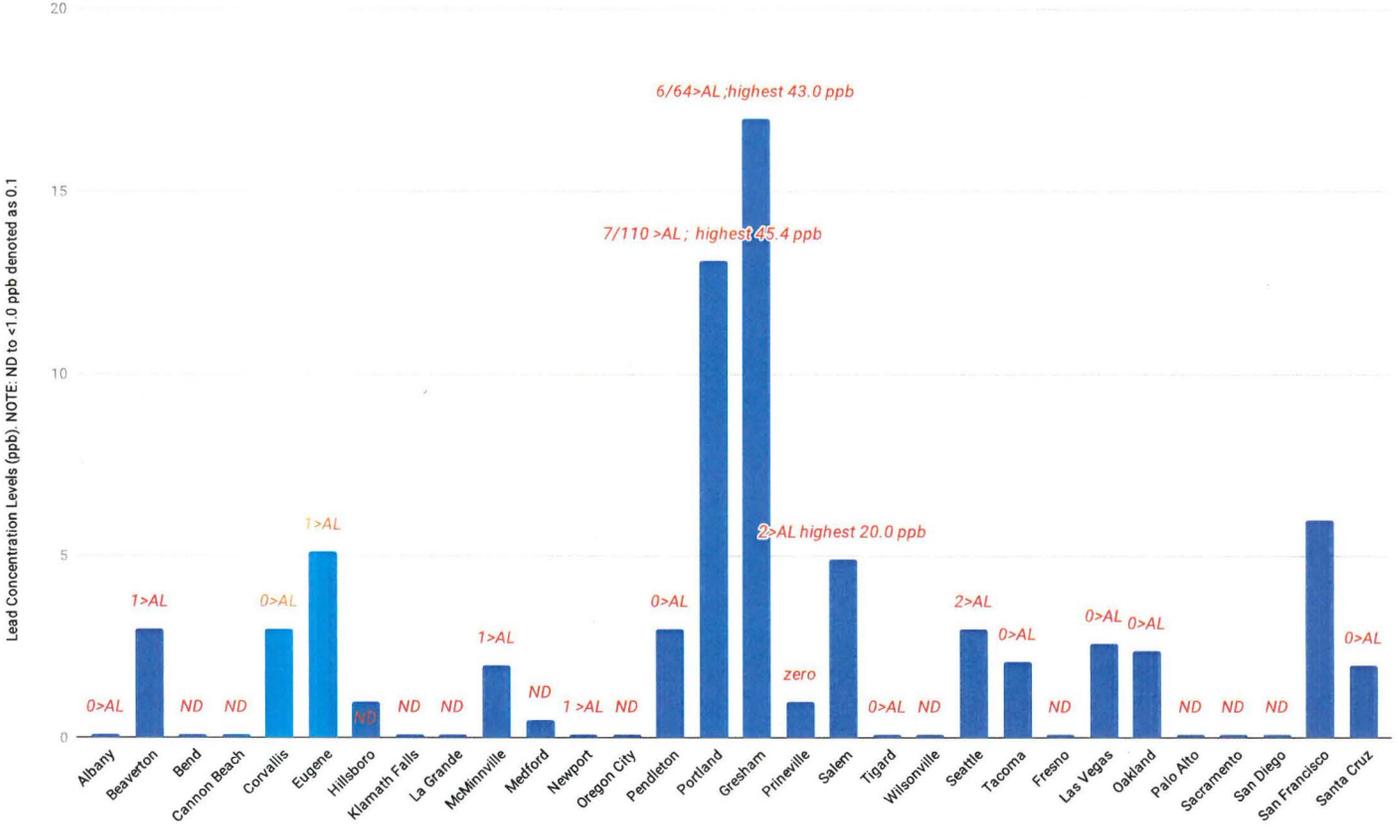


Albany	0.1
Beaverton	3
Bend	0.1
Cannon Beach	0.1
Corvallis	3
Eugene	5.1
Hillsboro	1
Klamath Falls	0.1
La Grande	0.1
McMinnville	2
Medford	0.5
Newport	0.1
Oregon City	0.1
Pendleton	3
<b>Portland</b>	<b>13.1</b>
<b>Gresham</b>	<b>17</b>
Prineville	1
Salem	4.9
Tigard	0.1
Wilsonville	0.1
Seattle	3
Tacoma	2.1
Fresno	0.1
Las Vegas	2.6
Oakland	2.4
Palo Alto	0.1
Sacramento	0.1
San Diego	0.1
San Francisco	6
Santa Cruz	2

Lead in water - regulated at consumer taps: 90th percentile results Source - 2019 Annual WQ Reports/state drinking water database



October 23, 2019

977 Request of Dee White to address Council regarding the failure of the Water Bureau to deliver safe drinking water to its customers (Communication)

My name is Dee White.

