

INFORMATION PAPER

Public Utilities Department
December 27, 2022

SUBJECT: Lead Water Service Line Replacement Program

1. Purpose: To provide a high level overview of the City of Joliet's Lead Water Service Line Replacement Program

2. Facts:

- a. Lead is a material that can be toxic to humans when ingested or inhaled. There is no safe level of lead exposure. Exposure can cause behavior problems and learning disabilities in young children and also negatively impact the health of adults.
- b. Lead is not present in any source water, including Joliet's. The City's water distribution system does not contain lead. Lead is found in some water service lines and internal plumbing.
- c. The City of Joliet has an unknown number of lead water service lines. Lead was banned as a material for water service lines in Joliet in the late 1930s. Based on home age the City could have approximately 15,000 lead water service lines (see Exhibit A).
- d. The City proactively began a lead water service line inventory and replacement program in 2018. More information on the City's program is available at www.joliet.gov/gettheleadout.
- e. In 2019, the City developed a five year program for lead water service line replacement. Phases 1 and 2 have been completed and Phase 3 is currently under construction. All three phases have been funded with loans from the State Revolving Fund totaling approximately \$9 million. Phase 4 will begin construction in 2023 and will also be funded with a \$4 million loan from the State Revolving Fund. These loans qualify for 100% principal forgiveness.
- f. Lead water service lines are also being replaced as they are encountered during the City's water main replacement program. It is anticipated that all lead water service lines will be replaced with copper service lines by 2030.
- g. An updated Lead and Copper Rule has recently been approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. A component of the new rule is formal development and implementation of a lead water service line replacement program. The Public Utilities Department will continue to monitor these requirements as the rule is implemented beginning with submission of a water service line material inventory in 2023 and a replacement program in 2024.

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Submitted To: Jim Capparelli, 12/27/22

Enclosures: Exhibit A, Potential
Lead Water Service Area

