

To Whom It May Concern:

As dentists serving members of your community, we are expressing concern over your recent discussion to discontinue fluoridation of your community water supply. Community water fluoridation is the single most effective public health measure to prevent tooth decay.

Dental decay is the most common and costly dental problem in all age groups, but community water fluoridation is effective in reducing tooth decay by 25-50%! Although decay continues to be a problem for middle-aged and older adults, **more adults are keeping their teeth throughout their lifetime due to the benefits they receive from water fluoridation.**

Community water fluoridation exposes the teeth to very low levels of fluoride throughout the day therefore reversing and preventing the process of dental decay. It is especially important for children to have fluoridated water because when teeth are forming and after the teeth erupt, the fluoride helps form strong enamel.

The average cost for a community to fluoridate is less than \$1.00 a year per person. It is an effective and economic way to prevent cavities, especially in rural areas and our poorer populations who both are struggling with access to dental care.

Water fluoridation is a safe, effective and economical measure that a community can use to prevent tooth decay in all members of the community, especially the most vulnerable. There has been 70+ years of research and over 100 health organizations that support the benefits of water fluoridation.

We urge you to continue to fluoridate the community water supply to prevent tooth decay in **all** members of your community.

Sincerely,



Jackie Nord DDS
NDDA Past President
Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention/American Dental Association