

Mayor's COVID-19 Community Task Force

Meeting Notes

July 31, 2020

What's On My Mind - Mayor Hagerty

- Covid-19 numbers are increasing in Region 10 and the State of Illinois. Most of the increase is attributable to communities in Southern Illinois
- The Governor and the Illinois High School Sports Association (IHSA) have issued guidelines for Fall youth and adult sports
- A group of beachgoers at Lighthouse Beach were displaying the Confederate flag. The beachgoers hung a Confederate flag towel on the beach fence. An Evanston resident confronted the beachgoers. A rally is planned today, Friday, July 31, 2020, at Harley Clarke near the Lighthouse Beach parking lot from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. City Council and Human Services Committee is looking into ordinances regarding hate symbols

Brief Prior Day's Situation Report

- Evanston's numbers continue to look good. Region 10 indicators are moving in the wrong direction. Region 10 is at a 5.4% positivity rate and has seen an increase in the positivity rate for 8 days. Region 10 has also seen an increase in hospital admissions as well as medical and ICU beds
- The infection rate remains flat. This week Infection Rate is at 1.10
- Evanston has around 861 cases up 17 cases from last Friday. Evanston's Cumulative Positive Test Rate is at 5.69%
- Illinois' 7-day moving average cases continue to increase. Illinois is averaging around 1500 cases per day. Chicago and Cook County remains somewhat flat
- Evanston is averaging 2 cases per day. There are around 20 active cases Evanston's 7-Day Moving Average Daily Positivity Rate is around 1%
- Numbers in Senior Care Facility remain good
- Staff continues to acquire PPEs

Today's Spotlight - NU Fall Reopening Plan (Luke Figueroa)

- Northwestern University (NU) continues to monitor changes. NU Research enterprises/labs are open. Kellogg Business School is conducting a pilot program. 150

Kellogg Business school students were tested. 1 out of 150 students tested positive. The individual was asymptomatic.

- The majority of NU courses will be taught remotely. A small percentage of courses will be in person around 2%. A large percent of courses will be in the form of a hybrid model
- Students will be provided with an update regarding the student experience. A component of the program would be dedicated to a “Wildcat Wellness” period, which involves a modified stay-at-home order
- Currently modeling the residential population. On-campus residents will be below 4,000. Students have until August 5 to opt-out of housing contracts
- Will be putting in place various health and safety aspects such as masks, good hygiene, cleaning protocols, and hand washing. Planning to roll out a daily symptom monitoring check for students and add more staff to conduct contact tracing. Will test students upon arrival and will conduct asymptomatic testing. Will have isolation and quarantine facilities
- Community and Experience Group will be working on how NU can incentivize behavior and enforce compliance. All students will go through training related to COVID- 19. Students will be required to adhere to the code of conduct related to Covid-19.

Sector Updates

Hospital

- St. Francis - No report
- North Shore (Doug Silverstein)
 - Experiencing low number of Covid-19 cases this week. Only had 12 COVID-19 positive patients. Numbers have stayed steady the entire week. Remain busy in other parts of facilities. Received 900 calls from Covid-19 response line. Drive-thrus also remain busy.
 - Also conducting asymptomatic testing. Seeing uptick in positivity rate of asymptomatic patients.
 - There is not enough supply of reagent for swab testing. Residents have to wait longer for results- around 72 hours.

Recovery - Luke Stowe

- Governor announced [guidelines](#) for youth and adult sports.
 - Guidelines do not impact collegiate or professional sports

Senior Living Center – (Mary Leary)

- One new employee case was noted. Providers are conducting Hot Washes. Residents in congregate facilities are limiting outside contact. IDPH will be releasing guidance for skill nursing communities which would enable facilities to open up for visitations

PNPs – (Monique Jones)

- The nonprofit community discussed unintended witnessing of the crime scene by children in Evanston. Nonprofits are working with those families. Foundation 65 is looking into doing another fundraising campaign for residents in need
- Released a video PSA for the Evanston Care Network
- Foundation 65 is having a Book Drive through Sunday

Northwestern - Luke Figora

- See Spotlight

Schools

- Suni Kartha, of District 65, announced the deadline for parents to select a learning pathway has been extended. Deadline extended to August 5.

Legislative Updates

- Schakowsky - No report
- Senator Fine
 - Office still tracking unemployment insurance. Focusing on fraud. Individuals who received a card in the mail should reach out to the office.
- Representative Gabel
 - Looking at errors where individual applications were zeroed out.
 - IDPH site at Rolling Meadows is accepting asymptomatic individuals. Rolling Meadows site is open during the week
- Representative Gong-Gershowitz (1 min)
 - Also looking into unemployment and fraud cases.

- Comm Suffredin (1 min) - Adam Newman
 - The technical deadline to pay property taxes is August 3 but can pay through October 1 without any penalty or fee.

Business - Roger Sosa

- Continue to provide information to local businesses regarding financial opportunities and assistance. Continue to provide technical assistance, mentoring, and PPEs. Doing a strategic plan to account for business needs.

Mental Health - Dr. Christine Somerville

- Working groups are meeting weekly. Working on a community mental health dashboard. Working to align education campaigns with city guidelines.
- Education group met with the mental health group to discuss collaboration. Plan to place yard signs around the City.
- The mental health plan will be shared with City staff next week.

Faith Leaders - Rabbi London/Rev. Nabors

- No report

Mayor's Task Force meetings will continue to be held on Fridays. If there is an increase in COVID-19 cases, meetings may move to a time in the middle of the week. If you can't make the meeting, send Kimberly Richardson an email.

Next meeting will be held on Friday, August 7 at 1:30 p.m.