



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, January 19, 2022, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

Mayor's Office

- The statewide numbers for infections are slowly decreasing and the Governor has reported we are on the downside of the Omicron wave
- US numbers across the North East states are also slowly decreasing
- Our PCR test site is showing a decrease this week in the number of individuals being tested
- The state had 56,489 new cases reported, but that number includes the holiday weekend reporting
- The state numbers indicated 47 new deaths yesterday which is less than half of the deaths reported from last week
- The state had 3,192 cases in hospitals which is an increase of about 200 new cases from last week. Of those hospitalizations, there were 466 were in ICU which is 16 more than last week indicating a reduction in the rate of ICU cases
- The state seven day average positivity remains well above 4% at 17.44%. This is well below last week's 22.78% positivity rate
- Testing is continuing with 365,681 molecular tests reported which brings the cumulative tests to 37,922,287 tests. This includes the weekend numbers
- Vaccination opportunities are available to residents and we are at 68% vaccinated
- The group of 20-40 year olds remain the largest group of new cases based upon reports
- We have N-95 masks available for all employees through HR
- The Federal Government has announces the website to allow residents to obtain in-home self-test kits and also announced that N-95 and KN-95 masks will be available soon through the Federal government program. Individuals will be limited to four test kits per address through US Post Office delivery under the Federal program

Health

- City Case Counts
 - There are 803 open cases which is up substantially compared to last week's 561 open cases. There are 541 case of individuals 18 and older and 262 cases of individuals less than 18 years old
 - There are 32 deaths

- 141 N/A
- 7,859 recovered
- A total of 8,835 cases to date
- Cases are up because of the numbers over the weekend, but today's report shows a decrease in new cases
- We continue to encourage vaccines
- The at home self-test kits process was provided to the Boys and Girls Club, VOC, Housing Authority and congregate housing to order first before release to the public. This will help impacted groups get the self-test kits
- The additional Health Department Nurse started the week

Police Department

- We continue services and patrols with one officer out and one following protocol with a person in their household positive
- We are working the test site which is slower but active

Fire Department

- Status quo on services with thirteen firefighters out on COVID leave
- The Fire Department is managing with overtime and coverage of all shifts

Emergency Management

- Status quo on staffing
- They will continue at the testing site as needed

Safety

- Status quo on staffing
- There were 191 tests administered on Tuesday 70 tested positive for COVID which is a 36.6% positivity rate down from last week's 44% positivity rate

DPW

- We are managing to be status quo on services, but are down employees due to COVID. We are managing services with overtime
- The Waste Water Treatment Facility is still working on a thin staff with overtime

COA

- Status Quo on staffing and services with everyone reporting to work
- They continue to have good attendance at the center
- The next vaccine clinic at the COA is February 3rd with on-line appointments being scheduled. We will be open from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm with walk-ins accommodated until 1:00 pm. Pfizer and Moderna doses are available for boosters, first or second shots
- Hand sanitizer and masks are still available at several locations in the center and mask continue to be required

Human Resources

- Status Quo on services
- The N-95 masks are being provided to employees who request them
- The number of COVID leaves requested is down from 70 last week to 23 this week

Library

- Three staff members returned and one is out being COVID tested
- The temporary closure of the Fairview branch has helped with staffing
- The requests for materials is steady and usage is continuing at the main library
- Staff is assisting residents with calls for the federal self-tests by completing the request form for them and ordering the kits through the US Postal Service

School Department

- We have 140 staff members out and have closed seven class, most with students who cannot wear masks
- The Schools are trending in the right direction with many teachers and paras returning this week
- The link to the new protocol has been placed onto our system
- The state self-test provided the schools are being distributed to parents and guardians and we are relying upon them to report positive results

Treasurer

- Status Quo on services