



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Anthony P. Monaco, *President*

July 31, 2020

The Honorable Katjana Ballantyne
Somerville City Council, Ward 7
49 Russell Road
Somerville, MA 02144

Dear Councilor Ballantyne,

Thank you for contacting me regarding the reopening of our Medford/Somerville campus in the Fall of 2020. The health, safety and security of our neighbors, students, faculty and staff is our top priority. I will be hosting a community meeting on Tuesday, August 4th, 2020 at 5:30pm to walk through our reopening plan, engage our neighbors and answer their questions. I appreciate the questions that you have collected from constituents and hope to answer many of them at our meeting. Your constituents can find the most up to date information on our reopening plan, community messages and frequently asked questions on <https://coronavirus.tufts.edu/> . Should they have any questions, comments or concerns, they can always contact the office of Government and Community Relations at Tufts at **617-627-3780** and/or communityrelations@tufts.edu .

Tufts University has developed a comprehensive plan with multiple layers of protection including surveillance testing, contact tracing, quarantining and isolation. Students will be required to wear masks whenever they leave their room both on- and off-campus. We understand that our students interact with the community every day. Protecting the health and well-being of all our students, faculty and staff will protect the health and well-being of our neighbors. As you mentioned in your letter, some of our students are already living off-campus in the community and reopening will give us the ability to test them on a regular basis.

Our fall reopening plans were driven by data and modeling and built to be flexible given the uncertainties we have experienced so far in the pandemic. We are watching the developments in each state daily as well as guidance from the Commonwealth and will make adjustments to our plans as needed, including amending move-in phases for undergraduates. In accordance with updated travel guidance from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the University has also updated our move-in plans for the Fall semester. Please visit our Student Life [website](#) for more information.

We will also comply with the state's requirement for out-of-region students to quarantine upon arrival. While they can produce a negative test result 72 hours before travel, they will still be tested on the first day upon arrival and every three (3) days subsequently to reduce the number of initial cases

- There is a robust protocol for educating students about our new expectations for their behavior. The protocol is evidence-based and has been proven to work to address a variety of public health situations in the past. In addition, special student ambassadors will be providing masks and education to everyone on campus and TUPD will be conducting enforcement appropriately.

Thank you for the City's continued partnership with Tufts University. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Rocco DiRico at the office of Government and Community Relations at 617-627-3780.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony P. Monaco".

Anthony P. Monaco