Even after the Flint lead crisis in 2014 and even after Newark, New Jersey's recent lead crisis, PWB is still allowing a potent neurotoxin to leach into our drinking water while they slow-walk a risky fix that's three years away.

It is well known that even at low levels, lead is a potent, irreversible neurotoxin that's especially damaging to expectant mothers and children's developing brains. Groundbreaking research at OHSU found a link between lead exposure and ADHD.

### **Why does this matter here?**

The Portland Water Bureau is the only utility in the country granted permission 22 years ago by their regulator, the Oregon Health Authority, to NOT FOLLOW the EPA's *Lead and Copper Rule* otherwise known as the LCR. Instead, the water bureau crafted their own regulation and called it the LHRP. OHA gave it their blessing and it still stands today. This outdated, Portland-only regulation focuses on mitigating lead paint in lieu of properly treating corrosive water and maintaining our pipes.

Moreover, after decades of this unproven regulation, there is no data, no findings, nothing to show that the Portland Water Bureau has minimized lead exposure in our homes, schools, parks, and businesses. NOTHING. If the Portland Water Bureau had been following the federal

law like the cities on this chart, Portland's lead levels would be significantly lower.

So on this chart, Portland and Gresham are in the middle, the two tall ones. Gresham is a water bureau customer. Seattle got to work decades ago, Newark is handing out free water filters and replacing damaged pipes. Our water officials simply chat up the water at the same time they blame customers if they find lead at their taps.

You claim transparency, and yet no one knows about your Portland-only regulation that's broken and that continues to endanger public health.

The public also remains in the dark *about* buying an \$800,000 "job shack" on today's agenda for the massive Filtration plant being sold to us for crypto but now, *apparently*, it's for wildfires. Project costs just went up an obscene 142% because of the water bureau's gross lack of transparency.

**How can we trust you are delivering safe, affordable life-sustaining drinking water when omissions and an opaque process is standard operating procedure? In other words, what else have we been misled about?**

**From:** [Dee White](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** sign up for September  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 16, 2019 1:02:03 PM

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Dear Council Clerk,  
I would like to request a spot for communications in September.

Please let me know what dates are available. My subject:

The failure of the Portland Water Bureau to deliver safe drinking water to its customers.

Thank you  
Dee White

**From:** [McClymont, Keelan](#)  
**To:** ["Dee White"](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Request for communication change  
**Date:** Monday, August 5, 2019 3:33:00 PM

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Hi Dee,

Thank you for your request for a Communications spot. You are confirmed for a spot on the October 23<sup>rd</sup> Portland City Council agenda. Communications are the first item on the official agenda and we start at 9:30 a.m. You will have three minutes to speak but you may also submit written material, please provide seven copies.

Communications allow the Council to hear issues that interest our community members. It is not customary, but Council members may choose to ask you clarifying questions or make comments.

Council takes place at City Hall, 1221 SW 4th Ave., 2nd floor, Council Chambers.

Please let me know if you are not able to keep this appointment.

Thanks,

**Keelan McClymont**

Assistant Council Clerk | City of Portland  
(503) 823-4085

**From:** Dee White <deewhite1@mindspring.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 5, 2019 3:15 PM  
**To:** McClymont, Keelan <Keelan.McClymont@portlandoregon.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Request for communication change

OK then please put me on wait list for September 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. And I would like to sign up for October 23.

Thanks, Keelan,

Dee

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**From:** McClymont, Keelan [<mailto:Keelan.McClymont@portlandoregon.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 05, 2019 2:10 PM  
**To:** Dee White  
**Subject:** RE: Request for communication change

Hi Dee,

Thanks for letting us know about the change to your availability. At this time, there are no openings on the 18<sup>th</sup> or the 25<sup>th</sup>. I will add you to the wait list for September. The next available Communication spot is October 23<sup>rd</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup>, though the Mayor will be absent both days. Please let me know if you want to schedule one of the October spots.

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977

Request of Dee White to address Council regarding the failure of the Water Bureau to deliver safe drinking water to its customers (Communication)

OCT 23 2019

PLACED ON FILE

Filed OCT 15 2019  
**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
Auditor of the City of Portland  
By   
Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Hardesty		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		