



**CITY OF WAUKESHA**

**Administration**

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<b>Committee:</b> Board of Public Works	<b>Date:</b> 7/19/2018
<b>Common Council Item Number:</b> ID #18-1061	<b>Date:</b> 8/7/2018
<b>Submitted By:</b> Fred Abadi, Director of Public Works	<b>City Administrator Approval:</b> Kevin Lahner, City Administrator KL
<b>Finance Department Review:</b> Rich Abbott, Finance Director RA	<b>City Attorney's Office Review:</b> Brian Running, City Attorney BR
<b>Subject:</b> Review and act on the Softener Salt Optimization Program.	

**Details:**  
The proposed water softener salt optimization program sets up the framework and components necessary to implement the proposed Chapter 29 Chloride Source Reduction Program. Optimizations would be performed by certified technicians from local water conditioning companies, under the terms of the attached contract. A secure online tool has been developed for data entry and tracking. The majority of the optimization cost would be shared between the City and these companies. A proposed appropriation of \$30 per optimization would be provided to the water conditioning companies by the City. In addition, a nominal copayment of \$10 would be paid by the softener owner to the water conditioning company at the time of each optimization. Phase I of the program would be carried out from 2018-2022, which will encompass our upcoming Clean Water Plant permit term. High-volume water users would be prioritized because they are likely to be high salt users as well. Phase II of the program would be proposed later as additional softener adjustments will be needed after the switchover to Lake Michigan water. The attached documents provide further details regarding the program.

Attachments:

1. Memo to Board of Public Works
2. Proposed Program Timetable and Appropriation Costs
3. Memorandum of Contract, including Letter to High Water Users and Optimization Report Form
4. Informational Flyer for Water Bills

**Options & Alternatives:**  
One alternative would be to ban softeners. However, the salt optimization approach allows softener users to continue having the benefits of soft water, while supporting local businesses and helping the City achieve chloride compliance.

**Financial Remarks:**  
The cost estimate for 2018 appropriations is \$53,250. This would be funded from the 7380.52190 Other Professional Services account. For 2019 and beyond, the costs would be as proposed in Attachment #2.

**Executive Recommendation:**  
Approve the proposed Softener Salt Optimization Program.

