



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

## Friday, April 3, 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.
- Mayor Domenic J. Sarno and Health Commissioner Helen Caulton-Harris issued a joint advisory and recommendation for the public again stressing the need for social distancing and asking residents to wear face coverings when going out into public places where people are in transit.
- Scheduled to tour the city's fully operational and state of the art homeless tenting facility Saturday, April 4, 2020

### **Health**

- Announced 22 new cases of Springfield residents testing positive for COVID-19 (Coronavirus).
- Total positive cases now at 152.
- Announced the continued need and importance of adhering to all public health, personal hygiene and social distancing procedures.
- Homeless tenting full facilities and operations plan moving forward quickly for anticipated open TBA shortly.

### **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.

### **City Council**

- Scheduled a virtual meeting for April 6, 2020.

## **DPW**

- Trash and recycling continue to be picked up.
- Streets and Engineering continue to provide services
- Yard waste scheduled to begin Tuesday, April 7, 2020.

## **Eco Dev**

- Continues to review and secure additional funding for restaurant and small business assistance grants.
- Announced first round for the restaurant “Prime the Pump” grant program
  - 30 restaurants will be notified of funding
- Second round of restaurant and small business assistance grants being formalized and program guidelines being drafted. Announcement TBD.
- Continues to review and identify Federal stimulus funding to focus on local efforts for relief and recovery for our residents and small businesses.

## **Finance**

- Announced that following the state Legislature and Governor Baker approving a municipal relief bill, the City of Springfield will adjust the collection date for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Real Estate Taxes to June 1, 2020, instead of the original due date of May 1, 2020.

## **Police**

- Down 29 officers

## **Schools**

- 20,212 meals served (meals cover Friday, Saturday and Sunday)
- 99,035 meals have been served overall.
- Dinner to be include to the Schools Meal Program starting Monday, April 6, 2020
- 17 sites across the city for the Schools Meal Program. The full list of Springfield school meal sites now include: Bowles, Boland, Brookings, Chestnut Middle School, Commerce, Dorman, Glickman, Indian Orchard, Kensington, Liberty, Lincoln, Milton Bradley, Rebecca Johnson, Sumner, Talmadge, Warner and Washington schools.
  - Meals are distributed between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. weekdays.
  - Parents, guardians, and grandparents may pick up meals for school age children in their care at any of the 17 sites across the city. The student does not need to be physically present for the adult to pick up a meal. The adult will be asked at the point of pickup if the meals are for school age students. Identification is not required. Meals are available to persons with disabilities, over age 18, who participate in school programs for people who are mentally or physically disabled.
- Over 10,000 laptops are scheduled to be distributed to students.

## **School Committee**

- Will begin to conduct their April meetings virtually.
  - The Budget and Finance Subcommittee Meeting will take place Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. and the meeting of the full School Committee will take place on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
  - Both meetings will air live on Focus Springfield Channel 17. The meetings will also be livestream at <http://focusspringfield.com/watch/government> and on the Springfield Public Schools website at [www.springfieldpublicschools.com](http://www.springfieldpublicschools.com). Re-runs of the meeting will be available on demand on both websites and as regularly scheduled programming on Focus Springfield Channel 17.