



# Agenda Report

August 26, 2019

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Municipal Services Committee (July 9, 2019)

**FROM:** Water and Power Department

**SUBJECT: ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE CITY OF PASADENA'S 2019 PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS REPORT ON WATER QUALITY**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council conduct a public hearing, receive public comment on The City of Pasadena's Water and Power Department's ("PWP") recommended 2019 Public Health Goals ("PHG") Report, and upon closing the public hearing:

1. Find that the proposed action is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378 of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, no environmental document pursuant to CEQA is required.
2. Accept and approve the 2019 PHG Report.

## **Municipal Services Committee Recommendation:**

On July 9, 2019, the Municipal Services Committee approved the 2019 PHG Report and requested that data showing PWP levels be added to Table 1 of the 2019 PHG Report. The attached amended report includes the requested data.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Staff is recommending that City Council accept and approve the 2019 PHG Report. Additionally, staff is providing information about the 2018 Consumer Confidence Report ("CCR") published on July 1, 2019. No City Council action is required with respect to the 2018 CCR.

## **Public Health Goals Report**

Every three years, community water systems, like PWP, are required by the California Environmental Protection Agency ("CalEPA") to prepare a PHG Report. The report describes the occurrence of chemicals present in its treated water that have concentrations greater than the unenforceable levels established by the United States

Environmental Protection Agency ("USEPA") and CalEPA. The report also includes a description of the types of public health risks, treatment methods, and the estimated cost to implement such treatments. Additionally, the public must have an opportunity to review and comment on the PHG Report and for the City Council to accept and approve the PHG Report.

The PHG Report is available on PWP's webpage in the water quality section, which may be accessed using the following link: <http://www.PWPweb.com/WaterQuality/>.

It should be noted that public health goals are not enforceable. The USEPA and CalEPA have established unenforceable goals for very low chemical levels that would pose no significant public health risks. These unenforceable levels include the federal Maximum Contaminant Level Goal ("MCLG") and the state's PHG. These goals are determined without consideration of economic and operational impacts and they are also used as guidelines in determining enforceable standards. PHGs are an aspirational goal and the actual enforceable goal, known as the Maximum Contaminant Level ("MCL"), is set as close to the PHG as is technologically and economically feasible.

### **Consumer Confidence Report**

The City's tap water has met all of the enforceable drinking water quality standards set by the USEPA and CalEPA. City Council action on the annual preparation and publication of the CCR is not required. The 2018 CCR published on July 1, 2019 is directly accessible at <http://www.PWPweb.com/CCR2018> and also available on PWP's water quality section of the website at <http://www.PWPweb.com/WaterQuality/>.

PWP will distribute the CCR to its customers as mandated by State and Federal law. The following formats will be used: mail notification as a bill insert, making a direct URL available, posting the CCR in numerous public places and via social media channels.

### **Enforceable Water Quality Standards**

USEPA and CalEPA cooperate to protect drinking water quality and to set enforceable MCLs. The enforceable MCL limits are established with consideration of health, economic, and operational impacts. Water agencies like PWP routinely test for MCL compliance and summarize the results in an annual CCR. The City's water continues to meet all MCLs.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The acceptance of the PHG Report is not subject to CEQA, pursuant to Section 21065 of CEQA and CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378. CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c)(2) states that an activity is not subject to CEQA if "the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment". The proposed activity consists of accepting a report on water quality information. No direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment would result from this report. For the same reason, the proposed activity is not a CEQA "Project" as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 and is, therefore, also not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c)(3).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action and it will not have any indirect or support cost requirements. There are no anticipated impacts to other operational programs or capital projects as a result of this action.

Respectfully submitted,



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GURCHARAN S. BAWA  
General Manager  
Water and Power Department

Prepared by:



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DAVID KIMBROUGH, Ph.D.  
Water Quality Manager

Approved by:



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STEVE MERMELL  
City Manager

Attachment  
2019 Public Health Goals Report