



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 Friday, January 22, 2021, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

Mayor's Office

- The state COVID numbers are still somewhat trending downward with 4,821 new cases reported
- There were 75 new deaths and 2,152 cases in hospitals with 430 in an ICU. The average age of hospitalization decreased to 71 years old
- The seven day average positivity rate dropped to 5.57%
- The virus numbers are starting to trend downwards but not as quickly as we had hoped as we enter the post-holiday wave. Our hospitals and health care providers are still close to capacity.
- The UK variant is spreading across the US and is more contagious than the current strain
- Johnson & Johnson indicated they could have 100,000,000 vaccine doses ready to be distributed by the end of next month if approved

Health

City Case Counts

- The average is waning with only 9 new cases today
- We have 587 open cases
- There are 23 deaths
- 103 N/A
- 2,210 recovered
- A total of 2,923 cases to date
- Our testing site numbers have a positivity rate of 9.9% but the Chicopee only numbers are 10.12%. We continue to find many repeat testers
- Chicopee remains high and we need to remind people to wear masks, wash hands, stay home if you feel ill and if quarantined stay in quarantine
- The Governor lifted the guidelines to allow more people in restaurants for a longer time and allowed more at gatherings. We are worried this may cause a Superbowl wave of the UK variant

Police Department

- Status Quo on services
- We had one more officer test positive and is in quarantine
- We had a mini-test site at the PD to test others officers who may have been exposed to the individual
- A study has shown that the first responders who were vaccinated with one dose are 80 % protected after two weeks

Fire Department

- Status quo on services and two additional firefighters testing positive for a total of four out
- The one firefighter in the hospital is improving slowly
- The state has hired a company to prepare public service announcements on the vaccine to encourage individuals to get vaccinated
- Currently MA has 4.2% of its population vaccinated which places us 13th in the number of states vaccinating populations
- As we know the state has vaccination locations in Foxboro, Fenway Park and continues to look for a location in Western Mass

Emergency Management

- Services and staffing are status quo
- The food program from the state through MEMA is being coordinated with Safety and the Council on Aging
- The federal government has announced that they will provide federal vaccination sites to assist states and reach the targeted 100 million vaccinations

Safety

- Status Quo on staffing
- We had 192 tests conducted Wednesday with 19 positive results for 9.90% positivity and 10.12% Chicopee only positivity
- On Tuesday we had 247 tests conducted with 46 positive results for 18.62% positivity and 14.41% Chicopee only positivity
- On last Wednesday we had 228 tests conducted with 32 positive results for 14.04% positivity and 9.31% Chicopee only positivity
- The Sheriff's Department has helped us with School Department Nurses out and will continue to help next week
- We had a nurse volunteer to help at our testing site which is greatly appreciated
- Staffing is good and we are looking at another site because of demolition at the Uniroyal site

DPW

- Status quo on staffing

- We had one additional staff member test positive. The other employees tested negative and are working

COA

- Status Quo on staffing and services
- We applied for a grant to provide COVID awareness packages for seniors with PPE, supplies and materials
- We are continuing with meal distribution and are working on the additional food distribution through the MEMA program

Human Resources

- Status Quo on services
- Asking department Heads to remind employees if they feel ill do not report to work

School Department

- We were notified that occupational therapists and physical therapist are now cleared for vaccination and they were notified to obtain a vaccine if they wanted
- Also, teachers for the 18-22 year old students were notified they can also obtain a vaccination as they perform house visits to students
- First week of having pre-K, K, 1st grade and students in need went well with students joyful to be back, engaged and learning