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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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City of Cleveland Daily News Updates - #322

The City of Cleveland continues to take numerous precautions across multiple departments and divisions amid increasing cases of coronavirus (COVID-19). Below are some important updates. **Mayor Frank G. Jackson signed an order on Feb. 24, 2021 extending the City's Proclamation of Civil Emergency through March 31, 2021.** [Click here to view the order.](#) Essential services such as Police, Fire, EMS, waste collection and Utilities will remain operational.

Pipeline Infrastructure Improvements Update

On Monday March 29, 2021, Dominion Energy Ohio's gas pipeline infrastructure replacement project will begin on the following street:

- Union Avenue – From Kinsman Road to East 88th Street

The improvements include replacing the old steel mainline with a new plastic mainline in the sidewalk area. A work zone will be established which will allow two-way traffic with traffic control personnel present to help direct traffic flow. Access to adjacent driveways will be maintained throughout construction. All work zones will be removed at the end of each work day. The work on the project will take place Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This project is scheduled for completion by November 2021. Should the weather not allow for permanent restoration to the sidewalk, a temporary 2" thick concrete sidewalk will be installed for pedestrian traffic. A concrete cap will be placed on all road crossings until permanent concrete restorations can be completed in the spring.

Should there be any questions, please contact Matt Lenke - Hill International at 330-353-7111.

Pipeline Infrastructure Improvements Update

On Monday March 29, 2021, Dominion Energy Ohio's gas pipeline infrastructure replacement project will begin on the following streets:

- Huss Avenue – From East 55th Street to East 59th Street
- Ackley Road – From 5909 Ackley Road to Linton Ave
- Union Avenue – From Broadway Avenue to East 65th Street
- Consul Avenue – From East 66th Street to East 69th Street
- East 69th Street – From Union Avenue to Salem Avenue
- Ovington Avenue – From East 66th Street to Regent Road
- Regent Road – From Consul Avenue to 455 Regent Road

- Regent Road – From E 66th to 3338 Regent Road
- Boston Avenue – Intersection of Boston Avenue and Regent Road
- Hillman Avenue – From Broadway Avenue to East 66th Street
- Morton Avenue – From Broadway Avenue to East 66th Street
- East 66th Street – From Boston Avenue to Regent Road

The improvements include replacing the old steel mainline with a new plastic mainline in the sidewalk area. A work zone will be established which will allow two-way traffic with traffic control personnel present to help direct traffic flow. Access to adjacent driveways will be maintained throughout construction. All work zones will be removed at the end of each work day. The work on the project will take place Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This project is scheduled for completion in May 2021 and restoration by end of June 2021. Should there be any questions, please contact Matt Lenke - Hill International at 330-353-7111.

Pipeline Infrastructure Improvements Update: East 66th Street and Zoeter Avenue

On Monday April 5, 2021, Dominion Energy Ohio's gas pipeline infrastructure replacement project will begin on the following streets:

- East 66th Street – From Lexington Avenue to Superior Avenue
- East 68th Street – From Whitney Avenue to Superior Avenue
- East 70th Street – From Lexington Avenue to Wade Park Avenue
- East 71st Street – From Linwood Avenue to Wade Park Avenue
- Linwood Avenue – From East 66th Street to East 71st Street
- Lawnview Avenue – From East 66th Street to East 71st Street
- Zoeter Avenue – From East 66th Street to East 71st Street
- Pennsylvania Avenue – From East 66th Street to East 70th Street
- Whitney Avenue – From East 66th Street to East 68th Street

The improvements include replacing the old steel mainline with a new plastic mainline in the sidewalk area. A work zone will be established which will allow two-way traffic with traffic control personnel present to help direct traffic flow. Access to adjacent driveways will be maintained throughout construction. All work zones will be removed at the end of each work day. The work on the project will take place Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This project is scheduled for completion by the end of August 2021.

Should there be any questions, please contact Matt Lenke - Hill International at 330-353-7111.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Warns of Unemployment Fraud

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services has reported that thousands of new unemployment claims are being investigated as potential cases of fraud. According to the ODJFS, in the week ending Feb. 6, there were 140,444 new unemployment claims filed in the state. That's a 194% increase from the prior week.

