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An advisory committee reviewing the water situation in Flint has recommended that the city return to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department as part of an effort to resolve lead and other contamination issues in the city.

In a tweet, Governor Rick Snyder said he would make an announcement regarding the Flint water system although he did not offer any detail as to the details of that announcement.

The city moved to taking water from the Flint River last year in an effort to cut costs, but residents initially complained about taste and clarity and recent tests have shown increased blood lead levels in some areas of the city.

"Reconnecting to the Detroit water system is the right next step if it restores confidence among Flint residents about the quality of drinking water. The lead levels reported in Flint's water are unacceptable and Flint residents deserve access to safe water," U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (D-Flint), a key proponent of returning to Detroit water, said in a statement.

"However, reconnecting to Detroit does not entirely solve the problem," Mr. Kildee said. "The state's previous decision to go to the Flint River source, and the corrosive nature of its water, could have already done permanent damage to the city's water distribution system. Flint's infrastructure, already aging and in need of repair, very well likely needs major investments."

Mr. Walling said last week that returning to Detroit water was on the table as an option, but, given the \$1 million monthly price tag, would likely require state assistance (See Gongwer Michigan Report, October 2, 2015).

Mr. Snyder at the time committed to a one-time \$1 million grant, but not to any long-term assistance on the issue.

Michigan Radio quoted members of the advisory panel saying the switch back would take at least two weeks to complete.

- See more at:

http://www.gongwer.com/programming/news.cfm?article_id=541990104#sthash.HKRqeVpL.dpuf

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