and their other physical and mental health challenges. Having fluoride in the city water supply is often the only preventive dental measure they receive.

According to a study by the National Center for Biotechnology Information, “it is well-known that tooth loss negatively impacts a person’s general health...and the negative impacts of tooth loss on daily activities such as phonation, altered diet, and socializing are well documented.” I see patients every day who are unable to chew many foods, and who are embarrassed to smile due to the poor condition of their teeth, or their lack of teeth. Many are in chronic pain due to dental issues. The high risk population we serve suffer more from the effects of dental disease. According to the CDC, “Community water fluoridation is recognized as one of the most cost-effective, equitable, and safe measures communities can take to prevent cavities and improve oral health.”

Because of all of the above data, as well as my own experience in dentistry and public health, I again urge you to keep fluoride in our city water. It is one of the most beneficial and affordable measures we can take to protect the most vulnerable members of our community. Thank you so much for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Anna Wineland