

Mayor's Task Force Briefing
Friday, October 23, 2020 1:30 p.m.
Meeting notes

What's On My Mind - Mayor Hagerty

- Mayor Hagerty shared that we are all still in this together as it pertains to fighting the pandemic.
- Increases in the infection rate, positivity rate, and seven-day moving average are of concern. The infection rate has risen from 1.0 to 1.25. If the infection rate increase we could expect exponential growth of the virus. Most of the infections are among young adults from the ages of 20 to 29 and are community spread. Evanston has seen a 33% increase in its positivity rate. Evanston has a positivity rate of 2.1%. Evanston's seven-day moving average of confirmed daily cases has doubled in the last week.
- Taskforce members need to increase messaging to their respective communities regarding Covid-19 precautions.
- Northwestern is experiencing some unrest. A student group is demanding the abolishment of the Northwestern Police Department. The group is conducting a 30-day march. There have been some instances of damaged property.

Brief Prior Day's Situation Report

- The positivity rate is rising. Evanston has a 2.1% positivity rate. The positivity rate for Region 10 is at 7.2%. Region 10 has seen 8 days of consecutive rise in the positivity rate.
- Hospital admissions have increased 6 out of 7 days. Surge Capacity at the hospitals has also decreased.
- Chicago (Region 11) positivity rate is at 7%. Hospital admissions have increased 5 out of 7 days and surge capacity has decreased.
- Evanston's total cases are at 1,327, Skokie at 1700, and Chicago at 92,000. There are 118 individuals in Evanston that are currently ill.
- As for cases per 10,000: Evanston is at 179 cases, Skokie is at 271 cases and Chicago is at 342 cases.
- Evanston had one fatality this week. Evanston has 74 fatalities in total.
- As it pertains to Long-term Care Facilities (LTCF), there have been 7 staff cases and 7 resident cases.

Today's Spotlight - Patrick Hughes

- Mr. Hughes shared that before the pandemic several businesses celebrated Rotary International being in Evanston. Rotary has 600 to 700 employees. To celebrate Rotary, a group of business owners turned the parking lots behind Autobarn into a drive-in movie. The event would be held through December. Funds would be donated to the two local Rotary clubs.
- Mayor Hagerty emphasized the need for these types of creative ideas which are needed to help businesses during the pandemic.
- Images of the movie night at Autobarn could be viewed here:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OMeHgnOxvJ1ujceS-3j9Mqrb2vmoddZ9/view?usp=sharing>.
- Images of Evanston Loves Rotary Movie Night at Autobarn could be viewed here:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1GQo6P6JvDp1DH4UmwTeaEKbjxIVYSv_O?usp=sharing
- Tickets could be found here:

- <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/evanston-loves-movie-night-featuring-beetlejuice-tickets-126157521543>

Sector Updates

• Hospitals

- *North Shore* - Currently has 37 patients at Glenbrook hospital; 14 more patients from last week. 3 of the patients are on ventilators. There are 5 PUIs (Patients under Investigation). The inpatient census has stabilized this week. The positivity rate for symptomatic individuals has increased from 11.7% to 18.3%. The positivity rate for asymptomatic individuals has increased from 2.1% to 4.8%
- *St. Francis* - Currently has a census of 80; 11 Covid positive patients; 16 PUIs; 3 positive individuals in ICU; 1 patient on ventilator. St. Francis has experienced 6 positive cases per day over the last week. The cumulative positivity rate remains around 12%.

- **Senior Living Center** - Concern about the increases in the positivity rate. Long-term Care Facilities would be required to do weekly surveillance testing on staff and residents. If the rate increase to 8%, LTCF would be required to go back to Phase 1 of the reopening plan for CMS. LTCFs are also concern with staffing shortages. Four Covid-19 vaccines have entered phase 3 trials.

- **PNPs** - would be meeting Wednesday to discuss the next meeting schedule.

- **Northwestern University (NU)** – Continuing with plan as-is. NU has seen a slight increase in numbers. The positive rate is at .7%. Conducting about 6000 tests per week. The undergraduate rate remains low. NU paused in-person activity at the Kellogg business school due to several social events that took place.

• Schools

- *District 65* – A decision has been made by the administration to step back from remote learning camps. Today was the last day of the remote learning camps. If numbers improve, camps would resume on the 16 of November. In-person learning for Special Education students would be delayed until November 16. Communication was sent to parents today.
- *District 205* – Entire nutrient services department is now in quarantine. District 205 is currently unable to provide meals. District 65 has picked up this service in the meantime. The engineering department was in quarantine and is now back. ETHS has had several confirmed cases of Covid-19 amongst students and several have been exposed. The city's health department has been providing ETHS with support.

• Legislative Updates

- **Congresswoman Schakowsky Office** - To help non-filers, IRS has set Nov. 10 as “**National EIP Registration Day**,” just a few days ahead of the extended Nov. 21 registration deadline. This special event will feature support from IRS partner groups inside and outside of the tax community, including those that work with low-income and underserved communities. These groups will help spread the word about the new Nov. 21 deadline and, in some cases, provide special support for people who still need to register for the payments.
- The IRS has already sent nearly 9 million letters to people who may be eligible for the \$1,200 Economic Impact Payments but don't normally file a tax return. The letters, along with the special Nov. 10 event, both urge people to use the [Non-Filers: Enter Info Here](#) tool, available exclusively on [IRS.gov](https://www.irs.gov).
- Please help promote National EIP Registration Day and get as many Economic Impact Payments as possible to as many people as possible in your district and state. An IRS news release with additional information is attached for your use. A copy of the release in English and Spanish is available at [IRS.gov/newsroom](https://www.irs.gov/newsroom), the online version is easily shared on social media.

- **Senator Fine Office** - early voting has started.
 - **Representative Gabel Office** - no report
 - **Representative Gong-Gershowitz Office** – no report
 - **Commissioner Suffredin Office** - The housing authority of Cook County has opened up its waitlist for affordable housing until November 2. Cook County's Board of Review for appealing property tax assessment is open until November 12. Concerns about ballots should be sent to Commissioner Suffredin's office.
- **Business** - Committee met this week. The focus is on outdoor dining as moved into the fall season. Provided tips and tricks to restaurants for outdoor dining. Scouted locations for doing communal outdoor dining. Continue to provide PPEs and technical and marketing support.
 - **Mental Health** - working group meeting weekly. No update
 - **Recovery** - Looking at gaps in the community and future needs. Looking to make sure there is equal access in the community. Would be looking at defining priorities and objectives. Will meet with more community leaders and providers.
 - **Functional Needs Community** – Absent
 - **Faith Leaders** - Rabbi London/Rev. Nabors - Jewish community finished celebrating holidays over the past week. Services would be resumed virtually.
- Next Meeting: October 30, 2020 at 1:30 pm**