



Water Advisory Council

March 12, 2025

8:00 am

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comments on Agenda Items
3. Approval of Minutes – January 8, 2025
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Updates
 - a. Lead Reducing Water Kit distribution in 3rd Ward (Contreras)
 - b. YTD Lead Service Line Replacements map (Jernberg)
 - c. Lead Reduction Initiative for 3rd Ward (Healthy Homes)
 - d. State Drinking Water Advisory Council (Jernberg)
 - e. Lead Service Line Construction Projects (Jernberg)
 - i. Upcoming Projects
 - ii. Filter distribution
 - f. Corrosion Control (Jernberg)
 - g. Member Updates
 - i. Need a new member from a neighborhood association and City of GR
6. Public Comment
7. Next Meeting – May 14
8. Adjournment

Water Advisory Council
January 8, 2025
8:00 am
MINUTES

Members Present

Izamar Contreras (City of GR), Paul Haan (Muskegon River Watershed), James Hurt (Managing Director of Public Works, City of GR), Wayne Jernberg (Chairperson, City of GR), Doug La Fave (City of East Grand Rapids), Sara Simmonds (Kent County Health Department), Jennifer Williams (GRPS)

Others Present

Kolene Allen (City of GR), Elyse Boardman (Healthy Homes), Kat Lykins (Healthy Homes), Jameela Maun (Healthy Homes), Hannah Napolillo (Kent County Health Department). Brittany Pazdan (Healthy Homes)

Call to Order

Mr. Jernberg called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

Member Introductions

Since there were so many new people at the meeting everyone introduced themselves.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes – November 13, 2024

Motion to approve the minutes by Ms. Simmonds second by Mr. Hurt.

MOTION CARRIED.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the minutes by Ms. Simmonds and second by Mr. Haan.

MOTION CARRIED.

Updates

Draft Handouts

Ms. Contreras showed a draft handout about the City of Grand Rapids Water System. The front is in English and has information about the Water Department and Lead Service Line Replacements. The back will be in Spanish. Ms. Contreras also suggested adding something about the filter program. Mr. Jernberg suggested making it a separate item.

Lead Reduction Initiative for 3rd Ward – Healthy Homes

Ms. Lykins from (Healthy Homes) attended nine events recently and distributed kits to as many people as they could. At Baxter Community Center they handed out 32 kits in two days. They have also been sending out mailers, around 310 in December.

State Drinking Water Advisory Council

- **Local Water Council Presentation** – Mr. Jernberg stated that Ms. Contreras is going to take the lead on presenting to the State Council in March. Ms. Contreras has begun putting information together and Mr. Jernberg said he'd like to create a video that interviews some of the members on the council to help educate the public on what we are doing.
- **EGLE Newsletter** – Mr. Jernberg presented the latest newsletter released by EGLE on the Statewide Drinking Water Advisory Council Newsletter. He committed that the City of Grand Rapids will give the presentation for the 1st quarter of 2025. Members can read through the newsletter which discusses the action level for lead in drinking water among other information summarizing the work from 2024. Mr. Jernberg stated that December 16th was the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act. It was landmark legislation that still guides much of our work. Mr. Jernberg talked about the work that Jennifer Morse, the SDWAC medical professional representative, has been doing to educate the public about the potential lead exposure from drinking water. In October 2023, two laws were passed in Michigan, Public Act 146 of 2023 and Public Act 145 of 2023, requiring physicians to test, or order a test, for lead in the blood of children at age 1 and 2 years of age, and if for some reason a child did not get tested when younger, they can be tested between the ages of 2 and 6 years of age. Before the laws can go into effect, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services must establish administrative rules which are expected to be finished early 2025. The rules must identify areas in the state that are at higher risk for childhood lead poisoning and children living in these areas must have additional lead testing at the age of 4 years. Unfortunately, universal testing and the additional follow up is costly. More testing will be done and billed to insurance. There will be more elevated levels discovered that will need follow up by public health nursing case management and lead remediation teams will be needed to remove the sources of lead. Additional funding and needed workforce were not accounted for in the new laws.

The newsletter commenced with reminders of the upcoming state lead and copper deadlines, as well as upcoming meetings.

2024 Lead and Copper Sampling

Mr. Jernberg stated that Grand Rapids is at 6.1 part per billion. The state requires anyone who tests over 5 parts per billion, you are required to shift to a yearly test cycle.

Grand Rapids, at 6, is at the 90th percentile reporting level. We became more proactive two years ago in how we replaced lead service lines. This year our threshold was if a household tested above 8 parts/billion then it qualified for a lead line replacement. The theory behind that was to try to get those high lead levels out of the system. Two years ago, we were at 14 parts/billion and last year it was 8.5 parts/billion. Grand Rapids is constantly adding new locations, around 30% new locations a year to our sampling site list.

