

Dear Resident,

This letter is my quarterly report to keep you informed of the City's ongoing efforts to ensure a safe drinking water supply for all residents. While New Brighton's many long-term residents are very knowledgeable about our water history and our efforts to respond to TCAAP contaminants, some of our newer residents may not be as familiar, so some brief history is provided.

Please know that the City maintains current and historical information regarding the public water supply on its website, [www.newbrightonmn.gov](http://www.newbrightonmn.gov).

## Brief History

Water Treatment Plant 1 (WTP1) has been used for many years to remove contaminants from the City's water supply that originate from historic operations at TCAAP. In 2015, the Minnesota Department of Health advised the City that low levels of 1,4-dioxane were detected in the wells that supply WTP1 and were not being removed by the then-current treatment technologies used at the plant. The City immediately began efforts to explore cutting-edge dioxane removal treatment technologies to add to an expanded WTP1. While these efforts are underway, as an interim measure, the City switched its water supply to deeper, dioxane-free wells in April 2015. Because the limited capacity of those wells might not always meet peak summertime water demands, the City in 2016 entered into an agreement with Minneapolis to connect its water distribution system to New Brighton's, and supply Minneapolis water until the dioxane removal equipment is installed at WTP1. The City's interim steps have ensured that residents have a safe and reliable water supply, free of dioxane and other TCAAP contaminants, while the additional treatment technologies are developed and added to WTP1.

## Historic Milestone in May

As part of this overall effort, Mayor Johnson and the New Brighton Council approved two important contracts at the May 9, 2017, City Council meeting. The first contract directed City staff to acquire a new, state-of-the-art Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) dioxane treatment system from Trojan Technologies. The second contract awarded the construction work for the WTP1 expansion, which will house the AOP equipment, to general contractor Magney Construction, Inc. While New Brighton is contemplating a different configuration of the AOP equipment, below is a visual of what the AOP equipment looks like. New Brighton's plant will have three of these AOP treatment trains with room to add a fourth, in the event one is ever needed.



At its June 27, 2017 meeting, the City Council took steps to ensure that fully-trained and properly-licensed management and staff will be retained to operate the new treatment technology at WTP1, after it reopens in 2018. New Brighton will be one of only two Minnesota cities operating this AOP dioxane-removal technology. Existing plant supervisors and maintenance workers will be trained, licensed and credentialed appropriately for this higher level of responsibility.

## Summer 2017 through Fall 2018

New Brighton residents will continue to receive water from Minneapolis for another year. During that time, the WTP1 expansion will occur, new controls will be installed, and staff will be trained on the operation and maintenance of the new equipment. The construction schedule is on track for Fall 2018 completion. As a fun side-note, I have asked our IT staff to do time-lapse photography of the progress of the WTP1 expansion, both outside and inside. At some point, the time-lapse video will be available on the City's website.

## Funding and Coordination

Under the City's litigation settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Army, the activities undertaken in response to the dioxane discovery are funded by the Army. We continue to coordinate our activities with the Army, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Minnesota Department of Health, neighboring communities and other interested stakeholders. And, of course, we continue to communicate directly with you, our residents.

As always, please refer to the website for more information and watch for our quarterly letters.

Sincerely,

**Dean R. Lotter** | New Brighton City Manager

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