

The following are all of the emails sent to the [flintwatersourceinfo@cityofflint.com](mailto:flintwatersourceinfo@cityofflint.com) email address as of May 23, 2017 as part of the effort to obtain feedback from residents on the water source recommendation.

1. I agree with the mayor, stick with the GLWA, save money, fix more pipes, we don't need another senseless switch
2. I myself believe that we should go with the pipeline that we help purchase for the simple reason in the long run it would cost the citizens of Flint less money and it is ours we purchased it we own it that way we don't have another resource such as Detroit controlling what we pay
3. My strong preference is that Genesee County, using water from the new pipeline would be our primary source of water with GLWA as the back-up source. The main purpose of building the new pipeline was to gain water independence from the Detroit system, now known as GLWA. It's depressing to think that after all the turmoil the community has gone through, that we would be back to square one, relying on Detroit water again, with no assurance that prevents exorbitant rate hikes in the future.
4. why do we have to pay for water we can't use? BATHING CAUSES A RASH ON ME. AND WHEN I HAD THE WATER CHECK

IT SAID TO DRAW WATER WITHOUT THE FILTER THAT WAS SUPPLIED TO ME. THAT DOESN'T MAKE SÉANCE HOW

CAN I KNOW IF THE WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK IF YOU DON'T CHECK IT OUT USING THE FILTER?

5. In 2010, the World Health Organization (WHO) formally recognized access to water and sanitation as human rights "essential to the realisation of all human rights" ([http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human\\_right\\_to\\_water.shtml](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade/human_right_to_water.shtml)). WHO Resolution 64/292 calls for "safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all." Research by the Henry Ford Health System and We The People of Detroit validated by analyzing tens of thousands of data points, what community members intuitively know from lived experience: that water shut-offs lead to gastrointestinal illness and skin maladies ([http://wethepeopleofdetroit.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017\\_PublicHealthStudyHandout.pdf](http://wethepeopleofdetroit.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017_PublicHealthStudyHandout.pdf)). Therefore, I urge the City of Flint to cease water shutoffs and turn on water to occupied residences until the water is deemed consistently safe to drink without in-home filtration throughout Flint. As an ethical and human right imperative, the State of Michigan should respect and support this public health necessity.

Resident access to affordable water is clearly a public health issue as well as a human right. Flint residents and business owners are paying some of the highest water rates in the country, and many residents are saddled with the higher cost of living which accompanies the burden of poverty. Pursuing an equitable water rate must continue to be part of negotiations and contracts with the Great Lakes Water Authority and Genesee County Drain Commission, as well as part of capital improvement planning for Flint's infrastructure.

Community groups in Flint are understandably calling for a waiver of water bills and continued access to free water bottles until Flint water is deemed safe to drink without additional filtration. The price that each resident pays for his/her water is calculated assuming that the product (water) meets a certain threshold of quality and safety. As residents continue to pay for a product that is below reasonable safety standards (the federal 15 ppb action level clearly does not protect public health), we deserve for the water (not sewer) portion of our water bills to be suspended until the Flint water system reaches equilibrium and the product consistently meets safety standards. The City of Flint should also work with community-based groups to develop a Water Affordability Plan, as other cities have done, to adjust water bill rates based on household income.

Finally, it is important that the City of Flint act upon feedback from the community about the process of the water source planning as well as the plan itself. I hope my comments are seriously considered because I think they are important feedback for the City and the well-being of my community, and I took time out of my life to write them. I also feel that this public comment period was a disingenuous display of public participation by the City, like checking a box to say that a 30-day public comment period was offered. In fact, the City did not disclose its full information about the various water source options to the public until the near-end of the public comment period, making it difficult to for anyone beyond the walls of government to understand the assumptions that underlie the rankings of alternative water source combinations and make info truly informed public

comment about the water source decision itself. Also, it seems clear that the City of Flint already made a firm decision about the water source selection prior to the start of the public comment period. I understand that there are many pressures on City officials to move quickly and solidify the deals that were negotiated for the water source plan. However, it is equally if not more important for the City of Flint to rebuild trust in government processes through any public process it puts in motion. I am concerned that the way this public comment period was rolled out, including an unwillingness to extend it even by a couple of weeks based on the late release of information to the public, has again undermined public trust.

