



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, December 4, 2020, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

#### Mayor's Office

- The state COVID numbers are 6,477 new cases reported
- There were 49 new deaths and 1,324 cases in hospitals with 261 in an ICU. The average age of hospitalization increased to 68 and average age of deaths remained at 81
- The seven day average positivity is a record high at 5.29%
- There are over 100 patients at Bay State Medical Center and the hospital staff are showing fatigue and stress
- We continue working on drive through testing for city residents
  - We will need to assemble volunteers for administrative functions, traffic control, recordkeeping, and performing the test
  - We want volunteer staff from the city to increase the number of actual tests performed and not spend dollars on contracted personnel
  - Test cost with contracted administration is 4125 per test and \$60 per hour for staff while test kit costs are \$35 per test if we provide the staff and perform the test
  - We want the PCR test as it is the most accurate
  - Only nurses and EMTs would be able to perform the tests on residents
  - Target date would be mid-December after Thanksgiving and before Christmas
  - Would be restricted to Chicopee residents and employees only
  - Would not be a Stop the Spread regional site

#### Health

##### City Case Counts

- We have 646 open cases
- 19 deaths in the City
- 82 N/A
- 878 recovered
- A total of 1625 cases to date with 35 cases added from yesterday

- We are using the mobile signs to remind residents and employees to wear a mask, wash their hands frequently and do not go out if they feel sick
- There was one case where two families gathered for Thanksgiving. There were two sets of Grandparents, Brothers and a total of twelve people. Eight of the family members have tested positive and others are awaiting test results. One set of Grandparents had traveled to Florida and are positive there

#### **Police Department**

- Status Quo on services
- We have one officer continuing quarantine with breathing issues
- Officers have been reminded to wear a mask and disciplinary action was explained in the notice

#### **Fire Department**

- Status quo on services and full staffing

#### **Emergency Management**

- Services and staffing are continuing

#### **Safety**

- Status Quo on services and staffing

#### **DPW**

- Status quo on staffing and services
- Now have four employees that have tested positive and are in quarantine. Three are in the sub-stations and one is located at Baskin Drive. They have not been with other employees and others were not subject to quarantine. Protocol was followed.
- A notice was sent out to all employees to wear a mask and if traveling in a vehicle masks must be worn

#### **COA**

- Status Quo on staff and servicing

#### **Human Resources**

- Status Quo on services and employees
- We are researching the COVID FMLA procedures to determine if they will apply after December 31<sup>st</sup>.

- They were only authorized through 2020 and we need to see if they will be extended or renewed for 2021. Also, if time was used in 2020 will additional COVID FMLA be granted in 2021 ?
- Reminder to ALL employees that the supervisors are watching proper face covering protocols are being followed and also the public is watching and we need to lead by example

#### **School Department**

- We continue full remote learning based upon the infection rate and case numbers
- We will not be back to in person learning until at least January 4<sup>th</sup>
- We may COVID test student athletes before any new season will begin. We are waiting for guidance from MAA on the procedures