If you suspect that your personal information has been stolen and/or you received a 1099-G tax form from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and did not apply for unemployment benefits in 2020, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services encourages you to do the following:

Step One: Report Identity Theft to ODJFS

Visit <https://unemploymenthelp.ohio.gov/>

- Click “Report Identify Theft”
- Click “Report Identify Theft Individuals”

Complete the secure online form and submit. The ODJFS will issue confirmation emails to everyone who files a report with information about identity theft and protection. The agency will process the reports, conduct investigations and, if necessary, issue corrections to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on 1099s issued to victims. **You can also call the Ohio Unemployment ID Theft Hotline at (833) 658-0394.**

Step Two:

How to File Your Taxes (if you received a 1099-G): Please follow the IRS guidance to taxpayers on identity theft involving unemployment benefits. You can find it [here](#).

Step Three: Protect Your Identity

Many resources are available for victims of identity theft to help them protect their identities.

ODJFS strongly urges anyone who suspects they may be a victim of identity theft to take appropriate action to protect themselves. Here are some recommended resources:

- Ohioattorneygeneral.gov/IdentityTheft
- Review your credit report at AnnualCreditReport.com
- [Ohio State Highway Patrol: When Identity Crime Strikes You](#)
- Federal Trade Commission Resources at identitytheft.gov
- Place a free one-year fraud alert on your credit reports by contacting any one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies online or through their toll-free numbers. The bureau you contact must tell the other two.
 - [Equifax](#): 800-525-6285
 - [Experian](#): 888-397-3742
 - [Trans Union](#): 800-680-7289

Important Reminders

City of Cleveland and Cleveland Department of Public Health to Begin Reporting Weekly COVID-19 Cases

The Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) is committed to reporting COVID-19-related information accurately to the community. Starting the week of April 5, CDPH will begin posting a COVID-19 weekly summary report that includes data pertaining to reported COVID cases and vaccine distribution. The new weekly comprehensive summary report will replace our daily COVID-19 case numbers report. The report will be released in the City of Cleveland’s news updates and posted to the CDPH website.

As previously announced, case numbers will be reported Monday-Friday until the week of April 5.

Mayor Jackson Issues PSA Encouraging Clevelanders to Take the COVID-19 Vaccine

As we continue to distribute COVID-19 vaccines, the City of Cleveland urges residents to wear a mask, wash your hands, social distance and stay home if you can. These preventative measures coupled with the increasing availability of vaccines will help us slow the spread of COVID-19.

[Click here for the mayor's COVID-19 vaccine PSA.](#)

RTA and Civic Partners Provide Free Ride to Vaccination Centers

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA) is partnering with Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland to provide All Day passes good for a free ride on bus, rail and paratransit to the Wolstein Center and [vaccination sites](#) throughout the county. [Read the full release here.](#)

Students Invited to Apply for Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship Program

The Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 academic year. The deadline to submit your application is **March 28, 2021**. To learn more and to apply, [click here](#).

The Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship Program was created by the City of Cleveland in 2007 to provide scholarship funds to the following individuals:

1. City employees
2. Dependents of City employees
3. High school seniors graduating from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District
4. High school seniors in the Youth Development Program or involved with the City of Cleveland Department of Recreation

The program provides scholarships of \$1,000 per year for up to 4 years. Selected scholarship recipients must be a full-time (minimum 12 credit hours each term) student at a four-year, public or private, not-for-profit higher education institution.

Scholarships are renewable for up to three additional years from the first awarded academic year. To be eligible for renewal of the scholarship, students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA and full-time status.

The City of Cleveland's Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship program is administered through [College Now Greater Cleveland](#). For questions about the scholarship applications, please contact College Now at (216) 635-0324.

Mayor Frank G. Jackson Announces Return of the Exterior Paint Program

The City of Cleveland invites residents to take advantage of its 2021 Exterior Paint Program. Applications must be received by April 30, 2021.

