

FACT SHEET

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN SAFE WATER LAWSUIT AMENDED TO IMPROVE LEAD PIPE REMOVAL PROCESS

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In 2016, Flint residents and nonprofit groups sued the City of Flint and Michigan state officials to help address the lead contamination crisis and secure safe drinking water for the Flint community. In 2017, the groups entered into a settlement agreement with the City of Flint and State of Michigan that is enforced by a federal court. Under that agreement, the City must find and remove Flint's lead and galvanized steel water service lines by 2020. The State of Michigan must give the City up to \$97 million to pay for this work. The agreement also included a program to help people in Flint install water filters and requires broad tap water testing to measure the amount of lead in Flint's water.

In February 2019, the agreement was amended to improve the way the City finds and replaces the lead pipes still in the ground. The City must now use a more efficient method to find the city's remaining lead service lines.

The agreement is part of a case brought by Concerned Pastors for Social Action, Melissa Mays, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Michigan. They did not ask for money damages—just a solution to the lead contamination. The agreement in this lawsuit does not provide all of the justice Flint residents deserve. But we believe it has been an important step towards making the city's tap water safer. It has also shown that, by standing up together to fight for what's right, the people of Flint have the power to force the government to do its job.

PIPE REPLACEMENT PROGRESS SO FAR

As of March 2019, the City has dug up about 21,000 service lines out of roughly 28,500 total homes with active water accounts. Out of those 21,000 digs, the City has found and replaced about 8,000 lead and galvanized steel pipes. The City has spent about \$67 million of the available funding under the agreement.

FINDING AND REPLACING REMAINING LEAD PIPES IN 2019

In 2017, the City found and replaced a lead or galvanized steel pipe at about 70 percent of the addresses where it dug up service lines. In 2018, that percentage fell to less than 15 percent, which means that the City was mostly digging up copper pipes. Under the amended agreement, this year the City will focus its work first on about 4,500 homes that are most likely to have lead and galvanized steel service lines. To find these homes, the City will use a method that looks at each home's characteristics, such as age, value, and location, to predict whether the home has a lead or galvanized steel service line. The City successfully used this method in 2016 and 2017. After the City finishes its work at the first 4,500 homes, the City plans to dig up the service lines at the remaining homes in Flint and replace any lead or galvanized steel service lines it finds. You do not need to be up-to-date on your water bill payments to qualify for pipe replacement.

WHAT TO EXPECT AFTER YOUR SERVICE LINE IS REPLACED

Following service line replacement, the City must flush your home's water and give you a faucet filter. Flushing means that the water hose spigot outside the home and every faucet inside the home is turned on at the highest flow for at least 15 minutes. Within 3 days after replacing your service line, the City must also visit your home to offer to help you install a filter and give you a 6-month supply of replacement filter cartridges. If you do not receive these services, you can call the City's FAST Start office weekdays between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at (810) 410-1133 or send an email to faststart@cityofflint.com. You can also call us at (312) 995-5906 or email us at flintpiperemoval@gmail.com and we can help.

RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU

Free filters, filter replacement cartridges, and water testing kits can be picked up at City Hall weekdays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Filters and replacement cartridges can also be picked up at:

- Asbury United Methodist Church (weekdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 1653 Davison Rd.)
- Calvary United Methodist Church (Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2111 Flushing Rd.)
- Greater Holy Temple Church of God in Christ (Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 6702 N. Dort Hwy.)
- Habitat for Humanity (Tuesdays to Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 101 Burton St.) (replacement cartridges only)
- Neighborhood Engagement HUB (weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 3216 M.L. King Ave.)

Bottled water can be picked up at:

- Asbury United Methodist Church (Tuesdays starting at 10 a.m., 1653 Davison Rd.),
- Greater Holy Temple Church of God in Christ (Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., 6702 N. Dort Hwy.)