

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of Los Angeles Waterkeeper (LA Waterkeeper), I am writing to support Item #6, CF-24-0456 - a PFAS motion which directs both LADWP and LASAN to investigate and take action regarding potential PFAS pollution in our drinking water, stormwater, and wastewater discharges. PFAS is a contaminant of emerging concern that has significant human health impacts that are only now being understood, and the extent of the problem is pervasive. When they were created, there wasn't much thought on the consequences. Now, we are learning that when the chemicals get into the environment, they don't break down. They also bioaccumulate within fish and wildlife. The full impact on humans is not yet known. But we are finally seeing some momentum in addressing the issue in drinking water and some consideration to also addressing them in surface water. LA Waterkeeper, alongside more than 100 other Waterkeeper's across the nation, worked on an unprecedented initiative to test U.S. surface waters for PFAS contamination. 843 of the samples in 2022 showed detection of at least one PFAS compound, and in dozens of LA Waterkeeper's tests in the LA River over the last 2 years, all but one site tested positive for between 7 and 15 types of PFAS. We are eager to see action taken to understand the extent of PFAS pollution in both our water supply and surface water, and urge the Council to support this motion and take swift and serious action to address this public and environmental health crisis.