



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 Wednesday, May 6, 2020, the following City of Chicopee Departments has reported:

Mayor's Office

- Our efforts appear to be working as our numbers compared to other communities show we are reducing infections and saving lives. We must stay the course and not give in to the urge to ease restrictions too early
- We are looking at reopening slowly and in a measured approach. The COVID team will meet after this briefing and go through strategies to consider reopening some aspects of retail and businesses later this month depending upon the Governor's actions
- We are getting complaints and seeing managers in certain stores refusing to wear a mask or require employees to properly wear a mask. We are working with these stores on compliance

Health Department

- We have 123 open cases and 137 people who have recovered. We have four deaths. We received 5 new cases today
- Working on strategies for opening of non-essential businesses and services depending upon the Governor's directions. We want to be prepared for any easing of restrictions

Police Department

- Staffing is status quo with one officer waiting for test results and one returning to work with a negative result
- The store can refuse to allow a person into their establishment if they will not wear a mask
- Reopening with masks required appears to be the direction the Governor is going and wearing masks will make reopening of non-essential services easier
- If we get pushback on wearing a mask we are using the science behind the requirement to reason with people
- The Police are participating in birthday parades for residents and are working to fulfill requests we receive
- Complaints have slowed



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- We have received a supply shipment from MEMA
- Will have a detail at the High Schools for their cap and gown parades

Fire Department

- The Fire Department is status quo with staff in place and services continuing

Emergency Management

- Things are continuing and services are being provided

COA

- Services continue with 160 meals ready for today and will be delivered with help from the Police
- Distributed masks yesterday at a grocery store and well received
- Will deliver masks and COVID information at another store during senior shopping hours

DPW

- Department is status quo and no complaints on masks
- Still fixing pot holes this week depending upon the weather

Veterans Department

- With Chicopee Electric Light the American Flags were put up for Memorial Day on Memorial Drive
- We will begin flagging grave sites for veterans
- The Graduates to Guardians program will take place as part of the graduation ceremony
- With Parks we have put in place the Gold Star and Veteran Parking spots and will be installed later this year
- There will be filming of the ceremony at Veteran's Plaza for a Memorial Day tribute
- Will be bringing back some staff and opening the office to the public by appointment for active benefits requests and services
- There will be a parade for a 96 year old WWII veteran's birthday on Saturday

Chicopee Electric Light

- Staff is doing well and services are being provided
- Construction projects will begin next week



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Park Department

- Staffing is good and performing well
- The Cemetery is taking more attention with an increase in burials of about three to four a week
- Preparing Szot Park for taping of graduation ceremony
- Working with Health Department on summer programs and options
- Meeting with the **School Department on use of School Pools and summer programs developing options and back up plans**

Treasurer

- Finance Team is continuing to pay bills and work with vendors
- Budget reviews continue and are thankful for the ideas and creativity of departments in saving money
- Chicopee is stable financially and real estate tax receipts are about 85% collected
- FY'20 looks like we will be alright but concerned about FY'21 revenue

School Department

- Focus of efforts is graduation and working with Chicopee TV on filming and technical aspects of production. May need an outside video firm to help but trying to keep costs down and use internal staff
- Working with Parks on summer program and needs for Special Ed summer school
- Continuing to develop a budget and get direction from DESE on Chapter 70 anticipated revenue
- Packed and delivering 26,000 meals a week
- More students are engaged and working online learning exercises