



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, March 15, 2021, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

Mayor's Office

- The state COVID numbers were steady with 1,508 new cases reported for a total of 26,459 open cases
- The state numbers were 30 new deaths and 636 cases in hospitals, with 169 in an ICU. The average age of hospitalization remained at 64 years old
- The state seven day average positivity rate remained below 2% at 1.67%
- Testing is still active with 90,244 molecular tests reported bringing cumulative tests to 17,425,530 tests
- We are continuing to help residents with the Pre-registration process
- The CVS in the Center of Chicopee and Granby Road are vaccinating as well as the Walgreens on Memorial Drive and we are helping book appointments there as well
- In the past vaccination rollouts had always been through the local Boards of Health. Chicopee has a plan for vaccination and had used it in the past. The City had developed two sites for the COVID vaccination at the approved River Mills Council on Aging and the proposed Castle of Knights on Memorial Drive
- Senator Jo Comerford will be chairing hearings on vaccinations to determine why there was a change in the normal vaccination process for COVID. She will ask how local boards of health in cities and towns can get allocated vaccination doses and why they are not provided access to doses for the local population
- Springfield had reported that they will be having small neighborhood clinics administering doses. This is what Chicopee had been asking the state for months. It was explained that Springfield was an at risk community and underserved so they were allocated doses. We noted that Chicopee is also an at risk community and had partnered with Holyoke, also an underserved community. We were told our regional site was not denied but has not been approved and is under consideration with 10 other sites across the state
- We continue to work with the state on 250 homebound individuals to get them vaccinated

Health

- City Case Counts
 - There are 140 open cases which is down from last week
 - There are 25 deaths

- 115 N/A
- 3,176 recovered
- A total of 3,456 cases to date
- There were 15 cases over the weekend
- We are still red on the states risk chart
- The state of Massachusetts has received 2.8 million doses and has administered 2.4 million doses since December 14th. There are 1.5 million individuals who have had their first dose, 803,000 have had both doses and 50,000 have had the one shot J&J vaccination. That gives Massachusetts 853,433 individuals fully inoculated out of approximately 7.1 million people

Police Department

- Status Quo on services
- We still have one officer out on long-term recovery
- One officer remains in quarantine
- No difficulties with business following protocols and we continue to conduct visits to business locations

Fire Department

- Status quo on services with one firefighter out on long-term recovery
- From our discussions with Northampton and other communities, the second dose requirements are impacting the ability to vaccinate individuals and we will see more difficulties as teachers and more of the public are added to the priority list. Not sure how everyone added on May 1st will impact the vaccination process

Emergency Management

- Services and staffing continue

Safety

- Status Quo on staffing
- There were 50 tests administered today as of 10:00 am
- The Sheriff's Department helped today with testing

DPW

- Status quo on staffing
- All employees are back on the job

COA

- Status Quo on staffing and services

- We continue processing Pre-registrations for seniors which will provide them an appointment at Eastfield Mall
- Seniors are reluctantly taking the appointments as they cannot wait for Chicopee's site to open

Human Resources

- Status Quo on services
- The state has changed the travel rules and if you are vaccinated you can return without quarantine and we are checking the state website to confirm this change. This is require us to change our protocols for workers returning from trips outside Massachusetts
- We would need to require a vaccination card be provided to document the return to work, protecting other workers