From: Deming, Amy
To: Water Utility Board

Subject: FW: Written Statement for Support to Maintain Community Water Fluoridation for Water Utility Board Meeting

Date: Friday, August 21, 2020 3:16:46 PM

From: Dr. Bird <wbird@orthomadison.com> **Sent:** Friday, August 21, 2020 11:56 AM **To:** Water <water@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Written Statement for Support to Maintain Community Water Fluoridation for Water Utility

Board Meeting

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To: Madison Water Utility Board

I am a current practicing dentist in Dane County, and have 19 years of experience serving residents of this area. I would like to strongly state that community water fluoridation should be continued in Dane County. Fluoridation reduces tooth decay by approximately 25 percent over a person's lifetime.

By ending water fluoridation, Dane County will see an increase in tooth decay, especially among children. This will result in expensive dental treatment, including fillings, crowns and other costly procedures that could have been prevented. Opponents to fluoridation have misconceptions about the safety and efficacy of this practice.

Research over the past 70 years confirms that fluoridation, as practiced in the United States, is safe and provides substantial oral health benefits to all members of the public. We have made so much progress in reducing tooth decay among our residents. Let us not turn back the clock by ending fluoridation. I support water fluoridation for the health and well-being of this community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William F. Bird, D. D. S., M. S.