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FOR INFORMATION CALL

January 17, 2018

Ald. Tony Zielinski
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Resolution calls for Milwaukee Water to give public lead updates

Alderman Tony Zielinski is sponsoring a resolution that directs the Milwaukee Water Works to include lead safety inserts with every city water bill, rather than semi-annually. This would direct Milwaukee Water Works to match the same standards as the Health Department. The Water Works would also be required to update the public twice a year in city water bills on the progress of lead safety and lead service line replacement.

Ald. Zielinski says, "Our city's drinking water is of utmost concern to our resident's health. This resolution demands better transparency and information to be given to the public."

The resolution also directs the Milwaukee Water Works to identify on every city water bill whether the city-owned portion of the service line is made of lead, tests related to it, and any treatment conducted by the Milwaukee Water Works.

Lead service lines make up about 74,600 properties in the city, including 68,300 residential. In total, that's about 54% of all residential properties in the city. Ald. Zielinski is also pushing for the public to have information on how best to protect them and their children from lead in drinking water, including having NSF/ANSI Standard 53 certified lead filters promoted to the public.

Ald. Zielinski says, "Residents don't just need a water filter, they need the correct water filter certified for removing lead. The public needs more information out there on how to protect themselves and their families."

Ald. Zielinski will introduce the file at tomorrow's Milwaukee Common Council meeting.