



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, January 27, 2021, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

Mayor's Office

- The state COVID numbers are still trending downward with 2,215 new cases reported
- There were 41 new deaths and 1,951 cases in hospitals with 431 in an ICU. The average age of hospitalization remained at 71 years old
- The seven day average positivity rate dropped to 4.77%
- The virus numbers continue trending downwards. Additional good news is a treatment with Aplidin appears to be more effective than remdesivir. This treatment was reported in the Journal of Science and reportedly killed the virus in human lung cells. Additional therapies are being researched
- The Vaccine Task Force had meet yesterday and we planned a way forward to seek to obtain vaccines and run a center similar to the testing site we are operating
- Currently the Senior Center is helping those 75 and older register for vaccinations at the Eastfield Mall. We will use other locations as they become available for phase II
- Agawam is helping with input but only phase I individuals. They have not shifted to phase II yet
- There is a severe lack of vaccines in western Mass and the state reported only 86,000 doses a week for the entire state is being provided by the federal government
- We have asked the Governor's Office to help western mass and Chicopee in particular. We are the second largest city in Western Mass but do not even have one vaccination site identified in the city
- If we use the 86,000 per week number then in week four there will be no new vaccinations as the second dose will be needed for those who got the first dose vaccination four week prior
- We will seek to stop the spread of the virus with testing and build immunity with vaccinations

Health

City Case Counts

- We continue to averaging below 30 new cases daily

- We have 416 open cases
- There are 23 deaths
- 103 N/A
- 2,459 recovered
- A total of 3,002 cases to date
- Our testing site numbers are decreasing and we still have downward trend in positivity rates.
- We are waiting for news from the state on vaccine distribution especially for home bound who will present a challenge based upon time the vaccine can be out of refrigeration
- We are also looking at bringing vaccines to senior housing like McKinley Apartments and the housing authority
- Agawam is seeking to have the Bethany Church serve as a vaccination location and East Longmeadow will continue using the room in the municipal building

Police Department

- Status Quo on services
- We still have one officer out and recovery is slow in the hospital
- Staff is ready to help with vaccine distribution if needed
- Working with Senior Center on 75 and older registrations

Fire Department

- Status quo on services and three firefighters remain out with symptoms

Emergency Management

- Services and staffing are status quo
- The test site is going well and we continue to provide testing

Safety

- Status Quo on staffing
- We had a positivity rate of 10.9% on Monday which is lower
- We can move to the vaccine distribution task if needed
- The Uniroyal demolition work has not interfered with the testing
- Yesterday we had 116 tests administered and the number is decreasing from our high last month due to the holidays

DPW

- Status quo on staffing
- We have one staff member out
- Westover ARB has reported they are vaccinating military staff and employees with vaccines provided directly from the federal government

COA

- Status Quo on staffing and services
- Have over 500 calls on vaccination registration assistance
- Working through calls and food distribution
- We have a volunteer nurse and Elms intern helping with the vaccination assistance effort

Human Resources

- Status Quo on services
- Ready to write up job descriptions if temporary help is needed for the vaccination effort

Treasurer's Office

- We are Status Quo on services
- FEMA announced they will provide 100% reimbursement for certain COVID related cost. This will be up from the normal 75% reimbursement