

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 09/25/2020

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COVID-19 UPDATE

Since Wednesday, 26 Residents have Tested Positive, 16 More have Recovered, and City Learns of One New Fatality Related to COVID-19;

Mayor Spicer and the Framingham Board of Health Issue a Joint Order Providing Guidance about the Size

Of a Party Seated at any Table in a City Restaurant;

Community Outreach Teams in Framingham this weekend;

State of Massachusetts asks Residents to Take Survey to Understand COVID-19's Impact;

Community Hour Tuesday, Sept. 29: Surviving and Thriving, One Framingham Business at a Time

- Since Wednesday, 26 residents have tested positive, 16 more have recovered, and City learns of one new fatality related to COVID-19: The number of people in the City who have tested positive for COVID-19 is 2,227. With 1,962 recovered and 134 fatalities, Framingham currently has 131 active cases. The Framingham Health Department contacts the people who were potentially exposed and the owners of the businesses or places of employment where the potential exposures occurred to inform and counsel them on next steps (contact tracing). In addition to the active cases, the Health Department is following 86 residents in quarantine.
- Mayor Yvonne M. Spicer and the Framingham Board of Health issue a joint order providing guidance about the size of a party seated at any table in a City restaurant: Earlier this week, the Commonwealth issued new sector-specific restaurant, retail, and indoor and outdoor events safety standards (effective Monday, September 28). The new restaurant standards include allowing up to 10 people per table inside restaurants, and while bars remain closed, restaurants would be able to use bar areas for food service. In the updated sector-specific order, the State specifically noted that these standards were minimum requirements and that restaurant operators are required to comply with all additional federal, state and local requirements. While Framingham has not seen an increase in COVID-19 cases from restaurants, the City remains a "high-risk" community for COVID-19 transmission. As such, the Mayor and the Framingham Board of Health today issued a joint order that, notwithstanding the updated state order the size of a party seated at any restaurant table (in the main dining and bar areas) in Framingham cannot exceed six people until further notice, to reduce the risk of further transmission of COVID-19 due to large gatherings. In all other effects the State sector-specific guidance will take effect in Framingham on September 28, 2020.
- Community Outreach Teams in Framingham this weekend to increase COVID-19 education and distribute hand sanitizer:

Anticipated Schedule for Saturday, September 26:

 10 a.m. - noon: Business walk along Hollis St., to hand out flyers and to distribute window signs and stacks of literature to businesses

- o 10 a.m. noon: Tesoros Supermarket (80 Hollis St.) Table set up to hand out flyers and hand sanitizers
- 12:30 2:30 p.m.: Business Walk along Waverly St., to distribute window signs and stacks of literature to businesses
- 12:30 2:30 p.m.: Seabra Foods (208 Waverly St.) Table set up to hand out flyers and hand sanitizers
- o 3-4 p.m.: Handing out flyers at Cushing Memorial Park

Anticipated Schedule for Sunday, September 27:

- 10-11:30 a.m.: Business walk along Hollis St., to hand out flyers and to distribute window signs and stacks of literature to businesses
- 12-2 p.m.: Tesoros Supermarket (80 Hollis St.) Table set up to hand out flyers and hand sanitizers
- 12-2 p.m.: Seabra Foods (208 Waverly St.) Table set up to hand out flyers and hand sanitizers
- 3-4 p.m.: Handing out flyers at Cushing Memorial Park

Please Note: Schedule, locations, and outreach initiatives are subject to change

- State of Massachusetts asks residents to take a survey to understand COVID-19's impact: Take the new COVID-19 Multi-lingual Community Impact Survey today. The survey is available in multiple languages, including Portuguese and Spanish.
- Community Hour Tuesday, September 29, at 5 p.m. Surviving and Thriving, One Framingham Business at a Time: Mayor Spicer will be joined by Kevin Shea, Director of the Planning and Community Development Division, to discuss economic development in the City focused on Framingham's COVID-19 Emergency Small Business Grant program. If people cannot attend and have questions, please email kmcfalls@framinghamma.gov with the subject line: September 29 Community Hour. Click here for information on how to join. The Community Hour will be available on the Framingham Government Channel and live on Access Framingham TV on RCN channel 3, RCN HD channel 1100, Verizon channel 43, and Comcast channel 9. A video recording of the Zoom will be available following for those who cannot attend or watch.

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