



Staff Report-Ordinance

December 4, 2023 Council Regular Meeting

Ordinance 23-016 Amending CMC 13.32 Water Use Regulations Code Revisions
pertaining to Water System Backflow Prevention

Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 10 minutes

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BACKGROUND: The City of Camas, the State of Washington, and the Department of Health, require that all potential cross-connections on the City's water system be protected with the use of backflow (BF) prevention devices. Cross connections are defined as any type of connection where there is a risk of contamination to the city water system such as sprinkler systems, pools, or other connection to possibly contaminated water. Backflow prevention devices are to be tested on an annual basis and sent to the city. There are approximately 3,773 assemblies that staff is aware of in the City's system, and approximately 25 percent of those are out of compliance.

SUMMARY: CMC 13.32 is proposed to be updated to allow City staff the ability to send out a private contract tester to test devices if a property owner has not responded to previous notices (multiple) of non-compliance. Charges for a private tester typically range from \$30 to \$50. If tests yield a non-passing result, water will be disconnected until the property owner repairs or replaces the device and supplies the City with a passing test result. If the changes to Chapter 13 are approved by Council, a letter to customers notifying them of the changes will be sent out in January before enforcement of the new language in Code begins.

BUDGET IMPACT: None anticipated.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Council consider Ordinance 23-016, adopt and public according to law.