



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 26, 2022, the following City of Chicopee Departments have reported:

Mayor's Office

- The statewide numbers for infections are decreasing and we are on the downside of the Omicron wave
- Our PCR test site is showing a decrease again this week in the number of individuals being tested
- The state had 7,120 new cases reported which is significantly lower than last week
- The state numbers indicated 145 new deaths yesterday which is higher than the deaths reported from last week
- The state had 2,688 cases in hospitals which is a decrease of about 500 new cases from last week. Of those hospitalizations, there were 399 in ICU which is 67 less than last week indicating a reduction in the rate of ICU cases
- The state seven day average positivity remains well above 4% at 11.40%. This is well below last week's 17.44% positivity rate
- Testing is continuing with 72,564 molecular tests reported which brings the cumulative tests to 38,609,699 tests.
- Vaccination opportunities are available to residents and we remain at 68% vaccinated. Chicopee is at 62% for two doses and we are lagging with booster shots
- The group of 20-40 year olds remain the largest group of new cases based upon reports
- The area municipalities appear to be steady with restrictions on masks. The Federal vaccine mandate was removed by the Supreme Court, but businesses may still opt to have mandates and restrictions

Health

- City Case Counts
 - There are 1011 open cases which is up substantially higher compared to last week's 803 open cases. There are 583 case of individuals 18 and older and 428 cases of individuals less than 18 years old
 - There are 32 deaths
 - 141 N/A
 - 8,187 recovered
 - A total of 9,371 cases to date

- This reflects the tail of our peak with about 500 cases which will be removed from quarantine this weekend. The number of cases for individuals under 18 almost doubled and we need to increase our vaccination rate with this group
- We continue to encourage vaccines

Police Department

- We continue services and patrols with two officers out
- We are working the test site which is slower but active
- Still not open for LTC applications for new permits

Fire Department

- Status quo on services with three firefighters out on COVID leave
- The Fire Department is managing with adequate PPE and equipment

Emergency Management

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

Safety

- Status quo on staffing
- There were 84 tests administered on Monday, with 26 positive, (31%), Tuesday had 57 tests administered with 22 testing positive for COVID, (38.5%), and so far today there were 30 tests administered.
- The test center is slow compared to last week which also was slower than the week before
- Springfield had open a second test center which may have impacted our center
- We have two volunteers who will no longer be working at the test center
- Based upon demand and staffing we will reduce the testing to Monday and Wednesdays only
- The lab is now requesting vaccination status on their data input
- Tomorrow we will meet with the Bureau of Labor Standards and ask questions on COVID requirements and standards

DPW

- We are managing to be status quo on services with all employees returned

COA

- Status Quo on staffing and services with everyone reporting to work
- They continue to have steady attendance at the center
- The vaccine clinic at the COA for February 3rd has many openings. 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

Human Resources

- Status Quo on services
- The N-95 masks were distributed to employees who request them
- The number of COVID leaves requested is down at 11 this week, down from 70 two weeks ago and from 25 last week

Library

- There is one staff member out with COVID
- The Fairview Branch will reopen on February 1st and the Bookmobile will also return

Treasurer

- Status Quo on services