



## 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 Thursday, April 23, 2020, the following City of Chicopee Departments has reported:

### Mayor's Office

- Mayor will conduct a robocall out to residents in lieu of a weekly media advisory
- Massachusetts is still in the 'Surge' – via Governor Baker reports
  - Asking residents to continue to abide by orders and advisories
- Governor Baker closed schools till end of school year
  - Mayor met with the Superintendent to review impacts and student engagement through June 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Schools are planning graduation and events for seniors
- With decreased revenue - department heads asked for a 20% decrease in budgets to be creative
  - Look at travel, conferences, unfilled positions, etc.
- Federal stimulus was passed by Congress and is expected to be signed by the President.
  - It does not include any aid for states and municipalities.
  - Another round of stimulus is proposed and it is hopeful it will provide some funding
- Do not want to provide a 1/12<sup>th</sup> budget and Do want a full year budget

### Health Department

- We have 76 open cases and 94 people who have recovered as of 04/22/2020 - showing all demographics and ages.
  - We had 8 new cases reported since yesterday's briefing - mostly women aged 20 to 50 and appear to be front line healthcare workers.
  - Chicopee has 2 deaths to-date
  - 10 are currently hospitalized
- The Chicopee Board of Health is reviewing a proposed order to require the wearing of masks in public.

- It is an advisory but many people are not following the advisory. Northampton has an order in place. Requiring people to wear a mask and we are looking at their enforcement.
- Big Y has required masks and allows the use of turtle necks, scarves or other coverings.
- Reminder to people of advisory added to Mayor's robocall
- Nurses are tracing contacts and seeing more contacts with younger positive cases

### **Police Department**

- No new officers in self-quarantine and staff is all reporting
- Masks currently are at the discretion of the business
  - Businesses are providing a notice of a time frame when they will prohibit a non-mask wearer from entering the store
- There are posters which describe the percentage of passing a virus with different scenarios of two people wearing a mask.
  - Would be good to post these for educational purposes
  - Need to check the statistics and possibly the CDC has something on transmission
- Police received a grant from the DOJ
  - Must purchase items with reimbursement after purchase

### **Fire Department**

- There is still one firefighter out with a positive test result under quarantine.
  - All other firefighters are well and reporting for duty
- There was a news report this morning on rates of infection and deaths in surrounding communities.
  - Chicopee was not listed but other communities had much higher number of cases with them being 4 times our numbers and smaller communities
  - It appears that Chicopee's policies and guidelines are working to save lives and stop the infections in our community
  - Departments working as a team are doing great things and helping the residents of Chicopee through this time

### **Emergency Management**

- EM has PPE available
- Cloth masks were delivered to
  - DPW, ( Forestry, Water, Sewer treatment, highway, sanitation) and the CELD completed
  - School lunch providers will be delivered the 30 needed masks tomorrow
  - Still need to provide some masks to the Parks Department
- Waste water also received face shields
- EM is getting additional grant funding along with the annual grant
  - These funds must be spent on COVID related expenses

## COA

- Overwhelmed with calls for meals
  - Over 100 already ordered
- Fridays delivery will include a bag of groceries and roll of toilet paper to assist
- Received a list of all individuals over 65 years old and will do a post card mailing to these individuals with information on meals on wheels, lunches, transportation and other services
- Some homes visited on wellness checks have lock boxes with keys and a few people would benefit from a lock box. They are working with these individuals
- The Police Cadets will help with calls and items on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings

## DPW

- Able to maintain services with reduced staffing but some existing issues are being addressed
- Posting on Facebook on trash pick-up and requirements was clear and explained services