

**Council Member Hoey, Anane, Balarin, Clarke, Farrell, Frederick, Flynn, Keegan, Romero, and Zamer, with the support of Council President Ellis introduced the following, which was approved:**

**LOCAL LAW K OF 2023**

**A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 371 (WATER AND WATERWAYS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO ADDING FLUORIDE COMPOUNDS TO THE WATER SUPPLY**

*Be it enacted by the Common Council of the City of Albany as follows:*

**Section 1.** Chapter 371 (Water and Waterways) of Part II (General Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany are amended by adding a new Article IX (Fluoridation) to read as follows:

**§ 371-92 Purpose and Findings**

Pursuant to § 1100-A of the Public Health Law, municipalities which own both their public water system and the water supply for such system may by local law provide whether a fluoride compound shall be added to such public water supply. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, fluoride is very effective in preventing cavities when present in drinking water at an optimal level of 0.7 mg/L. This reduces dental complications later in life, as well as medical expenses, and protects the health of the residents of the City of Albany.

**§ 371-93 Fluoridation of Municipal Water Supply.**

The Commissioner of the Albany Water Department shall establish rules and regulations necessary to determine the optimal concentration of Fluoride in the water supply in accordance with guidelines from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, as well as to monitor and maintain that level of Fluoride concentration within the water supply. The Albany Water Department shall then fluoridate the water pursuant to those rules and regulations.

**§ 371-94 Approval of Changes to Fluoride Compounds**

Any additional changes to the target fluoride concentration within the water supply shall be approved by resolution of the Common Council.

**Section 2.** This Local Law shall take effect upon final passage, public hearing, and filing with the Secretary of State

**APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS  
6<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023**

---

**Corporation Counsel**

**To:** Shaniqua Jackson, Acting City Clerk

**From:** Jake Eisland, Research Counsel

**Re:** Common Council Legislation  
Supporting Memorandum

**Date:** October 6, 2023

**Sponsor:** Council Member Hoey

## **LOCAL LAW K OF 2023**

### **TITLE**

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 371 (WATER AND WATERWAYS) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO ADDING FLUORIDE COMPOUNDS TO THE WATER SUPPLY

### **GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION**

This legislation will direct the Albany Water Department to Fluoridate the Water supply, improving dental health within the city of Albany and reducing healthcare disparities.

### **NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND ANY CHANGE TO EXISTING LAW**

Fluoridation of water supplies is a crucial public health intervention aimed at reducing dental caries (tooth decay) in communities. By introducing controlled amounts of fluoride into the public water supply, the enamel of teeth is strengthened, making them more resistant to decay-causing acids produced by bacteria in the mouth. This not only benefits children, whose developing teeth are especially susceptible to cavities, but also adults, enhancing oral health throughout a person's life. Additionally, widespread fluoridation serves as an egalitarian approach, ensuring that individuals across various socioeconomic backgrounds receive its protective benefits. Over time, the cumulative benefits of water fluoridation can lead to significant reductions in dental treatment costs and improved overall public dental health.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

TBD.

**Passed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:**

*Local Law K of 2023 was co-sponsored by Council Members Johnson and Kimbrough*

Affirmative – Anane, Balarin, Clarke, Farrell, Flynn, Frederick, Hoey, Johnson, Keegan,  
Kimbrough, Romero, and Zamer

Abstain – Love

Affirmative: 12    Negative: 0    Abstain: 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Common Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Common Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk and Clerk of the Common Council, do hereby certify that Local Law K of 2023 was passed at a meeting of the Albany Common Council on February 22, 2024.

In affirmation thereof, I hereto set my hand and affix The Seal of the City of Albany this 11th day of April, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shaniqua Jackson, Clerk of the Common Council