



# Safer Water, North Texas

## 2019 Allen City Council Candidate Q&A

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### Jon Toney

**1) Are you satisfied with the current status of Allen's water quality, including the annual chlorine maintenance?**

Allen has, in my experience, always had superior drinking water to neighboring cities. When I didn't live in Allen, I'd visit family and bring a couple of gallons home with me. I drink a LOT of water and am generally satisfied with it. There are times of the year when there's a strong smell to it, but generally I don't keep a closed bottle so after a few seconds the fumes dissipate.

**2) If not, what are your concerns about Allen's water?**

My concern for Allen's water is twofold. Firstly, I am concerned about shortages and droughts. I think we should have been working towards building regulations that approach water conservation aggressively. I also think we need better enforcement on landscape watering as well as a focus on native plant landscaping. Regarding quality itself, I find that the city is very transparent with its reporting and while they could do better with education regarding norms and standard deviations with the testing, they seem very responsive to resident feedback. If there are inadequacies in that response, I haven't seen an organized rebuttal - let alone one that has scientific citation.

**3) What do you believe you could do as an Allen City Council member to change the Allen water quality?**

I think maintaining the water quality safely should be considered essential. As a council member, I'll listen to experts on the best possible approach. When there is conflicting expert opinions, I'll seek out more information and try to learn what prevailing scientific consensus is on a particular subject. Since I'm a full time worker, I may depend on residents to help me with this process - and will always push the city to maintain a philosophy of open government and proactive resident involvement.

**4) If you are an incumbent, what have you done in the past 2 years that provides voters with insight regarding your possible future actions if re-elected?**

N/A

**5) Will you take responsibility to ensure that all Allen water towers and water tanks are cleaned on the inside at least once every 3 years?**

Admittedly, I don't have any expertise on this subject. I tried to find some research on it, but haven't found anything to tell me what is required vs best practice vs ideal. I think we can always operate from at the very least best practice and work towards ideal when the cost/benefit makes sense. If our city is failing in this regard, I haven't found any indication of



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it. I will, of course, speak with the new city manager (when hired) about water concerns (among others) and have open discussions with other council members. Our current city manager will be retiring before (if elected) I take office.

Thanks for helping me become more aware of water concerns and I hope that you'll always consider my door open and my ears open. I am keen to read any materials you may have to better educate myself.