



Mayor Vieau - COVID-19 Situational Update

We are in this together!

The City of Chicopee has 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, March 2, 2022, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

Mayor's Office

- COVID infections are continuing to decrease in the city
- Our city test site is also continuing to see a decrease in testing
- The state had 1,209 new cases reported which is a substantial decrease from prior weeks
- The state numbers indicated 62 new deaths yesterday which is higher than the 37 deaths reported from last week. The death rate is difficult to trend as while there is a reduction in infections now that Omicron has turned downward the treatment and progression of serious cases has allowed us to extend lives. The death rate now is seeing some individuals who had contracted the Delta variant unfortunately succumbing to the virus and others as well. The death rate is a lagging indicator of the infections. We are sorry for the individuals who are losing their struggle with the virus
- The state had 394 cases in hospitals which is a decrease of over 170 cases from the 573 cases last week. Of those hospitalizations, there were 70 in ICU which is 40 less than last week indicating a reduction in the rate of ICU cases
- The state seven day average positivity is well below 4% at 1.88%. This is well below last week's 2.44% positivity rate
- Testing is continuing with 51,017 new test, reduced from last week and brings the cumulative tests to 40,979,432 tests.
- Vaccination opportunities are available to residents and we are at 64% for two doses, 72% for one dose and we are lagging with booster shots with only 31% receiving boosters
- The group of 20-30 year olds remain the largest group of new cases based upon reports

Health

- City Case Counts
 - There are 49 open cases, below the 62 open cases last week. There are 41 cases of individuals 18 and older and 8 cases of individuals less than 18 years old
 - There are 32 deaths
 - 141 N/A
 - 9,310 recovered
 - A total of 9,532 cases to date
 - This reflects a declining infection rate

Police Department

- We have no officers out with COVID
- We are working the test site which continues to slow and recommend discontinuing the test site

Fire Department

- Also have no staff or firefighters out on COVID leave
- The numbers at the test center are decreasing and agree with closing the site

Emergency Management

- Status quo on staffing
- They agree with closing the testing center

Safety

- Status quo on staffing
- There were 17 tests administered last Wednesday which is a decrease from the prior week. No one tested was positive
- There were 15 tests on Monday with no one positive
- There is testing at Holyoke Community College, Eastfield Mall, and local pharmacies and feel the municipal testing center should be closed

DPW

- We have all employees reporting for work
- All services are continuing

COA

- Status Quo with everyone working
- The next vaccine clinic at the COA is scheduled for March 8th
- Looking at reopening the indoor lunch program. We have over 95% of our seniors with one dose and 88% with two doses of the vaccine. We will have hand sanitizer and mask available. There are some details we must address before opening

Human Resources

- All services being provided
- There are currently no individuals on COVID leaves
- No new leaves were requested this week

Library

- All staff members are reporting to work with on one out with COVID

Treasurer

- Recommend closing the testing site as we have five individuals working there and few people getting tested

Mayor and group agreed to close the test site and there will be no tests next week. Also, the weekly briefing meetings will be discontinued. The Mayor and Health Director will monitor the COVID situation and numbers. If changes are required we will address them and may bring back the COVID Task Force meetings