



## **Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 5.11.2020**

**Municipalities Participating:** Addison, Bartlett, Bensenville, Burr Ridge, Carol Stream, Darien, Glen Ellyn, Hanover Park, Hinsdale, Itasca, Lemont, Lisle, Lombard, Naperville, Oakbrook, Oakbrook Terrace, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, Westmont, Wheaton, Willowbrook, Wood Dale, Woodridge S. Quintell – DuPage Mayors and Managers

**DuPage County Representatives Participants:** Chairman Dan Cronin; Sheryl Markay, Chief Policy & Program Officer

**DuPage County Health Department Participants:** Sam Tornatore, Board of Health President, Dr. Rashmi Chugh, Medical Officer; Dennis Brennan, Legislative Manager; Chris Hoff, Director of Community Health Resources; Penny Chanez, Executive Asst.

***Purpose of the call today with Mayors and Managers is to address updated case counts, Community and business updates and guidance.*** DuPage County Health Department Deputy Incident Commander, Chris Hoff facilitated the meeting.

Board of Health President, Sam Tornatore provided opening remarks and shared that Director Ayala would not be participating, due to her participation with the Governor's office on planning discussions surrounding opening Illinois. Thanked Mayors and Managers and acknowledged the pressures they are receiving from constituents and businesses.

Chairman Cronin echoed his appreciation for everyone's continued efforts; leading, navigating and fulfilling responsibilities to the pandemic requires stamina. Prevention control is complicated and while he remains optimistic to find ways to move forward, stated it is also important to be realistic. Community compliance to the measures becomes more challenging as the weather becomes nicer and understands and acknowledged the major concerns about the economy. Stated the County is entering a phase of a balance between a review of public health data, and hospitalization data while working on collaborate plans to reopen DuPage County, which includes working with the Governor in a thoughtful and deliberate way. All leaders will need to use informed collaborative judgement and referenced the 1918 pandemic which has many similarities to the current situation and decision-making process.

### **COVID-19 UPDATE ON ILLINOIS AND DUPAGE COUNTY CASES**

The Health Department's Medical Officer, Dr. Chugh provided the following case updates and remarks.

Nationally United States confirmed cases are exceeding 1.32 million.  
Deaths exceed 79,000.

- State of Illinois
  - 77,741 lab-confirmed cases
  - 3406 lab-confirmed deaths
  
- DuPage County
  - 4,615 lab-confirmed cases
  - 248 lab-confirmed deaths

Dr. Chugh and Chris Hoff provided information on determining positivity rates for DuPage County to help with making informed re-opening decisions. The following are areas for consideration during the deliberation process:

- Robust testing is needed
- Antibody testing must include interpretation of results and understanding immunity and longevity
- Robust tracking and case identification is needed. 24-hour case tracing currently recommended by the state is not feasible on the County level due to capacity in staffing that would be needed. DuPage's currently focusing on close contact tracing and isolation.
- Treatment availability – Illinois has not exceeded capacity
- Sustained reduction of positivity rates needs to be under 20% over 14 days and a decline in hospitalization rates over 28 days.
- DuPage experiences its first day of under 20%. Will this trend continue? Encouraging, but must be monitored. Case activity continues to remain high in DuPage County.
- Broader education is needed at drive through testing sites on containment measurements and the importance of self-isolating if symptomatic until confirmed results.
- Determine capacity of ICU bed numbers and whether current numbers are based on existing bed numbers or expanded bed numbers, currently the Dept. is trying to determine this information. Chairman Cronin and Director Ayala are working on this issue with hospital leadership and recognized that it is imperative to have clear and consistent data on this metric and will continue to work on getting this information.

Currently all of Illinois is considered in phase 2 of the Governor's reopen Illinois plan. Chairman Cronin responded to Mayor Grasso's question of the impact of Chicago's number of positive cases on DuPage County's ability to move forward with reopening. Chairman Cronin stated that it is important to be mindful of the Governor's wide and broad powers and that in order to move DuPage in that direction it would be important to present the Governor with compelling data and to work collaboratively and not be confrontational.

Wheaton inquired on the need for more testing sites within DuPage County and if the County could undertake this measure on a local basis. Chris Hoff responded that the Health Department is awaiting a response from the state on increasing State testing sites in DuPage County. The Health Department's efforts right now include, informing individuals where they can be tested including the site in Aurora which is currently being underutilized. Support of this effort is appreciated. The Health Department does not have the capacity for testing individuals and any new DuPage sites would need to be either run by the state, or with other healthcare providers.

DuPage Health Department website updates include:

- Community case information vs. congregated community setting cases.
- 14-day activity information including positive cases, hospitalizations and death numbers.

General Updates:

- The Health Department is working with the Regional Office of Education to address graduation season. Agreed upon recommendation is for virtual events only due to the ongoing widespread activity in the state.
- Personal Protection equipment gaps still being experienced especially in long-term care facilities. Dental offices are making inquiries since the Governor has lifted restrictions on dentists. The Health Department is unable to fulfill those requests as the priority is still to fulfill requests from long-term care facilities, first responders and healthcare workers.

Chris Hoff concluded the call at 11:00AM with no further discussion. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any other concerns or questions.