



Dear Resident,

In May 2016, New Brighton started construction on the Minneapolis Interconnection, which will connect the Minneapolis Hilltop Reservoir to New Brighton's water distribution system at Water Treatment Plant 1. New 18 and 24-inch pipes were installed to allow for delivery of up to 6 million gallons per day (MGD); that will replace the capacity of New Brighton's Mount Simon Hinckley Wells, which supply a maximum of 4.5 MGD. The additional capacity will ensure that we can supply a safe, reliable source of water for the next two years, until the expansion of Water Treatment Plant 1 is completed in fall of 2018. The Minneapolis Interconnection will also serve as an emergency back-up supply after Water Treatment Plant 1 resumes operations in 2018.

### **Transition to Minneapolis**

With the Minneapolis Interconnection in place, New Brighton will change its primary water source from the Mount Simon Hinckley wells to Minneapolis Water following the July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday. New Brighton and Minneapolis have worked with the Minnesota Department of Health on the transition process. To account for the chemical differences between surface water and groundwater, New Brighton is feeding the same anti-corrosion chemicals that Minneapolis uses into the existing pipe network.

Starting July 5<sup>th</sup>, City staff will initiate the transition for our High Service Zone, which supplies water to Wexford Heights and the Seminary area. During the High Zone transition, water pressures could be temporarily lower for several days. In the weeks following July 11, City crews will systematically flush hydrants from Water Treatment Plant 1 to the New Brighton city limits, as Minneapolis water makes its way through our system. The flushing may temporarily cause some reddish-brown water for some New Brighton residents. The discoloration poses no health concerns, but possibly could stain laundry. If water discoloration occurs, you should postpone washing clothes; the discoloration should clear up within 24 hours. If not, please notify Public Works at 651-638-2111.

### **Water Quality**

During the week of June 20-25, New Brighton's Annual Water Quality Report was delivered to all New Brighton residents and businesses. The Water Quality Report is a combination of water testing data from 2015, and information regarding the change to

Minneapolis water. Please note the information in the Water Supply section concerning your softener, aquariums, and dialysis uses.

During the transition to Minneapolis water, residents with water softeners may want to do one of two things:

- Bypass your water softener completely (if you are satisfied with the Minneapolis hardness level). You will need to consult your manual or check with your water softening vendor to determine what would be required to maintain your system during this down time (~ 2 years).

OR

- Adjust your home softener to your desired level of hardness (Minneapolis hardness level is 91 mg/L or 5.3 grains per gallon).

**If you are unsure about which option is right for you, please consult your water softening vendor for advice.**

### **Future Treatment Update**

The Pilot Study of 1,4-dioxane treatment options has been completed and a Technology Recommendation Report will be presented to the City Council in August 2016. Following this, the City's consulting engineers will prepare and complete plans and specifications for the new treatment additions to Water Treatment Plant 1, for bidding in March 2017. The additions to Water Treatment Plan 1 will remove 1,4-dioxane from our drinking water to a level that surpasses even the strictest standards anywhere in the United States. Construction is expected to begin in May 2017.

Thank you for your support as we near solutions to our continuing water challenges.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean R. Lotter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dean" being the most prominent.

Dean R. Lotter  
New Brighton City Manager