6. Please find attached comments regarding Flint's water source recommendation. Please contact me with any questions. Thank you for your consideration. See comment in separate attachment.

(Note: Attached was an 11-page analysis from the American Water Works Association. It stated in part: "The AWWA team concluded that the preferred option from the mayor – to continue receiving water from GLWA – is in the best interests of the citizens of Flint. The recommendation clearly makes sense from a public health standpoint, because it avoids the water quality risks introduced by switching to a future water source....")

7. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the City of Flint's proposed water source recommendation.

The proposed selection of water sources for Flint for the long term appear to offer some significant benefits for Flint compared to the short-term arrangements of the last few years. Although final agreements are yet to be drawn up, the City anticipates achieving some measure of financial relief as well as firm access to treated Lake Huron water and regional programs for customer assistance. The recent "Statement of Principles on Long Term Water Delivery to the City of Flint" shows constructive engagement by all the signatory agencies.

As the City prepares for entering into new long-term contracts, the terms and conditions of water delivery from the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) will carry major financial implications for years to come. Flint would be served under a long term contract, but rates and charges are set, and frequently revised, by the GLWA. The rate-setting methodology itself is subject to revision by the Authority. GLWA has a six-member board, made up of two appointees chosen by Detroit and one each chosen by Wayne, Oakland, and McComb Counties, and one appointee of the Governor. Flint appears to be the largest jurisdiction by far that is served by the Authority but not represented on its board. Unlike some other states, Michigan does not require water authorities serving outside their incorporating communities to get rates and charges approved by a state public service commission, so GLWA has full latitude over its own rates. It should also be noted that the MOU signed by the incorporating communities prior to the Authority's establishment limits the growth of the GLWA budget to 4% in any one year, but that does not mean that the charges for any one customer will not increase by more than that.

This is not to suggest that any of the rate-setting methodology of the GLWA to date has been unfair or unorthodox. Rather, we simply believe that it is prudent and fair that Flint should have a seat at the decision-making table – the GLWA board of directors -- when rate-making policies are established or revised. This could be accomplished by an amendment to the articles of incorporation, and does not require new legislation. We believe this action would provide an additional measure of protection for the citizens of Flint for decades to come.

8. The people of Flint has absolutely no reason to pay taxes for a service that they have not received!! You poison their water and expect then to give you money for it?! Provide the services you promise to provide (clean drinking water) and they will gladly pay. It is cruel and unusual to make people pay for something they're not receiving ON TOP of having to pay out of pocket for a NECESSITY TO LIFE that you were supposed to be giving them in the first place! SICK!!!

I've come across a post explaining that you plan to evict over 8,000 people from their homes over unpaid water taxes. If you follow through with this plan, you are going to have much more than a water crisis on hand.

You cannot force people to pay taxes for services they are not receiving, and that is exactly what you are attempting to do. Since you are not (and have not been) providing clean water for years, you have no right to charge people for it. That is theft.

Aside from the fact that you are attempting to extort money from your people, it is ridiculously apparent that you don't care about their well being in the slightest. Where do you expect these 8,000 people will go? You can't just brush 8,000 people under the rug, especially if you are the reason they are homeless.

Fix your problems before attempting to blame others for them. Take care of your constituents. Be responsible.

9. Your History with Detroit Water Authority (GLWA) has been all unacceptable, and with Our leaders in this City of Flint, from the Mayor on down to the City Council Members.

Therefore, the only recommendation to the question of which permanent primary water and back-up drinking water source, GLWA or Genesee County, the City of Flint should be connected with. Should be left up to the people of the City of Flint. Therefore, this should be voted by the Residents of the City of Flint.

