



Good afternoon,

I hope you and yours are safe and well. If you are like me, you have been following the news closely and find the dramatic rise in positive COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations over the past several days alarming. As I continue to serve as the liaison for the City of Dallas to our hospital community, I feel very fortunate to know that we have strong multiple hospital systems in North Texas that are working collaboratively on a surge plan. I was also happy to learn today that federal funding for our two testing sites has been extended for two additional weeks. Please note that the American Airlines center will close on June 30th, and a new location will open at the University of Dallas at Irving on July 1st. Before I dive further into changes in regulations due to COVID, I hope you will take a moment to take the survey linked at the bottom of this newsletter asking for resident feedback regarding accessory dwelling units.

As you may be aware, Governor Abbott released an executive order earlier this morning closing down bars and night clubs as of noon today (they may remain open for drive thru and take out), restaurants dining capacity will be reduced to 50% again beginning Monday, June 29th, rafting and tubing business have been ordered to close immediately, and outdoor gatherings of 100 people or more must be approved by local governments (with certain exceptions). The full order can be found [here](#).

Like many of you, I deeply miss the routine of normal life and am constantly adjusting to living with uncertainty. I wish I could tell you when that should begin again. Unfortunately, our reality is that this virus is not going anywhere, and it poses a threat to everyone. Half of the most recent cases have been in younger adults, ages 18-39. While many are able to recover in their homes, others have been hospitalized. We must continue to be vigilant in wearing masks, washing our hands, and limiting outings to only necessary trips.

Earlier this week Rob Kaplan, President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, spoke with the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce about the economic impact of COVID-19. He does predict job growth to continue throughout the year, although predictive models still show an unemployment rate upwards of 8%. He believes that the biggest factor in aiding economic growth is how well we execute wearing masks, extensive testing and contact tracing. If these past few weeks have shown us anything, we are not doing this effectively. A resurgence in cases are likely to cause more restrictive measures like the ones Governor Abbott released today, and will likely cause consumer uncertainty and caution which will further slow economic recover. For his full talk, watch the Youtube video [here](#).

My office has also received several questions about how to report businesses that violate state and local ordinances. For businesses in Dallas County that are not enforcing the mask regulations, call DCHHS Environmental Health, 214-819-2112. If a bar or restaurant that serves alcohol is violating the current state orders, you can report them online [here](#).

July is Council recess, and both my staff and I will continue to work. I am taking less meetings to focus my time on our response to COVID-19 and examining the City budget. If you need anything, please continue to reach out to my Council Liaison, Sarah Evans, at sarah.evans@dallascityhall.com or by phone at 214-670-3816 or my Council Assistant, Alexandra Heller-Relayze at alexandra.relayze@dallascityhall.com or by phone at 214-670-7057.

COVID-19 Update

As of 11:00am June 26, 2020, Dallas County Health and Human Services is reporting 496 additional positive cases of 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19), bringing the total case count in Dallas County to 19,034, including 344 deaths.

The additional 10 deaths being reported today include:

- A man in his 50's who was a resident of the City of Irving. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 50's who was a resident of the City of Garland. She had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Irving. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Mesquite. He had been hospitalized.
- A man in his 60's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He was found deceased at home, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 70's who was a resident of the City of Garland. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Dallas. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.
- A woman in her 80's who was a resident of a long-term care facility in the City of Duncanville. She had been hospitalized, and had underlying high risk health conditions.
- A man in his 80's who was a resident of the City of Farmers Branch. He had been critically ill in an area hospital, and did not have underlying high risk health conditions.

The full report from the County released today can be found [here](#).

COVID Data & Resources

Dr. Tim Bray in conjunction with his colleagues at UT Dallas released very helpful COVID-19 data dashboards. You can reach the homepage at <https://urbanpolicyresearch.org/covid19>, or the county dashboard directly at <https://urbanpolicyresearch.org/covid19/county-data-dashboard>. This includes hospital capacity, number tested positive, increases by last 7 days, among other helpful information. This is one of the best resources available and may answer many questions you have.

For testing and other information (Spanish and English) visit Dallascityhall.com/COVID19 and 214.670.INFO

For residents without transportation or means to access the drive-through testing sitescityofdallasmobiletesting.com.

The Office of Innovation offers a symptom tracker survey which can be taken once a

daysurveymonkey.com/r/DFWCOVID19

The City of Dallas offers a community resource hub with support services available to those impacted by COVID-19 . <https://communityresources.dallascityhall.com/WCIA>

Dallas County released the latest COVID-19 summary [here](#).

Accessory Dwelling Unit Survey

The City is exploring the possibility of allowing accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all neighborhoods throughout the city. The Sustainable Development and Construction Department is soliciting input from residents on their thoughts on ADUs (also known as granny flats, garage apartments, back houses, or mother-in-law quarters). If you would like to provide your input, please [click here](#) to complete a short survey.

Stay safe and take care,

Jennifer



Jennifer S. Gates

Councilmember District 13

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