YTD Lead Service Line Replacements

As of December 2024, slightly around 1400 lead service lines have been replaced in the City of Grand Rapids. The goal for 2025 is to replace 2000.

Mr. La Fave presented a lead service line replacement map of East Grand Rapids that started on June 30th through the end of the year and are following Grand Rapids lead on replacing lines testing higher than 8 parts. They plan to have every line inspected by Summer of 2026, or 4000 lines.

Lead Service Line Construction Projects

Mr. Jernberg gave a report on the Lead Service Line Replacement projects for 2024.

Kent County Lead Action Team Update

Ms. Contreras reported that she attended the last Kent County Lead Action Team meeting. She said she learned a lot of what is happening in the community and she'd like to keep attending. Ms. Boardman stated that it is great that Ms. Contreras will keep attending.

Member Updates

- AWWA letter – Mr. Jernberg included a letter from the American Water works Association released a letter regarding the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements in which they are requesting a review of the LCRI rule. The letter states that the AWWA doesn't believe the EPA has the best intentions when it created the LCRI. They are concerned about the LCRI's approach to lead lines on private property. The City of Grand Rapids is planning to budget \$9 million for FY2026. If the 10-year rule goes into effect, then we will likely be looking at a deadline of all lead lines to be replaced by 2037. Mr. Jernberg would like the City to be done by the mid-2030s.
- New member from a neighborhood association - Mr. Jernberg reported that Fran Dalton is retiring from the neighborhood association, so we are looking to add a new member from one of the neighborhood associations. If anyone knows someone who might be interested, he asked that we engage with them and see if anyone wants to join the council.

Member Comments

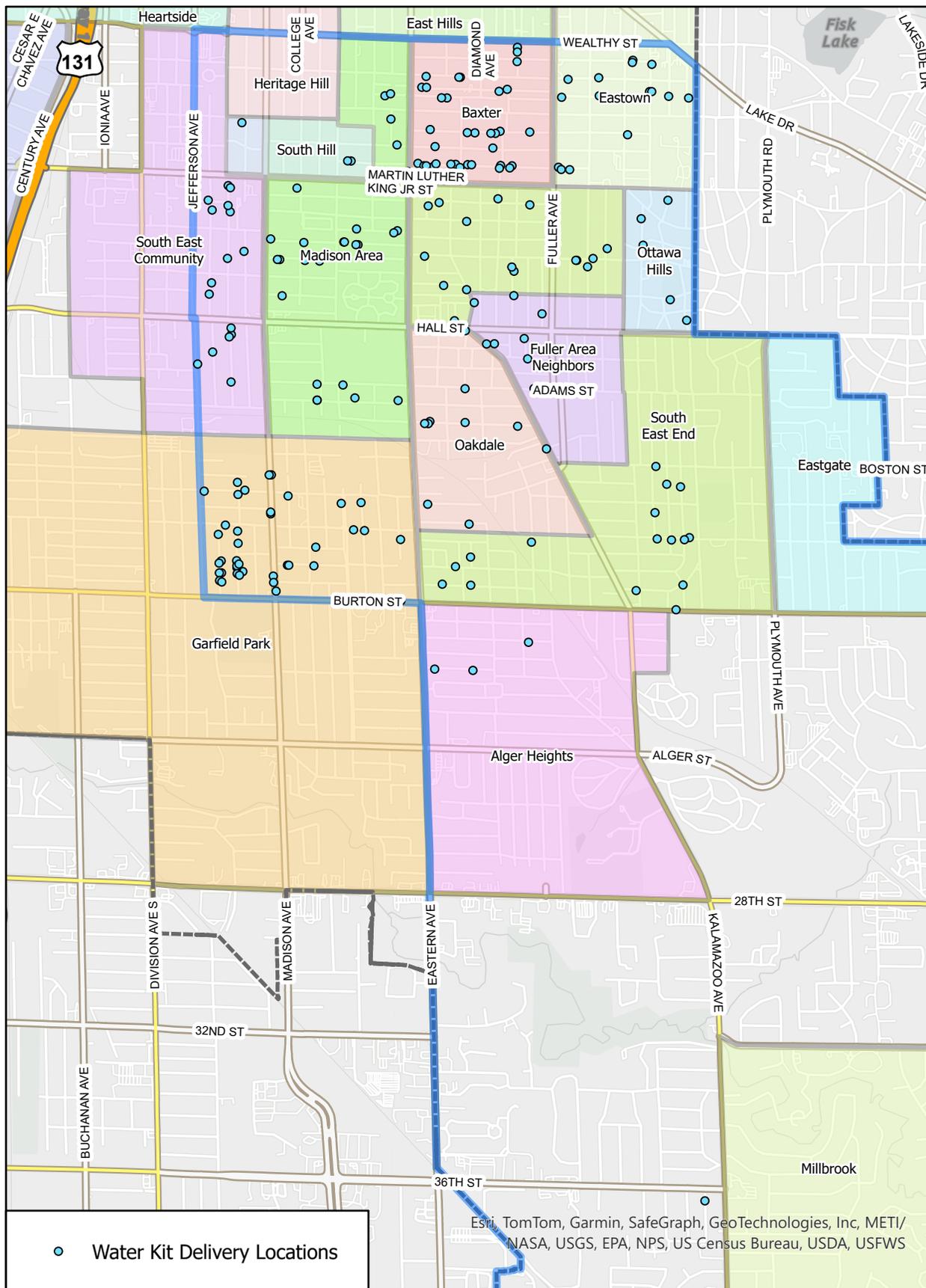
- Ms. Simmonds is working with Jameela to revamp the lead action team and focusing on families most at risk for lead exposure.
- Ms. Maun is planning to expand the program beyond the 3rd Ward. Mr. Jernberg said he can provide information about lead lines outside the 3rd ward for Healthy Homes so they have that information.
- Ms. Contreras said that the grant application for the lead replacement lines was submitted last week to the EPA for \$10 million. The focus will be in the 1st Ward. In the application, we requested funds for a part-time position to assist with the program.
- Ms. Simmonds has been working with the County Health Department to provide their outreach technician with education. She is also coordinating events and ensuring everyone in Kent County gets the same information regardless of what entity attends events and provides consistent information. She also stated that they can drop off some of their education material if we would like to have some for handouts.
- Mr. La Fave stated that East GR is working better to educate the public on projects happening, including door hangers with QR codes to more information on their website. occurring in East GR to help inform residents when and why work is being done in their area.
- Ms. Williams asked for information for students who are younger and Mr. Jernberg said she should work with our Education Outreach Coordinator.

