



Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 6.22.2020

Municipalities Participating: Addison, Bensenville, Bloomingdale, Burr Ridge, Carol Stream, Clarendon Hills, Darien, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Glen Ellyn, Hinsdale, Lisle, Naperville, Oakbrook, Oakbrook Terrace, Villa Park, West Chicago, Willowbrook, Winfield, S. Quintell – DuPage Mayors and Managers

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

DuPage County Health Department Participants: Sam Tornatore, Board of Health President; Karen Ayala, Executive Director; 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.

Executive Director, Karen Ayala welcomed everyone and reviewed the topics to be discussed on the call.

- Addressed the political nature being observed regarding public health guidelines and reiterated that public health guideline is based on public health practice.
- Review of testing sites now offered in DuPage County
- Overview of case investigation and contact tracing
- Available signage resources
- Holiday activities and celebrations
- Noted that reviewing the current spread of COVID-19 nationally, indicators show that the decisions made by the State of Illinois have resulted in positive direction for the state in comparison to other areas across the country.
- Phase IV discussion

Chairman Cronin welcomed everyone and is encouraged in the direction of positivity rates in DuPage County, but also expressed caution as the County moves into Phase IV of the Governor's reopening plan, emphasizing the need to remain vigilant considering spikes in virus activity in other parts of the country.

- Noted the importance to communicate with residents to continue to practice public health protocols of social distancing, wearing a mask, washing hands and staying home when sick and encouraged participants to take advantage of the signage available from the Health Department to assist businesses with back to work guidelines for employees.
- The testing site at the fairgrounds and two additional sites are operational and running smoothly. There is no charge for anyone wishing to be tested.
- Expressed caution for any scheduled Fourth of July/holiday plans.

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 at 2,281,069

Deaths at 119,977

- State of Illinois
 - 136,762 confirmed cases
 - 6,647 deaths
- DuPage County
 - 8,684 confirmed cases
 - 444 deaths

Dr. Chugh and Chris Hoff provided information on next steps and answers to questions relating to the reopening of DuPage County to assist Mayors and Managers with making informed decisions. The Health Department continues monitoring current trends line indicators and observed the following for moving forward from Phase III to Phase IV of the Governor's reopening plan:

- Trends continue to look encouraging and continue on a downward trend
- Overall testing capacity continues to remain higher than previous months
- Positivity over recent days under 5% at the state as well as county levels
- Positivity rate by community is not tracked but the positivity rate at the DuPage County testing site where approx. 1,100 people have been tested is at 2%
- Metrics on hospitalizations are continuing to experience relatively low activity rate even with reporting lag. Continued downward trend.
- Numbers of deaths also show a continued downward trend

Reopening Guidance

Director Ayala shared the following:

- The Health Department's Health Promotions team has created signage and developed a video that explains the process that occurs at the testing site to address the anxiety some individuals are experiencing regarding the testing process. Please link these tools to your site or village wide cable networks. Spanish version to be released soon.
- Signage is also available on the Health Department's website for businesses that are reopening. Director Ayala also shared that there is great benefit with consistent messaging and encouraged participants to utilize these resources.
- Addressing a question from Mayor Pecak of Lisle on the possibility of future antibody testing sites in DuPage County – due to the current lack of understanding of antibody testing at the individual level, the County is not pursuing antibody testing sites, but is willing to revisit should these type of tests become more understood and public health actionable.

Alternate Housing Options

The Health Department has leased a location in Addison from the Ray Graham Association for the purpose of housing individuals who are isolating due to COVID-19 and cannot be in their home environment. Rooms are fully outfitted with a capacity to house 6 individuals. A reference sheet is available which outlines eligibility requirements and rules. There is no charge associated with staying at the location.

Phase IV Guidelines and July 4th Activities

Mr. Hoff shared that there is no official guidance from the State for fireworks, parades, and other associated events for July 4th activities. Leaders are encouraged to reach out to the Health Department to help put together plans that include public health guidelines. Individuals who work with vulnerable populations, particularly in long term care settings need to be extra cautious and limit their exposures.

New phase IV guidelines were just released and will be reviewed over the next couple of days. A few items of note include:

- Gatherings permitted for up to 50 people with public health protocols in place
- Swimming pool guidance to be provided from the Illinois Department of Public Health and have not yet been released.
- Trampoline parks – not to be opened under phase IV
- Restaurants and bars are not being subjected to capacity limits, provided they can meet the guidelines of 6 feet of spacing between tables, public health protocols and all staff must be masked. The Health Department continues to receive numerous complaints of area businesses where staff are not or are improperly masked. Standing areas do have a maximum occupancy of 25% of standing area capacity per the guidelines.
- Addressing a question from Mayor Grasso – currently there is no timeframe for entering into Phase V and hitting this benchmark is currently being based on vaccine availability or widely available treatment options. Chairman Cronin acknowledged the Mayor's economic concerns particularly for small businesses and their viability. The struggle is finding the balance between economics and public health and there are no simple answers.

There was no further discussion. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any other concerns or questions. Director Ayala concluded the call at 10:56AM with no further discussion.