



Mayor Domenic J. Sarno's City of Springfield COVID-19 Situational Update

Monday, April 13, 2020

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno, in the best interests of our residents and business community, continues his daily morning meetings with his cabinet heads as they work 24/7 to facilitate and coordinate with all of our local, state, federal, and public and private partners in response to the COVID-19 situation.

Below are the most recent updates as reported from each City Departments.

Mayor's Office

- Continues to coordinate the city's efforts with all stakeholders (state, federal, hospital and medical facilities, public and private partners, etc.) in response of services and relief and recovery measures.
- Continues with regular Monday update press conferences with President and CEO of Baystate Health Dr. Mark Keroack and Chief Medical Officer of Mercy Medical Dr. Robert Roose.
- Heartfelt thank you to the private sector for donating PPE, allowing the city to outfit our dedicated police, fire and frontline workers with the appropriate safety equipment.
- Announced the need for the city to secure Thermal/Infrared Thermometers.
- Continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation closely so that we do not reopen and ease our prudent measures too early, which could potentially expose our residents to second wave of the virus.

Health

- Announced 148 new cases of Springfield residents testing positive for COVID-19 (Coronavirus).
 - 60 new cases late Friday evening
 - 45 new cases Saturday
 - 43 new cases Sunday
- Total positive cases now at 541 (11 deaths to our knowledge)
- Continues to monitor potential COVID-19 cluster locations across the city, especially at our long-term care facilities.
- School nurses continue to help with contact tracing
- Announced the continued need and importance of adhering to all public health, personal hygiene and social distancing procedures.
- Homeless tenting full facilities and operations up and running
 - AMR now partnering with city

- Robert Kirchherr, CSP, Principal and Indoor Air Quality and Industrial Hygienist for O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Engineering Associates gave a presentation on health and indoor air quality and ventilation pertaining to the city's proper decision to utilize the homeless tent triage facility instead of using other indoor room facilities which lack the proper air quality ventilation technology to purify and clean of the indoor air of potential COVID-19
- Mapping aspects have started to track virus areas and demographics.
- Activated the city's COVID-19 hotline today. Call (413) 750-3250 with COVID-19 questions.

Elder Affairs

- Continues to do wellness checks on a daily basis with people in senior housing complexes and associated with senior centers.
- Continues to deliver meals to seniors in need, including over the weekend.

DPW

- Down 2
- Trash and recycling continue to be picked up.
- Streets and Engineering continue to provide services.
- Yard waste collection continues.

Eco Dev

- Continues to review and secure additional funding for restaurant and small business assistance grants.
- Currently accepting applications for the second round of the restaurant and small business "Prime the Pump" grant program - \$500,000 funding available
 - Reminder that the deadline for applications are due Thursday April 16th at 3:00pm.
- Continues to review and identify Federal stimulus funding to focus on local efforts for relief and recovery for our residents and small businesses.
- The first round of Prime the Pump funding is schedule to be distributed this week.

Finance

- The City of Springfield continues to explore all public and private means in which to secure additional PPE's for our Police and Fire Departments and our first responders and frontline personnel.
- Continues to monitor all federal and state relief and recovery funding mechanisms.
- Implementing strategic spending measures to identify areas of need, relief and recovery while also trying to maintain city services for residents and business community.
- Continues to monitor lost revenue – city and state
 - To date the city has \$2.3 million in lost revenue, with nearly \$1 million in deficit spending – all related to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Continues proactive meetings with Josh Norman of GP Strategies to track, identify, and implement relief and recovery reimbursement aspects.

Parks and Facilities

- Continuing the deep cleaning of all city buildings and facilities
- Continuing to monitor our parks on social distancing aspects
- Completed set up of city's homeless tent triage facility – facility turned over to city's Health and Human Services Department for operational use.

Public Safety

Fire

- Down 6 – 5 firefighters and 1 dispatcher

Police

- Down 21 officers, 1 civilian
- Continue to provide anti-crime activity
- The National Guard and State Police have been fantastic working alongside SPD

Schools

- To date, Sodexo has served 205,398 meals to Springfield Public Schools students since the program began on March 12th (meals included breakfast, lunch and dinner).
- Springfield Public Schools food service provider Sodexo announced today that a daily snack will be added to the distribution of breakfast, lunch, and dinner; effective immediately.
- Over 17,000 laptops have been distributed to students thus far to facilitate remote learning.
- State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has announced that the state will modify or waive graduation requirements for students set to complete high school this summer.
- State also announced that MCAS testing is cancelled.