



Public Health Goals

City of Huntington Beach
Public Works Commission
August 20, 2025

2025 PHGs Report

- **Mandated by:** Calderon-Sher Safe Drinking Water Act
- **Applies to:** Systems with >10,000 service connections
- **Purpose:**
 - Identify contaminants above Public Health Goals
 - Estimate costs to treat to PHG levels using Best Available Technology (BAT)
- **Timeframe Covered:** 2022–2024
- **Guidance Used:** Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
- **Unique to California**



Regulatory Framework

- **PHGs developed by:** Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)
 - **PHG:** Level with no significant health risk (goal)
 - **MCLG:** Federal Equivalent of PHG
 - **PHGs / MCLGs are not enforceable**, used to evaluate risk
- **MCLs established by:** State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water
 - **MCL:** Enforceable limit that considers technical and economic feasibility
- City is in compliance with all MCLs



Constituents Detected

- Measured Above PHGs or MCLGs
- Local Groundwater and Imported Surface Water
 - Arsenic – from natural sources in groundwater
 - Bromate – forms during water disinfection, imported
 - Radiation (Gross Alpha & Beta) – naturally present in groundwater and imported water
 - Hexavalent Chromium – naturally occurring
 - PFOS – from industrial pollution
 - Uranium – natural sources in groundwater & imported water



Best Available Technologies

- Reverse Osmosis removes all identified constituents
- Estimated Annual Costs (per service connection):
 - Arsenic: ~\$3.46M (\$65)
 - Bromate: \$1.7M–\$14.6M (\$32–\$273)
 - Radiation/Uranium: \$8.2M–\$70.5M (\$154–\$1,320)
 - Hexavalent Chromium: \$9M–\$56.7M (\$170–\$1,060)
 - PFOS: \$273K–\$3.74M (\$5–\$70)
- Treating everything with reverse osmosis: up to \$1,320 per year per household



Summary

The City is committed to protecting public health as new regulations and technologies continually develop. The Public Works Department will:

- Ensure compliance with all drinking water regulations.
- Maintain transparency through ongoing monitoring.
- Publish the annual Consumer Confidence Report and future PHG updates.

Staff recommends accepting and filing the Public Health Goals Report.



Questions?

