



## Mayor Vieau - COVID-19 Situational Update

*We are in this together!*

The City of Chicopee has transitioned to daily updates as the COVID-19 situation has warranted a centralized/increase in the distribution of information. These updates are intended to keep all informed of the actions being taken to reduce the impacts of Coronavirus on the community.

On Tuesday, April 21, 2020, the following City of Chicopee Departments has reported:

### Mayor's Office

- The City will continue with physically distancing while socially interacting.
- We will continue to review the situation with infection levels and may begin slowly easing restrictions to help open the economy
  - Expectation of opening would be a reverse of the closing, schools would be last, non-essentials, etc. We would follow the lead of the governor so surrounding areas are coordinated
- Testing is needed to determine who, when, and how people are transmitting the virus.
  - Looking for antibody testing
- We are receiving a lot of complaints about using masks, ability to purchase non-essential goods, and opening recreation areas

### Health Department

- **88 active cases and 80 recovered as of 04/20/2020**
  - **23 new cases reported over the weekend.**
    - **New cases are 20 and 30 year old individuals so tracing contacts.**
      - **We expect many more quarantines based upon the age range.**
  - **Still only one death to date**
- **Nurses are tracing contacts and we have 11 hospitalizations**
- We are not experiencing issues with social distancing compliance.
  - Stores are very cooperative
- Receiving a lot of questions on wearing a mask in public

- Many complaints are from employees at stores which do not require masks for employees, (JPolep, Fed Ex and others)
- Prescription Drug stores reported more business this year compared to last year for the week before Easter so guidelines are working

### **Police Department**

- No new officers in self-quarantine and staff at full complement
  - Results for one officer sent for testing on Tuesday were negative and he has returned to work
- Receiving questions on masks
- Construction trade does not appear to feel they have to wear masks
  - Many were asked to wear a mask and refused
- Death rates in Holyoke, Chelsea, Springfield and Westfield are increasing – surrounding area around Chicopee.
  - Need to work in coordination with other communities to open up economic and social activities
- We have not received threats of protesting or civil disobedience and individuals want to follow restrictions to save lives.
  - With deaths reported - Massachusetts being a “hot Spot” at present – individuals are acting to save lives
- Working with businesses as a partnership on restrictions to save lives has worked well for both businesses and residents in stopping or slowing the rate of infection
- West Springfield and Springfield businesses also have lines and people are waiting to enter stores. Chicopee is not different than surrounding communities and lines are moving
- Officers continue to work with the Board of Health and Council on Aging on wellness checks
- EM received the MEMA delivery on KN95 masks
  - Each officer is being distributed 5 masks
- The 5 cadets from the academy
  - Performing post academy training with the Department now instead of at the end of the academy.
  - Will be available to help if needed in other areas
- Special Police are available, if needed to help with tracing calls or wellness checks

### **Fire Department**

- There is one firefighter out with a positive test result under quarantine
  - Six firefighters are back to work with test results negative
- All firefighters have been equipped with masks, shields and/or goggles.

## Emergency Management

- OSHA Mgr. indicated the MEMA order was received and inventoried on Saturday
  - 200 face shields on Friday and they were distributed or in stockpile.
  - Distribution arrangements to be made to DPW (Waste Water Treatment) as needed
- More hand sanitizer received on Saturday
- Working with vendors on training and CPR training and providing instruction
  - Utilizing Zoom meetings or conference calls
- Wash station near C3 Police being used by homeless and maintained
- Lunches continue to be distributed to the homeless
- Received about 200 cloth masks and being distributed to other departments as requested.
  - Need a tally from department heads on how many masks they need
    - Given masks to school workers distributing meals, COA workers on meal delivery and Water Department workers
    - Will provide cloth masks for City Hall workers

## DPW

- Trash pickup is pushed off for one day due to the Monday holiday
  - May have trash pickup on Saturday, if needed
- Staff is in good spirits and working well on reduced staffing
- The yard waste pickup was delayed and due to stockpile of yard waste.
  - Watching decomposition - may be viewed as a hazard to workers.
  - Yard waste is being monitored
- Other areas are status quo and providing service