



## Staff Report

November 20, 2023 Council Workshop Meeting

CMC 13.32 Water Use Regulations Code Revisions for Water/Backflow Prevention

Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 10 minutes

Phone	Email
360.817.7003	rcharles@cityofcamas.us

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Camas, the State of Washington, and the Department of Health, require that all cross - connection protection 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 3773 assemblies in the city's system and 25% of those are out of compliance.

**SUMMARY:** CMC 13.32 is being 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 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, a letter to customers notifying them of the changes will be sent out in January before enforcement of the code begins.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** None anticipated.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff is seeking approval from Council to approve code amendments to CMC 13.32 giving staff more authority to require annual testing of backflow prevention devices. Staff will be bringing an ordinance with code changes for council approval at the Council's Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> Regular council meeting.