

Access to Testing and Care

- What should residents do if they suspect they have Coronavirus.... Do they call their PCP to be tested or do they call the local health department? Both?
- How many tests are available to residents right now? Will the state pay if insurance doesn't?
- What about the uninsured residents? Our community has many that are uninsured and many are scared by "public charge" language and are avoiding even the most routine of care.
- I wonder whether buying a subsidized plan through the Health Connector (paying a small premium, based on income) rather than getting a free plan on MassHealth would still be considered a public charge?
- What is the Cambridge Health Alliance's capacity to deal with severely ill seniors? Do they have any specialists in severe respiratory disease? How many respirators?
- Is Somerville going to set up facilities for medical monitoring for those who fall short of needing hospitalization but do need care/monitoring and isolation?
- I received this note: "I'm 83, and a CHA patient, and terrified." The constituent is concerned that there will not be capacity within CHA and other clinics/hospitals to handle more serious or complex cases. Do we have any sense of how we are preparing to handle an influx of patients?
- With the Biogen conference, can you help us understand how those cases were handled? How did it happen that there were people who were circulating in the public, though their potential exposure was known? Or was it not known until later?

City/District Employees and Contractors/Other Employees

- Are City and School employees and officials being given clear guidance on how they should handle their own prospective illness? Will they be allowed paid sick leave outside of their contracts to deal with a quarantine pursuant to City or Schools policy during which they are not ill? What are City contractors doing about their employees, especially sanitation workers that would seem to be at elevated risk?
- Is there a plan in place in case members of our Police and Fire departments and EMTs become infected or exposed to someone who is infected? Do they self-quarantine for two weeks, and, if so, how does this affect our staffing? (One person exposed on the FD puts the group before theirs and after at risk. Leaving one group to cover...)
- Cleaning crews from the City and private companies are doing work that's heroic and that keeps us all safe.... I am worried that cleaning workers are at risk. Can we do anything?

Social Distancing/Self Quarantine

- Should we avoid interaction between people who do not seem sick but are interacting with many others and people who are in the highest risk categories? (e.g. Should a multi-generational family with kids in the schools try to separate them from older grandparents?)
- Should City/District employees who are in the highest risk categories and who work in jobs with a great deal of public contact not go to work?
- Are we going to start taking temperatures anywhere before events?

- If displaced students or other residents travel from Somerville to other locations in the country or overseas, should they notify the receiving community's Health Department and self-quarantine? Is this region at that level of outbreak?

Closure Decisions

- Do we know what the criteria are for more aggressive closures, such as schools and smaller events? Is it based on the number of cases community-wide, cases at a particular location, guidance from the State, or some other factor?
- What will be the trigger to decide to close schools? And social distancing. What can they do in the schools to promote social distancing. I'm wondering if they can try to "isolate" each class. Companies, including my own, are taking social distancing measures. I believe all school assemblies and any events that bring additional people into the school should be canceled. Can we have the students eat in their classrooms and have specialists come into the classrooms? This is all an intermediary step to schools closing.
- If schools close for extended periods, what are plans to make up or waive school?
- I would love some guidance on the parameters for canceling city meetings. Should we proactively be canceling meetings that might be of a certain size or not organizing them at all?
- In the event that SPS closes, will guidelines be issued for city programs that serve the same or overlapping population but are not part of the school system? (Lots of after school programs in the area are not exactly clear on what we should do.)
- What are plans to close non-essential city services? For example, it would be helpful for people with in-progress construction projects to know if we should expect Zoning/Planning or ISD to close or switch to WFH where possible.

Readiness and Support for Households Affected by Disruptions

- Do we really need to hoard water? Does the city anticipate basic utility problems?
- Is there something we can do to help vulnerable residents, such as a system in place if an older person doesn't have anyone to ask for help and needs some to go grocery shopping for them? Will the City (or somebody) be asking for a volunteer corps of some type?
- If we close schools, how will we support those families who rely on the school system for meals? Is there a plan in place for this? Same for those families who cannot afford to miss work and may need support in terms of childcare and/or support if they do miss work and need assistance to ensure their needs are met. San Jose is currently working on a moratorium for evictions, among other things to help curb these
- What plans are in place for distance learning? Student access to computers? And an emphasis as above on food and housing security for all.
- My concern is the many housing buildings we have across the city with a large elderly population. Many of them are living on fixed incomes and cannot follow the suggested guidelines for having extra medications or food supplies on hand. How can we make sure they are doing okay?
- What types of measures can be put in place to help those whose income will be seriously affected if they are not able to work from home / there is a serious drop in business - i.e. hourly workers, those in the service industry, small local businesses, etc.?
- Many elderly people and non-elderly live alone. If they are sick to the point of being bedridden, but not hospitalized, they'll need someone to actually come into their house to care for them, not just leave groceries on the porch. How will that work? I'm also concerned about people like me who are caregivers for others and don't have family nearby to help out. If a caregiver gets sick, they'd also need access to help that doesn't involve going

to a hospital and will take care of the person they usually provide care for. I'm thinking that religious communities we belong to may be places to reach out to for volunteer help. Obviously this would put volunteers at risk of infection without proper gear.

- I have a question about recommendations for a household with a young child/children in the case where both parents get sick what should they do and what resources could they reach out to?

Continuation of Key City/District Services and Functions

- How does governance continue if the Council is unable to meet in person or doesn't have a quorum? This seems like a time when having a system of governance intact is critical.