



## **Mayors and Managers Meeting Notes from 11.20.2020**

**Municipalities Participating:** Addison, Bartlett, Bensenville, Burr Ridge, Carol Stream, Clarendon Hills, Downers Grove, Elmhurst, Glendale Heights, Hanover Park, Hinsdale, Itasca, Lemont, Lisle, Naperville, Oakbrook, Oakbrook Terrace, Roselle, Schaumburg, Villa Park, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, Willowbrook, Woodridge, S. Quintell – DuPage Mayors and Managers

**DuPage County Representatives Participants:** Sheryl Markay, Chief Policy and Program Officer

**DuPage County Health Department Participants;** Karen Ayala, Executive Director; Rashmi Chugh, Medical Officer; Dennis Brennan, Legislative Manager; Chris Hoff, Director of Community Health Resources; Adam Forker, Director of Client Access, 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.

Director Ayala commented that this week is a pivotal of week since start of the pandemic with the increased potential risk and spread of virus and also for the recent news of potential vaccine availability in the near future. Today's call will discuss strategies to continue to address the pandemic and the need for participant's support in mitigation efforts.

Board of Health President, Sam Tornatore, shared his appreciation of the Health Department's ongoing efforts. Mr. Tornatore shared that more individuals are following the rules and the protocols of Public Health, but many others are still finding themselves on the wrong side of COVID-19. Mr. Tornatore requested that participants continue to be diligent with their efforts in their communities.

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

The Health Department's Medical Officer, Dr. Chugh provided updates focused on local levels of positive case count activity.

### DuPage County

- confirmed cases: 38,418
- deaths: 689

- Average age of confirmed cases from
  - March to present was 42 years of age
  - From 11/9 -11/22 is 40 years of age
- Average age of hospitalized cases from
  - March to present was 62 years of age.
  - From 11/9 -11/22 is 66 years of age
- Average age of deaths related to COVID-19 from
  - March to present was 80 years of age
  - From 11/9 -11/22 is 80 years of age

### **Data/DuPage County Health Department COVID-19 Dashboard Review**

Dr. Chugh and Mr. Hoff reviewed with participants the current local data trends from the Health Department's COVID -19 dashboard found on the department's website.

- Age Group Data
  - All age groups continue to see increases in COVID-19 cases with adult age groups, particularly 20-39 years and 40-59 years, case counts experiencing the largest increases.
  - Current daily counts dwarf the 7-day rolling average of daily case counts by over 4 times as many that occurred during the peak in May 2020.
- Hospitalizations and Death Data
  - The continuing increases in both hospitalization and death counts are concerning.
  - Current increases in hospitalizations is 3.6 times more than the previous month.
  - The daily census report does indicate a more significant increase in daily admissions for the 6 hospitals located in DuPage County. Concerns with this level of increases include availability of beds and personal protection equipment and the ability to sustain adequate staffing. Current data indicate that a prompt and coordinated effort by individuals and the community is needed to reverse the trend.
  - Just this past weekend, 11 deaths were reported on Sunday and 6 deaths were reported on Saturday.
- Masking
  - A draft template on a mask ordinance was provided to participants as an example that they could use for a resolution or other means for their communities. The template is meant to be supportive in nature and instructive in efforts.
  - The DuPage County Health Department is supportive of and promoting the evidence available on universal masking as a preventive measure against the spread of COVID-19.

- Testing Updates
  - Substantial increases in the numbers of daily COVID-19 cases, including over 1,600 this past weekend, is creating a backlog in the ability of contact tracers to keep up with demands. Currently contact tracers are closing over 500 cases a day.
  - Participants were asked to provide residents with messaging on the need to properly isolate and quarantine if they have been in contact with someone who has tested positive, have symptoms themselves or are awaiting test results:
    - **For anyone who has COVID-19 and their close contacts**, information and resources are available in English and Spanish on our [COVID-19: Information and Resources](#) page.
  - The DuPage County Health Department has opened another community-based testing site located at the Odeum Expo Center in Villa Park. The site will be operational this week Monday - Wednesday only, due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Normal operation hours will be Sunday - Friday 10:00AM – 6:00PM. The site reported that over 230 people have already been there this morning. 600 tests are available daily and the Health Department has contracted with a lab to provide results. Testing is free to anyone.
  - Mobile testing sites that can provide 500 tests daily are available to communities through the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Dates for mobile testing sites are available on Dec. 5 and Dec. 10.
- Vaccine Planning
  - Effectiveness of the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines appear on target and the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) has been asked to review a request for the emergency use of these vaccines. This review will occur on Dec. 10. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has also been requested to review and prioritize the use of these vaccines.
  - Upon approval, the likely recommendation for use will be first for Tier I health care personnel, essential workers in fire/police, adults with underlying medical conditions that are at greater risk for negative outcomes if contracting the virus and individuals in congregate settings such as long-term care facilities.
  - Vaccine distribution will include enrollment in a state registry for the purposes of tracking individuals for a second dose of vaccine since it is anticipated that two doses of the same vaccine will be needed for effective prevention.
  - Initial doses are expected to be in small quantities and people will need to continue to adhere to the public health mitigation measures of distancing, washing hands, wearing a mask, and limiting going out in public except for essential purposes. More broad vaccine distribution is not anticipated for at least 3 - 6 months.
  - Points of dispensing may include immunization clinics that allow for distancing and drive through capabilities.

- Most vaccines take 1 to 2 weeks for antibodies to be present. The protection someone gains from having an infection (called natural immunity) varies depending on the disease, and it varies from person to person. Since this virus is new, we don't know how long natural immunity might last. Some early evidence—based on some people—seems to suggest that natural immunity may not last very long. Regarding vaccination, we won't know how long immunity lasts until we have a vaccine and more data on how well it works.

Both natural immunity and vaccine-induced immunity are important aspects of COVID-19 that experts are trying to learn more about, and CDC will keep the public informed as new evidence becomes available. There have been no recommendations released on COVID-19 vaccines for children.

- Education measures are needed around the vaccine for the general population and particularly in communities of diversity and who experience health disparities.

### **Final Comments**

Director Ayala shared that the Health Department is meeting with individuals in the business sector for the purpose of understanding the Tier 3 mitigation efforts and the significant challenges especially to restaurants and bars, and the need for balancing practicality with harm reduction strategies. Efforts will be transparent and equitably enforced. Mayor Grasso of Burr Ridge added that Mayor would like to coordinate with the Health Department on these efforts.

A list of references and resources were provided in the chat box addressing items discussed in today's call.

### **TESTING AND CONTACT TRACING**

- **DCHD Guidance and Questions on Testing**  
<https://www.dupagehealth.org/covid19testing>
- **DCHD Information on Contact Tracing**  
<https://www.dupagehealth.org/645/COVID-19-Information-and-Resources>

### **VACCINE**

- **COVID-19 vaccine development and prioritization decisions. - CDC**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- **Frequently Asked Questions on Vaccines - CDC**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/faq.html>
- **Community Use of Cloth Masks to Control the Spread of SARS-CoV-2 - CDC**  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/masking-science-sars-cov2.html>

**TIER 3 MITIGATION - IDPH**

- <https://www2.illinois.gov/dceo/Documents/Tier%203%20Mitigation%20FAQ.pdf>

There was no further discussion. Participants were encouraged to reach out with any other concerns or questions. Mr. Hoff concluded the call at 10:47 AM.