



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 Monday, April 27, 2020, the following City of Chicopee Departments has reported:

Mayor's Office

- Dr. Paul Bettinger addressed the Massachusetts Mayors yesterday.
 - He indicated we are hoping for a two week decline in infections before Massachusetts can re-open.
 - The State and health facilities have put testing in place and have established contact tracing
 - Our numbers indicate we are at the peak and heading for a decline
 - There is some concern about re-opening in terms of a resurgence and not being able to see this due to the five to 14 day in terms of a resurgence and not being able to see this due to the five to 14 day period for symptoms to show
 - Technology firms are working on tracking contacts through an app on a cell phone.
 - It is preliminary and there is some concern about privacy, but if successful would provide for tracing results in minutes
 - It would trace who you were within 6 feet for over 10 minutes
 - Because of the lag time in testing we need more testing and the anti-body test would be preferred
 - Bettinger felt that the re-opening by New Zealand and Germany were worth studying and getting best practices for our opening

Health Department

- We have 105 open cases and 101 people who have recovered as of 04/27/2020. We had 14 new cases reported over the weekend. Chicopee has 3 deaths to-date
- The Board of Health is receiving a lot of questions on where to obtain masks.
 - The Health Department placed an order for 1000 masks
 - Gekay Sales and Service 15 Dana Way Ludlow, MA 01056 (413) 583-7720

- orders@gekay.com is preferred contact email for anyone who would like to order PPE from them.
 - They are going to ask the Sheriff's Department to see if they have masks
 - Also will contact individuals who donated masks to see if some arrangement can be made with them to provide masks
 - Still need more masks for City Hall employees
 - The masks are only for visiting businesses not wearing in the office with no other people there
 - If you are not wearing a mask we are trying to reason with the individuals and businesses. Do not want to fine a person or detain them. If the person will not cooperate and is making things difficult we are allowed to fine them \$1,000 or restrict them from entering a store
- The Department of Public Health is visiting Chicopee Rehab on New Lombard Road for testing as part of the retirement home testing initiative

Police Department

- All officers are healthy and no new officers in self-quarantine.
 - Have sent four officers to testing
- Have visited businesses and they are for the most part complying with the order to wear masks.
 - There are two pharmacy chains who refuse based upon their National office guidance not to enforce the order - We are providing them the order and the law which provides our authority
- Have asked officers to wear masks when visiting stores
- Testing at eh Big E for first responders has open slots
- Police have a good amount of PPE
 - Of the three brands of KN95 masks supplied by MEMA state testing has found one brand to be only 52.3% effective and the other two were not tested
 - We are using them as back-ups and looking to trusted vendors the city has worked with in the past for ordering
- The Police Department will continue to secure cloth masks

Fire Department

- The one firefighter who was out with a positive test result has received a negative result and is back at work
- Current supply of PPE is alright and they are using masks with

Emergency Management

- MEMA is talking with us about the KN95 masks and we are getting gowns from them
- Will continue to help distribute meals for COA

COA

- They are preparing and delivering over 80 meals
 - Delivery again will include a bag of groceries and roll of toilet paper
- The Police Cadets had helped on Friday at the COA which was crucial to them getting out the meals and groceries
- COA will receive a grant of \$3,000 from Health New England to help with the cost of meals for the elderly
- The state MCOA is indicating they may not direct local COAs to open until the Fall based upon their findings and the at risk population

DPW

- Staffing is being maintained and no issues with services