

Ashley Alvarez

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I am submitting this comment because the water in the riverside district has changed noticeably, and not for the better. My dog sniffs at the water bowl and walks away when I fill it from the tap, which tells me something is off. Radon and uranium in groundwater can be a hidden problem, and I do not think residents are informed enough. My child developed skin irritation that cleared up only after we started using filtered water for baths. Emergency repairs are fine, but a long-term capital plan would prevent so many of these problems. Many of the water mains in the older part of the city are more than seventy years old and break far too often. Real-time monitoring data for turbidity and chlorine should be available on a public dashboard. I would welcome volunteer citizen sampling programs that work together with the utility and local scientists. I tested my own water with a home kit, and the results did not match what the utility reports, which is troubling. At the last community meeting, many people raised their hands when asked if they use a filter at home. Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I hope the feedback leads to concrete action.