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I am commenting as a longtime customer of the local water system in the downtown district.
I have stopped cooking rice and pasta with tap water because the flavor of the food changes.
Even after boiling, the water keeps a chemical smell that does not go away.
Coffee and tea made with this water taste flat and slightly bitter compared with what I make when I travel.
The water runs cloudy for a few minutes in the early morning, and the haze takes a while to settle in a glass.
My child developed skin irritation that cleared up only after we started using filtered water for baths.
Our family doctor asked whether we drink from the tap, which made me realize this is a real health question.
Several neighbors have reported stomach upset that they suspect is linked to the water, though nobody can prove it.
Treatment plant upgrades have been delayed repeatedly, and residents are left to cope with the consequences.
Clear explanations of what each limit means and how close our results come to it would help enormously.
Independent third-party testing, at least once a year, would build much more trust in the numbers.
Rebates for filters and plumbing replacement would make a real difference for low-income households.
Small businesses such as cafes and bakeries in the north end are also affected, because water taste matters for their products.
If improvements are made, I would gladly share the results with neighbors and help spread the word.