



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 7 for 2025 – Ordinance No. 1336 – Repealing SHMC Chapter 13.04.170 Fluoridation

Preferred Agenda: July 8, 2025

Submitted By: Blair Larsen, City Attorney

Reviewed By: Jason Ogden, City Manager / Police Chief

Type of Action: Resolution Motion Roll Call Other

Relevant Code/Policy: SHMC Chapter 13.04.170, Ordinance No. 454

Towards Council Goal: Efficient Government

Attachments: Ordinance Bill No. 7 for 2025 – Repealing SHMC Chapter 13.04.170 Fluoridation
Ordinance Bill No. 15 for 1964 – Ordinance No. 454 – Providing for the Fluoride Supplementation of the Public Water

Purpose of this RCA:

The purpose of this RCA is to provide an ordinance as requested by the City Council to repeal Sweet Home Municipal Code requiring the fluoridation of the City of Sweet Home’s drinking water.

Background/Context:

Fluoridation was ordered by Ordinance No. 454 on November 4, 1964 following a Special Election on November 3, 1964.

On June 24, 2014, City Council held a public hearing to receive public comment on the issue of fluoridation in the City of Sweet Home’s water supply as a result of a citizen request in March 2014. City Council declined to take action, either through direct action or referral to the ballot, and recommended that residents initiate a petition if they desired to make any changes.

A first and second reading of the proposed ordinance were conducted during the City Council meeting on June 24, 2025.

The Challenge/Problem:

At the City Council meeting on May 27, 2025, there was City Council consensus to place an item on a future agenda to allow for discussion of the removal of the City’s fluoride system.

Issues and Financial Impacts:

Chemical and operations costs to operate the fluoride system are approximately \$20,000 annually.

Options:

1. *Do Nothing* – The City’s existing ordinance providing for fluoridation of the water supply will remain in place.
2. *Move to approve the proposed ordinance* – The repeal of SHMC Chapter 13.04.170 will take effect.
3. *Move to approve the proposed ordinance with changes* – The Council may make changes to the proposed ordinance before approval.
4. *Refer a measure to the ballot* – City Council has the option to place the question on the ballot for Sweet Home voters to consider.
5. *Direct staff to conduct additional research* – Staff will need clear direction from the City Council regarding what additional information is desired.