As a local dentist in <town> and concerned citizen, I ask <community water system/city name> to continue fluoridating the water for our community.

The American Dental Association (ADA) endorses community water fluoridation as a safe, beneficial, cost-effective, and socially equitable public health measure for the prevention of tooth decay and cavities in children and adults.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report cavities and tooth decay are some of the most common childhood chronic diseases, affecting nearly 20 percent of children ages 5 to 11, and they are preventable. Children who live in communities with fluoridation programs have 25 percent fewer cavities than those who do not, leading to:

- Less pain.
- Fewer fillings and pulled teeth.
- Fewer missed days of school and work.

The ADA has found that for every dollar invested in water fluoridation, \$38 is saved in dental treatment, allowing the families in our community to spend money on more enjoyable things like eating out at local restaurants or shopping at local stores.

If funding for supplies or equipment is the reason for discontinuing fluoridation, please be aware the Delta Dental of Iowa Foundation has provided grants up to \$25,000 to cities to aid them with their fluoridation programs. Information on this program is available at https://www.deltadentalia.com/foundation/grants or by contacting Maren Lenhart at 515.261.5590 or mlenhart@deltadentalia.com.

In the interest of the health of my patients and fellow community members, I ask you not to discontinue fluoridating the water system serving <City>.

Sincerely,

Dentist's Name Address, City (practice or home)

<Date>