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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **City working diligently to ensure water quality**

**Kerrville, Texas (April 17, 2023)** – The City of Kerrville works diligently to manage both the quality and quantity of potable drinking water available to Kerrville residents and businesses.

In recent years, the city has invested significant levels of public funds to make important improvements and ongoing maintenance to the community's overall water system, including adding additional water sources, improving storage capability,



and upgrading aging water mains and treatment systems.

Recently, a claim has been made that the city's water has dangerous chemical levels. This claim is likely derived from public notices from years past regarding the ongoing treatment of total trihalomethanes (TTHM), which are a common by-product formed during the process that disinfects water for drinking purposes. TTHMs occur when surface water from lake and

rivers, which contain carbon, is chlorinated and treated to drinking water standards. The carbon is naturally occurring as a result of grass, leaves, and decomposing plant and animal matter making their way into surface water sources. TTHMs can also be exacerbated by drought conditions and extreme high temperatures, which cause surface water to become warmer than usual and require more chlorine to be used for disinfection.

The state of Texas requires that municipalities implement water treatment procedures to minimize TTHM impact. Below are a list of projects the City of Kerrville has completed over numerous years to minimize local TTHM generation:

1. Painting water storage tanks with lighter colors to reduce the water temperature and help reduce the incubation of TTHM.
2. Maximizing the efficiency of water stored in water tanks and used daily.
3. Reducing the time water travels through the distribution system.
4. Evaluating alternative water treatment methods.
5. Installing bubblers and air scrubbers in the city's Stadium Drive water storage tanks.
6. Running ground water wells more often (TTHM are a by-product of surface water treatment).
7. Drilling more local groundwater wells to balance the supply.
8. Installing a new Granular Activated Carbon water treatment process at the water treatment plant.
9. Installing additional connections between pressure planes to allow water to stay fresh and interconnected across the system.

The last three regulatory tests performed by the State of Texas have shown the city's drinking water system to be well below the regulatory amount of TTHMs, and the city continues to work daily to provide our citizens with the safest drinking water in the state.

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