The Exterior Paint Program provides paint and materials to homeowners who wish to paint the exterior of their homes. Labor is not included. The goal for 2021 is 500 homes with a total allocation of \$500,000 for the program.

“The goal of this program is to help residents protect their home investments, improve housing stock in our neighborhoods and create a better, more equitable quality of life,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson.

Homeowners, as well as tenants, who meet income guidelines, are welcome to apply for the program. Funds cover the cost of up to \$1,500 for owner occupants or up to \$750 for tenants in paint and

materials, though restrictions do apply. Inspections of the property must also be conducted. Applications must be received by April 30, 2021 and the painting must be completed by October 31, 2021.

The Department of Community Development’s Division of Neighborhood Services administers services on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested Cleveland residents can obtain applications by calling (216) 664-2045.

Exterior Paint Program Income Guidelines

FAMILY SIZE	INCOME LEVEL	FAMILY SIZE	INCOME LEVEL
1	\$51,600	5	\$79,600
2	\$59,000	6	\$85,500
3	\$66,350	7	\$91,400
4	\$73,700	8	\$97,300

[Governor Dewine Announces Guidance to Vaccine Providers on Phase 1c and Phase 2](#)

Small Business Administration (SBA) – Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loans Update

SBA has announced an additional tranche of PPP funding to assist small businesses. PPP loans are available until **March 31, 2021** to help keep businesses open during the COVID-19 Pandemic. PPP Loans may be eligible for forgiveness if certain conditions are met:

- Employee and compensation levels are maintained
- Loan proceeds are spent on payroll costs and other expenses
- At least 60% of proceeds are spent on payroll costs

President Biden has announced several changes to the program to make it more accessible:

- **Beginning February 24 and through March 10**, only businesses with fewer than 20 employees are eligible to apply in order to ensure that the smallest businesses have access to this program.
- Rules for sole proprietors, self-employed individuals and independent contractors have been modified to increase access for certain felony convictions.
- Elimination of student loan debt delinquency as a disqualifier to PPP loans
- Non-citizen small business owners may use Individual Tax Identification Numbers to apply for PPP.

Information about the program, including matching small businesses with area lenders, can be found at: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program>

City of Cleveland & CMSD Release RFQ for Redevelopment of 19 Vacant CMSD Sites

The City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) have today jointly issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select real estate development project teams for the redevelopment of 12 vacant school buildings and seven sites of vacant land owned by CMSD.

“These vacant school buildings and vacant land parcels provide opportunities for economic development in neighborhoods across the City of Cleveland,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “The City of Cleveland looks forward to collaborating with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District on repurposing these assets to foster redevelopment and equity in our neighborhoods.”

The intent of the RFQ process is to identify qualified real estate development project teams interested in each site. Teams are invited to submit site-specific redevelopment proposals for consideration by the City and CMSD. Interested developers will be able to participate in an information session and tours of the building to learn more about the sites. The RFQ and selection process will be facilitated by the City of Cleveland.

“When we developed a plan for the future of our programs and facilities in 2019, the Board of Education asked that we also look at the future of our vacant buildings and property. We are excited to be partnering with the City of Cleveland in redeveloping unused properties and turning them into neighborhood assets,” said CMSD CEO Eric Gordon.

The RFQ calls for redevelopment plans to be guided by principles of racial equity and inclusion with respect to neighborhoods and/or include neighborhood wealth-building initiatives.

[Click here](#) to view the RFQ.

RFQ TIMELINE:

City & CMSD Release RFQ	March 1, 2021
Informational Session w/Developers (12)	March 16 and 17, 2021 (<i>RSVP by March 12</i>)
Deadline to Submit CMSD Documentation Request	March 19, 2021
Building Tours (March 19)	March 22, 23 and 24, 2021 (<i>RSVP by March 19</i>)
Questions Due	April 12, 2021 (<i>Answers by April 16</i>)
RFQ Responses Due	April 30, 2021
Respondents Notified of Preliminary Selection	May 31, 2021

Following preliminary selections, project teams will work through due diligence and predevelopment before any properties are sold and transferred from CMSD to the selected development entities.

