



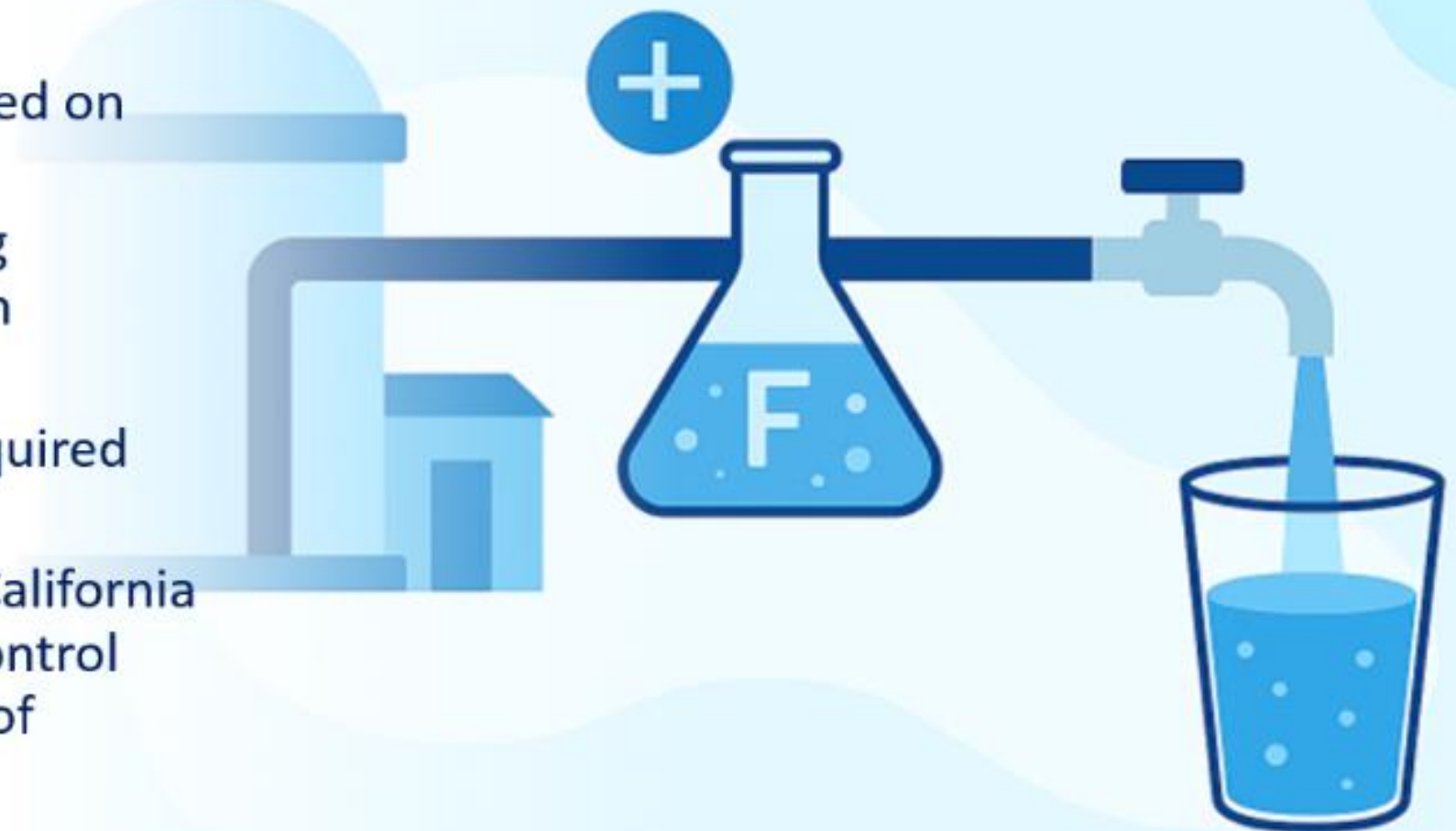
Request for City Council Direction on Drinking Water Operating Permit Amendment

May 5, 2026

Fluoridation & Current Status

Water Fluoridation

- Council direction requested on permit amendment.
- Considering discontinuing supplemental fluoridation (Fluorosilicic acid).
- Fluoridation currently required under existing Permit.
- Permit regulated by the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Division of Drinking Water.
- City is fully compliant.



Background & Operations

- Fluoride naturally present in the City's water
- Supplemental fluoridation adjusts these natural levels to reach a specific target levels
- State law requires fluoridation for large systems when funded, City currently does not have outside funding
- Utilities Division oversees chemical procurement, metering, dosing, and laboratory sampling
- Prior 1970s ballot measure was advisory



Water Quality and Fiscal Impacts

- Natural fluoride remains if supplemental fluoridation ends
 - Groundwater: Approximately 0.4–0.5 ppm naturally
 - Imported Water (MWD): Approximately 0.7 ppm
- Discontinuing the program would result in significant savings:
 - Approx. \$160,000 in annual operations (O&M)
 - Approx. \$6.7 million in avoided future capital costs



Regulatory Process & Next Steps

- Staff is requesting direction to submit permit amendment to discontinue fluoridation.
- Any change requires SWRCB Division of Drinking Water review.
- If approved, modify system & decommission fluoridation equipment
- Not a CEQA project.



Questions?