This is the only acceptable way to answer the question? Which permanent primary and back-up drinking water source, GLWA or Genesee County, the City of Flint should be connected with.

A Vote by the Residents of the City of Flint, is the only answer to this question.

10. It is my understanding that this is the place where residents can comment on plans for the future source of Flint water. It is my opinion we should stay with the plan. We should raise the funds to renovate our purification facility and we should hook up to the Karegnondi Water Authority. This may look like an expensive option, however after years of paying water rates more than twice of anyone I know in the nation, I do not trust the City of Flint to broker a deal with Detroit that will be affordable for the people of Flint.
11. I don't think we should continue using Detroit as a water source after the pipeline is completed. In my own opinion, if we had properly trained people working at our water plant, this problem may have been averted. There were a number of people who came to Flint to check chemical levels after the water problem was found. That tells me that we didn't have the right people working at the water plant here after THE SWITCH was pulled. Knowing how many empty manufacturing plants that sat next to the river for over half a century should have been the first thing thought of before even changing water sources in the first place. I graduated in the 70's and I remember teachers telling us in junior high school about how clean the Flint River used to be when they were young and clean enough to swim in. Flint is turning into another charity city and as long as we continue to be a gimme, gimme, city, we will never become independent enough to take care of our own problems. I'm sorry if you disagree with me but I am not the only one that feels this way. I was using bottled water for drinking and cooking long before this problem arose. Spring Mountain Water Company knows me well.
12. As a Flint resident I expect more. That people in this city were served shut off notices and then liens is abominable. AID should have been offered with any kind of notice and there should have been a greater effort to reach the people who are having trouble paying those bills. We have a deep seated distrust of officials and of the water in this city and the city is not relieving this. LOW COST is a term we have heard a hundred times yet we still pay more for our water, water we do not trust, than anyone in this state.  
  
That is laughable. This entire situation is ridiculous. An investigation into the Karagondi Water Authority needs be done and answers have to become clear. Why was this done in the first place? We have no choice but to crawl back to Detroit and they will raise prices as their whims decide because we have no ability to even treat our own water.  
  
Work needs to be done. LOTS of work. No more talk. No more press conferences. No more celebrities. WORK.
13. It is my opinion we need to switch to the KWA as the main water source. We have too many millions already invested to give up on our plan.
14. First, I would like to know why the card I received in the mail "inviting comments during a thirty (30) day period which closes on May 20,2017 " did not arrive at my home via US mail until May 12,2017? Hence, my thirty (30) days is limited to eight (8) days! Second, a few years back the City of Flint pledged to both its citizens and the contractor that we would be hooking into the new pipeline being built from Port Huron. I believe I've heard news

accounts that report our "pledge" means a substantial amount of money was promised toward the construction of said pipeline. What of that? Are we obligated to fulfill that pledge as well as pay for the current participation with the GLWA? Your claim is that remaining with the current GLWA will : 1) "protect public health. " Our health has already been compromised and you cannot guarantee that the old infrastructure coming out of Detroit will not suffer similar problems that Flint's own pipes did. Thereby you are setting us up for another water crisis by remaining with the GLWA instead of hooking into the brand new water service that we were promised. 2) give "relief for residents, " 3) "Lower cost options." I have lived in the City of Flint for nearly forty (40) years and I have severely limited my water usage to short showers, washing dishes once a week, two (2) loads of laundry a month, flushing every other use of the toilet, no car washing or lawn watering, etc. yet my bill continues to rise. So, frankly, I do not believe your claim! 4) "pipe replacement" and "upgrades to the system." Currently, I am aware that several "free" replacement projects are underway throughout the city that have been funded by State and Federal monies. While I realize that this is a huge project, I do not believe that this type of work will be determined by the source of our water, but rather by the governing officials entrusted to tackle these types of issues. Hence, it is not WHERE our water comes from that determines our infrastructure development, but rather WHO is directing it, All this is to say: I do not support remaining with the GLWA but instead support hooking into the new pipeline out of Port Huron--- as I did years back when we initially "pledged" to be a part of this new and promising adventure.

