

### APPROACHES USED IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS

For research purposes, Administration identified four Cities in North America that have developed plans regarding drinking water access for citizens in public places. These cities and associated plans include: Vancouver, *BC's Greenest City 2020 Action Plan*; New York City's *Obesity Task Force Plan to Prevent and Control Obesity*; Chicago, *A Recipe for Healthy Places* plan; and St. Paul Minnesota, *Comprehensive Plan*. The following table provides further information about the different approaches used by each city.

Location	Plan Name	Type of Plan	Department Addressing Water	Policy Language
City of Vancouver	Greenest City 2020 Action Plan	Environmental	Clean Water	Expand public access to drinking water and reduce use of bottled water. Deploy more fountains, as well as permanent freeze-resistant fountains and water bottle filling stations
New York City	Reversing the Epidemic: The NYC Obesity task Force Plan to Prevent & Control Obesity	Health	Obesity Prevention Initiative	Promote and expand NYC tap water consumption in Public Spaces. Programs such as Water On-the-Go & education campaign will be undertaken.
Chicago	Recipe for Healthy Places	Health	Serve Healthy Food & Beverages	City pairs with sister agencies and public interest groups to explore access to, and improving infrastructure for, free tap water in public spaces (parks, schools, plazas, lobbies in public buildings)
St. Paul Minnesota	St. Paul's Comprehensive Plan	Comprehensive	Water Resource Management	Public water as a safer & cheaper alternative to bottled water, and encourage clean drinking fountains in public spaces

In all four jurisdictions, multiple efforts are currently underway, with much of the work focused around the installation of new fountains, not retrofits. For example:

- New York and Vancouver are deploying temporary fountains in the summer or at large summer events as an alternative to traditional permanent infrastructure
- Vancouver is working to install year round freeze resistance permanent fountains and bottle refilling stations on sides of buildings<sup>123</sup>

<sup>1</sup> City of Vancouver, *Greenest City 2020 Action Plan*: <http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/Greenest-city-action-plan.pdf>

- St. Paul Minnesota has installed four artist-inspired drinking fountains; and has mayoral support for a campaign to ban bottled water in City Buildings<sup>4</sup>; Chicago launched Healthy Chicago, and as part of this, bottle filling stations are being installed in universities and airports<sup>5</sup>;
- In all cities, marketing campaigns and technological assistance, such as smart phone mapping apps, are being used to advertise. Partnerships with private business to provide free tap water are other initiatives underway.

#### Cost Estimates

City Initiative	Cost Estimate
Vancouver	\$20,000 frost-free; \$15,000 non-frost free; \$5,000 bottle refilling taps on pumping stations (all amounts are in Canadian Dollars)
St. Paul Minnesota	\$500,000 for 10 public art drinking fountains over 2 years (amount in US Dollars). Each fountain is budgeted to cost \$50,000 each: \$40,000/fountain for Art Inspired Drinking Fountain and \$10,000 to cover City costs (including site excavation, restoration, bringing in plumbing/water line and plumber consultation).
New York	No Information Available
Chicago	No Information Available

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<sup>2</sup> NYC Environmental Protection: *NYC Water On the Go*: [http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/drinking\\_water/index.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/drinking_water/index.shtml), viewed May 2014

<sup>3</sup> NYC Environmental Protection, 2013: *New York City 2013 Drinking Water Supply and Quality Report*: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/pdf/wsstate13.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> TC Daily Planet, July 15, 2008: "Holding the water for us to see it": *New artist-designed outdoor drinking fountains in Minneapolis*": <http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/article/2008/06/24/holding-water-us-see-it-new-artist-designed-outdoor-drinking-fountains-minneapolis>

<sup>5</sup> Kushner, Nick, American Planning Association, *Quenching Community Thirst: Planning for More access to Drinking Water In Public Places*, November 2013: <https://www.planning.org/research/publichealth/pdf/wateraccessreport.pdf>