Address contaminated drinking water wells in Andover

Provide impacted residents with a long-term connection to municipal drinking water

Challenge

A sampling of some private drinking water wells in the Red Oaks neighborhood of Andover shows the presence of the contaminants 1,4-dioxane and PFAS above the MDH’s health-based guidance values for drinking water. One residential well has sampling results 2,200 times the health-based guidance value. Residents with wells at or above the health-based guidance value receive bottled water until a long-term drinking water solution is implemented.

Proposal

Governor Walz requests up to $12 million in bonding to design and construct new municipal water mains for a residential area in the city of Andover. The project is limited to the design and construction of new water mains in the public right-of-way, installing individual service connections to bring water from the city water main into individual homes, and sealing impacted wells. The new water main extension will be funded with general obligation bonds, but individual service connections and sealing of impacted wells must be funded with General Fund dollars.

Why it’s important

1,4-dioxane and PFAS are contaminants of emerging concern, and long-term exposure presents serious potential health risks. The primary way people are exposed is through drinking contaminated drinking water. Connecting impacted residents to Andover’s municipal drinking water system will eliminate the pathway to exposure and ensure a suitable long-term drinking water source.

For more information

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