(Note: A city official replied to email to inform the sender of the various methods utilized to get information to the public over the last month and to let the sender know about the information is posted on the city's website under the Water Source Recommendation 2017 tab for review.)

15. I attended the meeting today at Brennan Center and wanted to suggest potentially a .5 (5 cents) per gallon gas increase to help pay the \$196 million bond payment owed KVA. I would also tax liquor and cigarettes but at the very least gas, the least of which will be missed!

Also would suggest we not lock ourselves in a 30 year contract under any circumstances as Flint needs the mobility to grow into their own several years down the road when this "tragedy" has subsided. Being only 5% of KVA's overall income they should not mind a "caveat" in our business solution or partnership! It is a negotiating point, they probably need our business as much as we need them!

We must keep in mind that our government needs to take ownership and accountability for the problem that they created (EPA, Snyder's office) and the solution to restoring us whole! With that in the forefront please structure a contract that is unique to our situation, not business as usual.

16. I do agree we need to stay with GLWA. I am concerned about the pipe replacement bullet point. I was under the impression that this was paid for by the government. I hope there is someone checking every single cent and following up with the progress of the timely repair of our pipes. We do need a new infrastructure of pipes, so I hope that good quality pipes and pumps are being used. It also says Helps Flint position itself to build a state of the art system. I am concerned about cost and accountability on these matters. Please do the right thing for the citizens of Flint!
17. my last water testing was read at 44ppm. It was from a bathroom on first floor. I am not happy it is reading high. I would need to know why the GLWA is a better source than the Karagonda system. Is our money going towards the Karagonda pipeline? a if not,, then, the GLWA would be fine, but what is backup you are talking about? How will the current source of water be treated and what will make it safe?

a new water plant is needed with up to date technology. I am for that.better to spend money on that then to pay for a state pipeline that doesn't give us pure water.

why can't low income folks still be helped with water bills with a different water system? should be the same with both pipelines. the same services should be the same for both. I prefer the safest system, purer water, whichever gives us the best quality.

since my readings are high, i called to get pipes changed, I was told I am not in this next phase. anything i need to comment on, let me know.

(Note: A city official replied to this email to inform the sender of all the information posted on the city's website under the Water Source Recommendation 2017 tab for review.)

18. I'm thinking it may be a good idea to stay with the GLWA for our water source and I'm hoping that our rates don't go up as is the concern that so many residents have. I do agree with some of the highlights stated in the card I received. At the present time, these are just some of my comments. Thank you for allowing our voices to be heard.
19. Consider this my vote to stay with the GWLA as the primary source for Flint water. Thank you for soliciting my opinion!
20. I agree-go with GLWA.
21. The residents of Flint want to be involved in the determination of our future water source. But we need more information!

Mayor Weaver's recommendation makes various claims of the superiority of the GLWA over the new pipeline (I assume that is the "Genesee County" option.

Please provide details to support these claims (independent verification of accuracy would be quite helpful):

- 1) What kind of low-income assistance would be available under each option, and what is available now? Are there any guarantees that these programs will be implemented?
- 2) What are the projected costs for each option? What are the projected costs for using the pipeline as a primary source and the Flint River (with proper treatment this time) as a secondary source?
- 3) How does staying with GLWA increase the pipe replacement funding? By how much?
- 4) How does staying with GLWA decrease the costs of distribution system improvements? By how much?

If the chief advantage of staying with GLWA is that "it worked before," then we have been saddled with a massive expense with no benefit whatsoever and the current administration must be held accountable, not for the decision to incur the expense, but for defrauding the residents of this city of the rewards of their investment.

