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Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Kalamazoo Lead and Copper Program

Kalamazoo, January 21, 2016 –The City of Kalamazoo Public Water Supply System is in compliance with the 1992 Safe Drinking Water Act Lead and Copper Rule and all revisions of the Rule and has had a proactive annual lead service replacement capital improvement program for over twenty years. The Water Supply System is the second largest groundwater-based drinking water system in Michigan, and utilizes limited treatment through chlorine (1941) for disinfection, fluoride (1951) to strengthen tooth enamel, and hexametaphosphate (1956) for corrosion control and to sequester iron. All limited treatment chemicals are on automated feed control systems and monitored 24/7 by qualified, trained and state water licensed personnel.

Lead services are replaced by state water distribution licensed personnel during restoration street projects; repairs to services line breaks, and when residential requested testing or testing conducted through the mandated tri-annual federal and state required monitoring indicates the 15 part per billion action level has been exceeded on a service line confirmation sample.

The City's state certified laboratory analyzes for the absence of micro-organisms and levels of limited treatment chemicals (Hexametaphosphate, Fluoride, and Residual Chlorine) in the City's water supply at several locations on a routine basis and ensures that over 10,000 required analytical sampling, analyses and reporting required under federal and state regulations including the Copper and Lead (1992) Rule analysis of tier one residential taps are conducted as required.

The City of Kalamazoo's tri-annual lead/copper rule sampling event results are included in the annual Water Quality Report along with the following required verbiage below. The Water Quality report is sent annually to each service address and can be viewed on the City of Kalamazoo's website at www.kalamazoocity.org

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Kalamazoo is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been

sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes (until there is a significant temperature change in the water) before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Please contact the City of Kalamazoo Laboratory Supervisory (Environmental Services Program Manager) at 337-8550 for testing, information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

In summary, the success of the City of Kalamazoo's ability to provide safe drinking water and highly responsive service correlates to the past, current and future qualified insightful city administrators, managers, supervisors, engineers, operations, distribution, laboratory and support staff that are licensed, trained and dedicated to the welfare of the water systems customers. Continued strategically planned operation, maintenance, replacement, and expansion of the system will require sound funding, collaboration with fed/state/local regulators and internal/external city customers, and support and approval of the city commission and city management.