

**CITY OF DEARBORN
WATER SYSTEM ADVISORY COUNCIL (WSAC)
MEETING MINUTES
Dearborn Public Works Administration Training Room
3:00 pm, Wednesday, October 21, 2026**

Board Attendance	Present	Absent	Term End Date
Mayor Abdullah Hammoud		X	Indefinite
Timothy Hawkins, Chairperson, Mayor Appointment	X		6/30/2028
Nicole Golich, Secretary, Mayor Appointment	X		6/30/2028
Soud El-Jamaly, Mayor Appointment	X		6/30/2028
Sam Smalley, Council Appointment	X		6/30/2028
Claudia Walters, Mayor Appointment	X		6/30/2028
Daniel Hensley Alford, Mayor Appointment	X		6/30/2028

Other Attendance	Present	Absent
Erika Giroux, Deputy Counsel	X	
Mark Gaworecki, City Infrastructure Manager	X	

Roll Call Time: 3:05 pm

Quorum Met (Needs 3 attending members for a quorum): Yes

1. Consideration of approval of previous meeting minutes.

Motion by: Soud El-Jamaly

Support by: Samuel Smalley

Roll-Call Vote

Unanimous

2. Update on Lead Line Replacement

Tim Hawkins provided an update on the City's lead service lines. The current inventory includes 23,042 service lines with no known lead, 4,722 service lines with unknown material, and 4,978 confirmed lead service lines.

Sam Smalley asked about the success rate of the City's inventory model. Tim reported a 99% success rate and stated that the City's goal is to identify all unknown service lines by the end of 2027.

The City has secured \$13 million for private-side lead service line replacements. In 2026, approximately 500 lead service lines have been replaced to date. This replacement plan will be carried out over three years. Additionally, the City received \$8 million in state funding for lead service line replacements.

Sam Smalley discussed the requirement to develop a plan by 2027 outlining how the City intends to remove all lead service lines by 2037. Tim explained the City's approach and the intent to apply for additional grants to support the replacement program.

The City of Dearborn has approximately 364 miles of water main. Through the new road bond, the City plans to address approximately 1,000 lead service lines in conjunction with water main and road replacement projects.

In 2028, the City plans to apply for a State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan to address the remaining lead service lines. Tim noted that future funding opportunities are expected to include less principal forgiveness and reduced funding availability.

Sam shared his experience speaking at a webinar and discussed lessons learned from other states. He explained that violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act can prompt the need to identify and secure resources to address infrastructure issues. He noted that this is a challenge faced by states across the country.

Tim identified microplastics as another emerging concern for the water industry. He also emphasized that the City has an internal deadline to complete the lead service line replacement work as soon as possible, ahead of the federally mandated deadline.

3. Other Business Items

Tim asked Sam Smalley about ongoing challenges with obtaining valves and water meters. Sam explained that water meters have been the primary concern.

The City has transitioned to cellular data communications through Verizon and AT&T and is piloting meter interface units (MIUs) in basements. Signal strength remains the biggest challenge.

The City is paying Hydrocorp to assist with meter replacements. When technicians are able to access a home, they replace the meter. The City is currently using a variety of meter types and would like to phase out all compound meters over time.

Dan requested an update on the sewer project. Tim reported that the project covers approximately 12,000 homes and 900 acres.

4. Next meeting

Friday, October 22, 2027 at 3pm

5. Public Comments

N/A

6. Meeting Adjourned 3:34pm

Motion by:

Support by:

Roll-Call Vote

Sam Smalley

Claudia Walter

Unanimous