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22. Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on the question of Flint's long term water supply. It is commendable to see the various partners coming together and supporting the proposed recommendation as a sign of their willingness to be involved in a solution. I strongly agree with public health being the utmost priority and I appreciated seeing that acknowledged.

I have a number of concerns that I ask you to consider. First of all, 30 days is not long enough for Flint's residents and independent community experts to learn about the recommendation, ask questions, receive answers back and have a truly informed opinion. I suggest the public comment period be extended to a total of 60 or 90 days with an interim step of the administration providing comments back to residents initial questions and requests for more information.

The public also deserves to see more information on the financial projections and comparisons among the options as they have been presented. Given the historic importance of this decision, projections should be provided for 20, 30, 40 and 50 year timeframes. The 30 year time frame is particularly important if that is the proposed length of the contract with GLWA for Detroit water. Without a rate increase guarantee from Detroit, compounded rate

hikes become unaffordable. Consider going back to GLWA and negotiating a cap of an inflationary increase on our rate. Children are put at risk, families suffer, and the system gets strained when people are not paying their bills and having access to water.

I also believe the financial projection should show the portion of the cost of each scenario that will be paid by residents through bills and that will be paid by state and federal funds. As residents, we should not be burdened. The grants and other state and federal funds should be available upfront to pay for the necessary upgrades. This approach could be used to design a state-of-the-art water plant that would be an asset to the city long-term and allow participation in the KWA.

I recognize that there is a decision about using funds for treatment and supply versus for the distribution system. The reality is that we need both to be improved. One way to account for this would be to show the projected change in asset value for the plant and the distribution system in each scenario. Initial capital and operating costs have been shown to the public but we do not have an estimate of the net asset value over time in each scenario.

This is a complex decision. Please take all of our questions, concerns and suggestions into account and go back to the table with a proposal the entire community supports.

23. Hello, As a Flint resident, I feel that we should go with the second option of reopening our water treatment plant, treating our own water and using Genesee County as our back up.

This does a couple of things.

Allows Flint to own its water supply and give us an asset to sell to others.

Provide a few more jobs via opening the Flint water treatment plant.

This option will give us local control over water pricing.

As someone who grew up in poverty, and worked his way out of it (all while living in Flint), I can tell you the cheapest option is not always the best option.

Please take more time to think about Flint actually owning an asset as opposed to going with the cheapest and most corrupt option. The gentleman from GLWA even said that he could guarantee no significant rate hikes in the future. This means that there will be rate hikes in the near future, just not significant. Also, we will have no local control over our water prices. GLWA is one of the reasons we had the water crisis. This goes against the Karen About Flint platform that got Dr. Karen Weaver elected. It seems as if the mayor and her staff do not care what her constituents want nor do they care about correcting the water crisis

24. I do not believe this is a good idea. It will seal our fate for 20 years. The pipeline will allow us to control our destiny and will allow to properly adjust rates in the future. This is not good business.
25. I am writing this e-mail to voice my support for staying on the GLWA system. I am concerned with the high water rates we are currently paying though. I am hoping that you may be able to find a solution to this issue as well?

I watched a stream of the town-hall meeting held at the House of Prayer Missionary Baptist Church on 20th April 2017. We are part of the 70% who pay their water bills regular and on time; It is not right or proper that we must pay more to cover the cost of those who will not pay. It is also very disturbing that we must pay so much for water that is not considered safe for consumption. When the gentleman said something along the lines of 'the water is considered safe, but consult your physician' it does little to foster trust (though I do genuinely appreciate his candid honesty).