Next Meeting – March 12, 2025

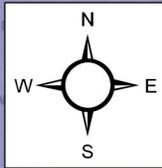
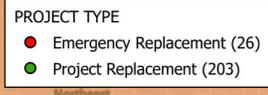
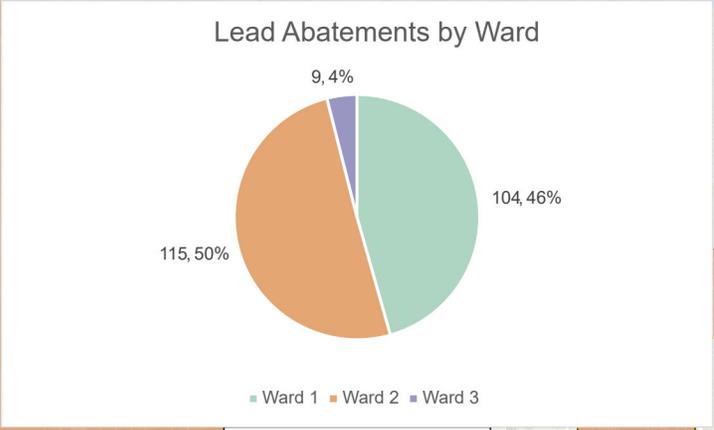
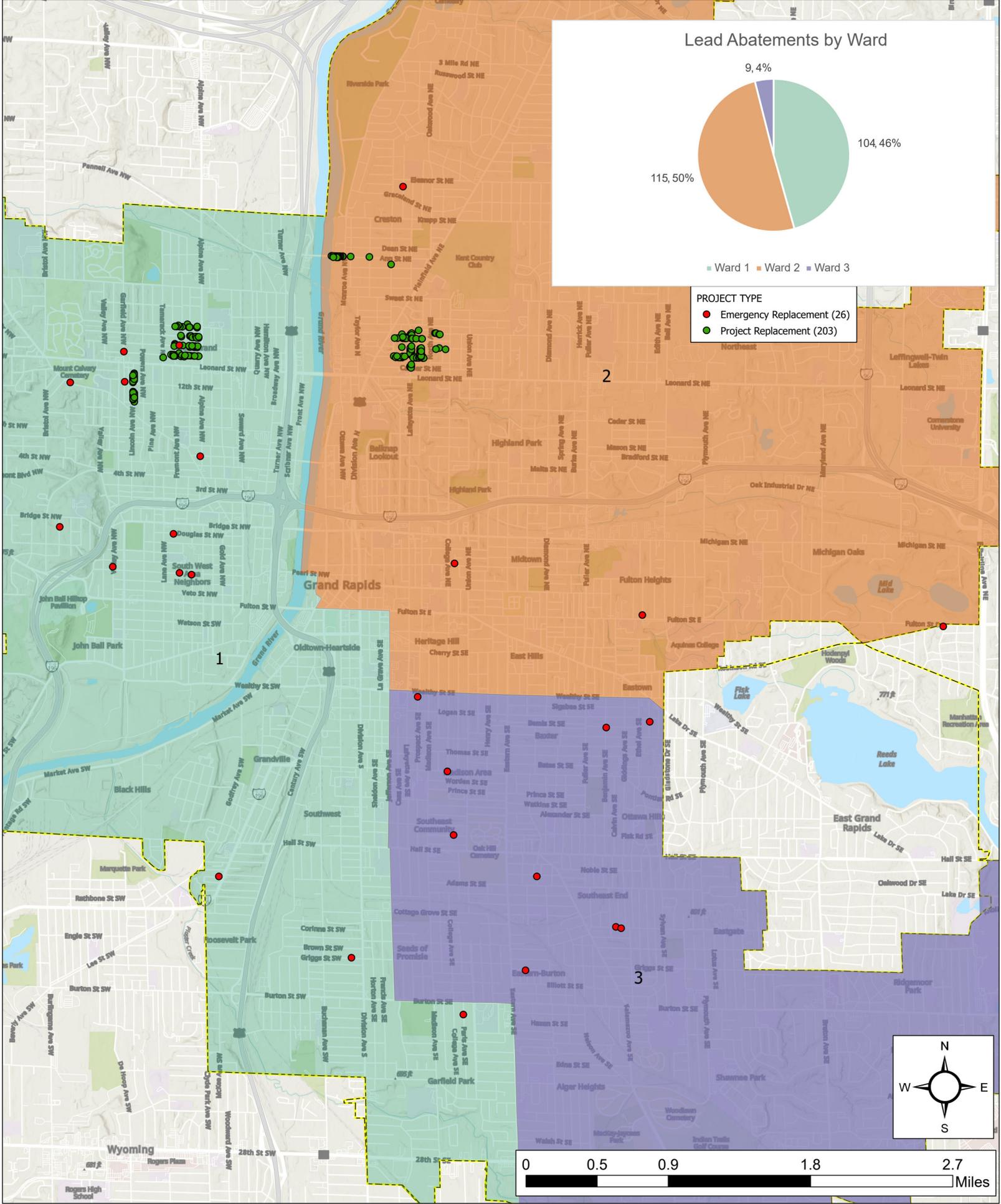
Adjournment

