



CITY OF FRAMINGHAM

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COVID-19 UPDATE

**In the Middle of COVID-19 Surge, 80 More Residents Test Positive,
City Learns of Two New Virus-related Fatalities;**

*Twenty-six of the New Cases Connected to Carlyle House Skilled Nursing Facility;
Eighteen of the New Cases Connected to St. Patrick's Manor;
City Offering Support Services to Long Term Care Facilities*

- **Eighty more people test positive for COVID-19 in Framingham, and City learns of two new fatalities related to the virus:** The number of people in the City who have tested positive for COVID-19 is now 515. With 101 cases recovered and 11 fatalities, Framingham currently has 403 active cases. The new case count reflects many residents of long term care facilities who tested positive but with no symptom of the disease. 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 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).
- **City is offering support services to long term care facilities:** The City's Department of Public Health and Fire Department, in collaboration with Brewster Ambulance Services, is offering emergency support services to all Framingham long term care facilities if requested. Services include assistance to request staffing and PPE from the state, isolation and infection control technical support, emergency stop-gap staffing help, and system-wide testing of the facility. The City is also offering a temporary hotel stay for workers who need to be isolated or quarantined as an option.

"As more long term care facilities test all of their residents and staff, regardless if they are symptomatic or not, we are going to see the number of those who test positive for COVID-19 increase, and we anticipate those higher numbers to continue for the time being," said Dr. Sam Wong, Director of Framingham's Public Health Department. "The results of testing in the City's long term care facilities will help inform us about those most vulnerable for serious illness upon contracting COVID-19 and allow us to best support the facilities that house them through the pandemic." Framingham is home to numerous care facilities, including Bethany Healthcare Center, Branches, Brookdale, Carlyle House, Carmel Terrace, Casa de Ramana, Encompass Health, Heritage, Oak Knoll, and St Patrick's Manor.

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