Three years is a long time to get the pipes fixed. Perhaps there is a constructive way we as a community could assist in expediting this process? Maybe an additional all volunteer workforce? You are probably aware of a group of water protectors called "Camp Promise", I can appreciate their concern for the community. I also respect that they have the courage to take a stand for their beliefs. I do believe these people really care and are



understandably frustrated. We all are. I don't however think that protesting is going to be the solution to this complex issue. If a volunteer workforce was established it would give motivated individuals, maybe like those at Camp Promise, a productive and proactive outlet for rebuilding a safe drinking water infrastructure in the City of Flint

I would also like to voice my disappointed to see that people were unfortunately arrested at the town-hall. I agree that disruptions should not be tolerated. Jailing people that didn't really commit a crime seems senseless, possibly illegal?. Living in Flint I have witnessed some unpleasant crimes such as: a stabbing, cases of domestic violence that have moved from someones house into our front yard, and what appears to be fairly regular drug deals on our street. Our police have a tough and dangerous job and these town-hall arrests seem like a waste of city resources when compared to actual crimes.

I make no excuses for people swearing in a church either; I agree its bad and disrespectful to the LORD. I certainly wouldn't want to hear it in my church, but you can't invite the public into a church and expect those who may not be Christian to behave as though they are. I would rather see these individuals ejected from the meeting. The last thing we need is a civil rights lawsuit held against the city. It could be costly and I dread the thought of the city falling further into financial straits, and ending up with another emergency manager.

I do apologize for the lengthy letter. I also would like to close by saying thank you for serving our city and looking to find solutions to our current crisis. I am in full support of your recommendation that we stay with Detroit's GLWA. It truly does seem the safest step in light of all that has occurred.

26. I am concerned that the citizens of Flint have not been given significant or definite information on how much it is going to cost for each source that is being considered to supply our water. We need to have a or list, comparing "apples to apples" not "oranges to apples" How much is it going to cost for 10yrs, 20yrs etc for each source. I am also concerned that this is being pushed through by the Mayor without the citizens having any or enough information. I am a little skeptical when they say if we go with what the Mayor wants it will lower the cost for the Genesee County residents, wait a minute!! We are paying and subsidizing someone else's water ?!

We need information that a 3rd grader can understand!

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27. I am very disappointed at the level of detail provided by the City on the various options and the analysis of those options. I don't support the recommendation - or any recommendation - until such time as we can get the details of the options including the assumptions and figures that went into the analysis. I think we should have 30 days of public comment after we are provided the information. How are we supposed to provide a comment on something we know nothing about?

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28. As a resident of Flint who is tired of being ripped off by our high water rates, I want to switch to KWA. After the trash collection debacle I do not trust Mayor Weaver's judgement. Being on the KWA does not make us subject to Detroit's whims.
29. Please stop postponing change! The whole water crisis came about due to the cost of water coming from Detroit (or so they told us at the time when they said it was in the COF's best interest to go with the new pipeline). So, why the mayor would choose to remain with them, let alone sign a 30 year contract with GLWA is beyond me.

The current water rates are unaffordable! I live alone and my average bill is \$80/mo, and while I barely use it the consumption amount varies month to month like a pingpong ball, even though my water use does not change. As a citizen in the position to move I am tired of lie after lie, and broken promise after broke promise. I feel that

either the COF must move forward, or it's citizens are going to move elsewhere.

Please keep in mind that residents have been told for several years by COF officials that they planned to upgrade the water treatment plant and to process raw water from the Karengondi Water Authority pipeline once it was complete. So for once please do what was promised, and move us forward. If you have any hope of restoring the trust of the citizens please do not support the mayor's recommendation, and instead go with upgrading the COF water plant and KWA.

30. I'm a single working person who has been a resident for soon 11 years and I don't mind paying my water bill in which that is not the issue I am having.

My issue is out of a \$88.88 water bill, \$34.48 is Sewer Service Charge and Water Service Charge is \$22.90.

So out of my total bill of \$88.88, \$57.38 is service charges. I've been very conservative about my usage and with the problems the city has had in the last few years, I would like to know when will the service charges equal to what is actually being used.

This is what the actual numbers show on my monthly bill:

sewer non-metered....	.\$12.93
sewer service charge...	<b>\$34.48</b>
water.....	\$18.57