Mr. Jernberg adjourned the meeting at 9:20 am.

Lead Reducing Water Kits Distributed in the Third Ward 2024-25



January 1st - March 1st, 2025 Lead Service Line Replacements



Lead Service Line Replacements

March 05, 2025

Project	Fiscal Year	Private-side LSLRs	Agreements in Hand	Outstanding Agreements	% Agreements in Hand	Contacts per Agreement	Total LSLRs	Neighborhood	Ward	Contractor/Notes
2025 Construction Season										
Capital Projects										
Boston (Fuller to Plymouth)	2025	33	14	19	42%	0.00	55	Southeast End	3	Wyoming Excavators / Brik Plumbing
Burton (Division to Kalamazoo)	2025	110	40	70	36%	0.00	141	Garfield Park, East Burton, Alger Heights, Southeast End	1,3	Kamminga & Roodvoets Inc
Cesar E Chavez (Hall to Beacon)	2025	27	10	17	37%	0.00	27	Grandville	1	
Garfield (Butterworth to Fulton)	2025	15	12	3	80%	0.00	23	John Ball Park	1	Kamminga & Roodvoets Inc
Leonard (Powers to Alpine)	2025	24	24	0	100%	3.88	25	West Grand	1	
Valley (Fulton to Bridge)	2024	54	53	1	98%	0.04	54	John Ball Park	1	
Wealthy (Ethel to East City Limits)	2025	16	9	7	56%	3.22	16	Eastown	2,3	
TOTAL		255	138	117	54%		316			
DWRF Resurfacing Projects										
Resurfacing Public CY2024-1	2024	460	283	177	62%	0.94	460	Various	1,2,3	SPS Pro
Resurfacing Public CY2024-2	2024	418	220	198	53%	0.62	442	Various	1,2,3	Groundhawg
Resurfacing Public CY2025-A	2025	350	130	220	37%	0.00	350	Various	1,2,3	
Resurfacing Public CY2025-B	2025	358	140	253	36	0.02	393	Various	1,2,3	
TOTAL		1586	773	813	49%		1645			
Private-Only Projects										
LSLR CY2024-3 Private-Only	2024	240	213	27	89%	0.90	240	Creston	2	Brik Plumbing
LSLR CY2024-4 Private-Only	2024	123	93	30	76%	0.80	123	West Grand	1	McDonald Plumbing
TOTAL		363	306	57	83%		363			