City of Cheney, Washington
609 Second Street
Cheney, WA 99004

CITY OF CHENEY, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION F-525

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISCONTINUATION OF THE ADDITION OF FLUORIDE TO THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the City of Cheney owns and operates a public water system that provides potable water to customers within and, where applicable, outside the City's limits; and

WHEREAS, the City of Cheney water system has historically added fluoride to the public water system since 1972 to supplement natural fluoride levels averaging 0.30 mg/L in the well water to meet the recommended Washington State Department of Health ("DOH") optimum concentration level of 0.70 mg/L; and

WHEREAS, some citizens of Cheney have voiced concerns about the choice to receive and potential health effects of adding supplemental fluoride to the public water system; and

WHEREAS, the Cheney water system fluoridation equipment is old and in need of costly modernization to assure constant and dependable fluoride addition and consistent concentration levels; and

WHEREAS, RCW 70A.125.210 provides that a public water system considering discontinuing fluoridation of its water supply on a continuing basis must notify its customers and the DOH of its intention at least ninety (90) days prior to a vote or decision on the matter; and

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2026, The City of Cheney initiated a formal 90-day notification process with the DOH, Office of Drinking Water, and the public, regarding its intent to consider ending the addition of fluoride to the City's public water system.

WHEREAS, the ninety-day notification period required by RCW 70A.125.210 elapsed on October 13, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has considered the discontinuation of the addition of fluoride to the City's municipal drinking water supply and has determined to discontinue the addition of fluoride on a continuing basis; and

WHEREAS, WAC 246-290-460 requires a water system purveyor to notify the Washington State Department of Health before discontinuing fluoridation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to formally document its decision and authorize City staff to take all actions necessary to implement that decision;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHENEY, WASHINGTON, as follows:

Section 1. Discontinuation of Fluoride Addition.

The City Council hereby determines and directs that the City of Cheney shall discontinue the addition of fluoride chemicals to the City's public water system on a continuing basis.

This Resolution does not require, and shall not be construed to require, removal of fluoride that occurs naturally in the City's water sources.

Section 2. Implementation.

The Mayor, City Administrator, Public Works Director, and other appropriate City officials are authorized and directed to take all actions reasonably necessary to implement the Council's decision to discontinue the addition of fluoride, including the cessation of operation of fluoride treatment equipment and the appropriate disposition, storage, or removal of fluoride treatment materials and equipment.

Implementation shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, permits, and requirements.

Section 3. Department of Health Notification.

The appropriate City officials are authorized and directed to provide the Washington State Department of Health, Office of Drinking Water, with the notification required by RCW 70A.125.210 and WAC 246-290-460, including submission of the Department's applicable Notification of Water Fluoridation Change form and supporting documentation.

Section 4. Continuing Water Quality Compliance.

Nothing in this Resolution shall be construed to alter or eliminate any requirement applicable to the City's public water system concerning water quality, monitoring, treatment, reporting, testing, or public notification under federal or state law.

Section 5. Effective Date.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED, on this **13th Day of October 2026** by the Cheney City Council at their regularly scheduled meeting at the Cheney Council Chambers, 609 Second Street, Cheney, WA 99004.

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Elsa Martin, Mayor

Attest:

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Shellie Klinkenberg, City Clerk