


**Item # 9.**  
**RTC 22-1124:**

**2022 Report on Water Quality Relative to Public Health Goals**

November 1, 2022

1



**Public Health Goals Regulations**

- The City is mandated by State Water Quality Regulations to hold a public hearing to present information on:
  - The City’s Water Quality
  - Public Health Goals (PHGs)
  - Findings
  - Recommendations

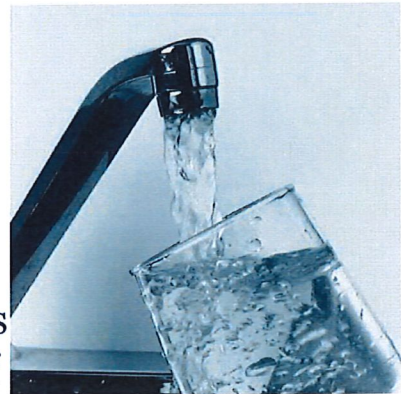
2

2



## Santa Clara Water Quality

- Water & Sewer Utility staff collect over 3,000 water quality samples a year
- Santa Clara's water meets all water quality standards required by State and Federal regulations
- Every year, all residential and commercial customers receive the City's Consumer Confidence Report as part of *Inside Santa Clara*



3

3



## Background on PHGs

- The California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment has established 95 PHGs for chemical contaminants in drinking water
- PHG or Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) exceedances require a report and public hearing
- This report covers calendar years 2019, 2020 and 2021. PHGs are neither enforceable nor required to be met by the Water Utility

4

4



## Public Health Goals

- PHGs are set:
  - at a level that “does not pose any significant risk to health” and which no known anticipated adverse effects on human health occur with added margin of safety
  - intentionally at a level without considering technical feasibility or costs of achieving the goal
  - in the case of carcinogens, at a theoretical level estimated to cause no more than one incidence of cancer risk in one million people with a lifetime of exposure

5

5



## Public Health Goals

Monitoring Results			
Constituent	MCL or (AL)	PHG or (MCLG)	Sampling Results
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	ND – 1.7

MCL – Maximum contaminant level  
 MCLG – Maximum contaminant level goal  
 AL – Action level

ND - Non-detectable  
 ppb - parts per billion

6

6



## **Report Conclusions**

- The Water Utility will continue to regularly monitor drinking water quality and is not proposing to change its current operations based on the information provided
  - The City's drinking water meets all State and Federal regulatory requirements for safe drinking water
  - Benefits of reductions are uncertain, but the costs associated with possible water treatment options are significant

7

7



## **Recommendation**

- That Council accept the 2022 Report on the City's Water Quality Relative to Public Health Goals at the close of the Public Hearing

8

8



**City of  
Santa Clara**  
The Center of What's Possible



9

9