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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 04/05/2020 For further information contact:

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## \*COVID-19 UPDATE\*

Thirty-one Additional Framingham Residents Test Positive for COVID-19, Bringing Total to 143; From the CDC: Create and Wear Cloth Masks in Public to Slow the Spread of COVID-19

- Thirty-one more people test positive for COVID-19: The number of people in the City who have tested positive for COVID-19 is now 143. With 21 cases recovered and five fatalities, Framingham currently has 117 active cases. Following the guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Framingham Department of Health has not shared any additional information about those who have tested positive because of privacy laws. The Department is in contact with the people who were potentially exposed to the positive cases and the owners of the businesses or places of employment where the potential exposures occurred to inform and counsel them on next steps.
- Use cloth face coverings to help slow the spread of COVID-19: The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that according to <u>recent studies</u>, a significant portion of people with COVID-19 lack symptoms, and those who eventually develop symptoms can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms. This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity—for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing—even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms. In light of this new evidence, the CDC recommends wearing a cloth face-covering in public settings where other social distancing measures are challenging to maintain (e.g., grocery stores and pharmacies), especially in areas of significant community-based transmission. To create and fit your own face mask, please reference <u>information</u> from CDC.
- COVID-19 in Framingham: Information on COVID-19 in Framingham can be found at www.FraminghamMa.Gov/covid19, which is updated daily. To receive information from the City on a mobile device, people can text "Join FraminghamMA" to 30890. Standard messaging and data rates may apply. Residents also can find updates on <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a> and Twitter @Framingham\_MA. For questions regarding COVID-19 in Framingham, please call the Emergency Operations Center at (508) 532-5800. If there is an urgent update, the City will employ the "Alert Framingham" phone messaging system, otherwise known as Rave. To sign up for the City's Rave system, please go here: <a href="https://www.smart911.com/">https://www.smart911.com/</a>