City of Cleveland Establishes Call Center to Answer General Vaccine Distribution Questions

The City of Cleveland has established a call center that is currently available to answer general questions pertaining to the City’s vaccine distribution efforts and assist eligible individuals in scheduling an appointment to receive the vaccine.

- Call Center Number: (216) 664-2222
- Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As a reminder, only individuals who meet the Ohio Department of Health's criteria are eligible to receive the vaccine at this time. Due to limited supply, it will take time for eligible individuals to receive the vaccine. We ask for your patience. As we receive additional supply, we will be opening up additional vaccination sites and scheduling appointments for eligible individuals to receive the vaccine.

Calls Regarding COVID-19 Complaints

With the passage by Cleveland City Council of an ordinance authorizing penalties for non-compliance with Mayor Jackson’s mask mandate, enforcement is now in effect. There are two numbers Clevelanders should call regarding non-compliance:

- **Business complaints:** CDPH hotline at (216) 857-7165

- **Individual or private residence complaints:** Cleveland Police non-emergency line at (216) 621-1234

Cleveland City Council recently approved the mandatory use of masks in public spaces as well as certain penalties for individuals and businesses that do not comply. On July 3, Mayor Jackson signed an amended order mandating the use of masks in public in the City of Cleveland to slow the spread of the highly contagious coronavirus. This includes mandatory use in bars, restaurants, shared office settings, rideshares and other shared spaces.

Citations may be issued with fines for the following:

- Any business or person violating the mask or safe-seating order (which maintains social distancing of at least six feet between patrons) is subject to civil penalties in accordance with Ordinance No. 556-2020, specifically chapters 602 and 236.
- Any business in the City of Cleveland with an employee who becomes ill with the coronavirus is required to immediately disinfect and sanitize the premises. Following a warning, they may be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 for the first offense and a civil penalty of \$3,000 for each subsequent violation.

Upcoming Cleveland Transformation Alliance Meetings

The Cleveland Transformation Alliance Committee (CTA) is currently hosting public meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. For more information on these meetings, please visit <http://www.myCLEschool.org>. See details for upcoming meetings below:

Cleveland Plan Progress Committee Refresh Retreat

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/99094175555?pwd=ZDNYTlcrRGxGWWM3SG5zU3lPUnZCUT09>

Meeting ID: 990 9417 5555

Passcode: 875779

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,99094175555#,,,,*875779# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/acQZAWHJvN>

Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 22 at 8:30 a.m. via Microsoft Teams

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 216-815-0098,571164429#](tel:+12168150098571164429) United States, Cleveland

Phone Conference ID: 571 164 429#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

Cleveland Plan Progress Committee Refresh Retreat

Friday, April 23, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/93125169762?pwd=MWNKUE9jUTZNaGpxSXJEWUdTMGZuUT09>

Meeting ID: 931 2516 9762

Passcode: 637409

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,93125169762#,,,,*637409# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/96577426538>

Cleveland Transformation Alliance Board Meeting

Monday, April 26 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96577426538?pwd=dU5GLzZqUWlsNSs5THBWV05KWFJRZz09>

Meeting ID: 965 7742 6538

Passcode: 333569

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,96577426538#,,, *333569# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

CodeRED

Sign up for CodeRED alerts to receive calls and emails with important info regarding the coronavirus. To sign up online, visit <https://bit.ly/CLECodeRED>. Get mobile alerts by downloading the CodeRED app via the Apple or Google Play stores. Seniors who need assistance signing up are welcome to call the Department of Aging at (216) 664-4383 for periodic phone call messaging.

Previous COVID-19 Updates from the City of Cleveland

[Click here to view previous updates.](#)

For more information about COVID-19, visit the following:

- www.cdc.gov/coronavirus
- <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>
- <http://www.clevelandhealth.org/>

About the City of Cleveland

The City of Cleveland is committed to improving the quality of life for its residents by strengthening neighborhoods, delivering superior services, embracing diversity and making Cleveland a desirable, safe city in which to live, work, play, and do business. For more information on the City of Cleveland, visit online at www.clevelandohio.gov, Twitter at @cityofcleveland or Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland.