



CITY OF CLEVELAND
Mayor Frank G. Jackson



From: Office of the Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Dec. 16, 2020

City of Cleveland Provides Coronavirus & Other Important Updates - **Update #248**

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 November 18 extending the City's Proclamation of Civil Emergency through Dec. 31, 2020. Mayor Jackson's order was amended to include a Stay At Home Advisory. [Click here to view the order.](#) Essential services such as Police, Fire, EMS, waste collection and Utilities will remain operational.

113 New Confirmed Coronavirus Cases and 1 Fatality Reported in Cleveland

The Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) has been notified of 113 more confirmed cases of coronavirus in city residents on December 16. The city has also been notified of one fatality. This brings the total to 15,969 confirmed cases in the City of Cleveland and 178 fatalities. The new confirmed cases include males and females whose ages range from under 5 years old to their 90s. CDPH is working to identify their close contacts who would require testing or monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms. Additionally, six cases were transferred as it was determined they were not Cleveland residents.

As of December 16, there are 533,299 confirmed cases and 7,141 confirmed fatalities in the State of Ohio. There are more than 16.88 million cases and 306,363 deaths in the U.S.

Reminder: The City of Cleveland will disseminate Saturday and Sunday COVID-19 numbers on its Facebook and Twitter pages when they become available.

The City of Cleveland COVID-19 Dashboard displays the most recent preliminary data from the Ohio Department of Health about COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, deaths and recoveries in Cleveland by selected demographics. [View the dashboard here.](#) For individuals' privacy, CDPH will not be releasing any additional demographic info related to COVID-19 cases aside from age range and gender.

City of Cleveland to Hold Press Briefing Tuesday, December 22

On Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 2 p.m., Mayor Jackson will hold a virtual press briefing to discuss COVID-19 vaccinations.

The press conference will be livestreamed on the [City of Cleveland Facebook page](#) and media may ask their questions into the comments section. Please include the name of your outlet when you post the question. We will also take questions from members of the public as time allows.

If media would prefer to send in their questions via email, they are welcome to send them to covid19media@clevelandohio.gov no later than one hour prior to the press conference start time.

Later this week, the Mayor's Office of Communications will reach out to TV media about a pool camera on Wednesday, Dec. 23 to obtain b-roll related to Tuesday's announcement. More details will be provided via email.

West Side Market to Offer Holiday Hours for Ease of Shopping

With the holidays upon us, the West Side Market (WSM) reminds shoppers that we are open for business with extended holiday hours. Whether it's the perfect cut of meat or fish, a prepared side dish or pastry or even the right spice you need to celebrate at home this year, the knowledgeable vendors at the West Side Market can help you find the items you need for the holidays. Many of our vendors also offer gift cards or items that make excellent holiday gifts.

The West Side Market will be open Monday, December 21 & Wednesday, December 23 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. We will also be open on Christmas Eve on Thursday, December 24 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

In addition, the WSM will be open on Monday December 28 & Wednesday, December 30 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. On New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31, the WSM will be open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

In observance of Christmas Day on December 25, 2020 and New Year's Day on January 1, 2021 the West Side Market will be closed.

Following Christmas Day, the WSM will reopen on Saturday December 26 from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. After New Year's Day, the WSM will reopen on Saturday, January 2 from 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Customers are reminded that masks are required at the West Side Market. To further ensure your safety, hand sanitizer stations are available and capacity is limited to allow for social distancing. WSM vendors offer call ahead shopping for counter and curbside pickup or delivery. The Market's usual hours are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sundays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Visit www.westsidemarket.org for the vendors contact information and more.

City of Cleveland Announces Waste Collection Delays and City Office Closures

In observance of Christmas and New Year's holidays, the City of Cleveland Department of Public Works WILL NOT collect waste on Friday, December 25, 2020 and Friday, January 1, 2021. Waste collection will be delayed by one day following the holiday.

City of Cleveland offices – including City Hall, Cleveland Public Power and Cleveland Water – will be closed on the following days:

- Thursday, Dec. 24, 2020
- Friday, Dec. 25, 2020
- Thursday, Dec 31, 2020
- Friday, Jan. 1, 2021

Other Important Reminders (Previous Announcements)

Public Works and Port Control Hiring Snow Removal Vehicle Operators

The City of Cleveland Department of Public Works is hiring [Snow Removal Vehicle Operators](#). This position is seasonal and will be used only during the snow removal season. Required qualifications include:

- High School Diploma or GED;
- Valid Commercial Drivers' License (CDL) Type B with Air Brake Endorsement; and
- Good driving record.

The City of Cleveland Department of Port Control is also hiring [Snow Removal Vehicle Operators](#). This position is seasonal and will be used only during the snow removal season. Airport and departmental requirements include:

- Must successfully complete a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) 10 year fingerprint-based Criminal History Records Check and employment background check and Security Threat Assessment.
- Must be able to pass a pre-employment physical and drug test; and
- Must successfully complete all applicable regulatory airfield Ground Vehicle Operator and Winter Operations training/assessments and maintain corresponding airfield driving privileges.

For more information and to view more available City of Cleveland positions, [click here](#).

Utilities Assistance Available for Customers Behind on Payments

While the moratorium on utility disconnections was lifted on Dec. 1 by the City of Cleveland Department of Public Utilities (DPU), it is important to note that there are several steps taken by Cleveland Water and Cleveland Public Power to assist and notify customers who may be struggling to stay current on their bills before a shutoff occurs.

The Collections and Severance Process has been reinstated and includes steps ranging from a first notice on a bill to setting up a payment plan with the customer. DPU will continue to follow all pertinent policies and procedures. If you have a past due balance and have received a notice from the Department of Public Utilities please contact us:

- Cleveland Public Power – (216) 664-4600
- Cleveland Water – (216) 664-3130

If a customer is having trouble paying a utility bill, they are urged to call the Cleveland Housing Network – (216) 350-8008 Utility Assistance Line.

Visit <https://chnhousingpartners.org/utilityassistance/> for more information.

Public Comment Period for Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project

The City of Cleveland is partnering with the Ohio Department of Transportation to implement pedestrian safety improvements at sixty-one locations across the city. The public comment period for the Pedestrian Safety Improvement Project is open now through December 30. The project is expected to begin in Spring 2021.

Questions? Contact the City's Project Engineer, Ron Mason, P.E., at (216) 664-3705 or via e-mail at rmason@city.cleveland.oh.us.

[Click here to view the map and list of locations.](#)

Utility Assistance Available Through CARES Act Funding for Cuyahoga County Residents Impacted by COVID-19

As part of the CARES Act financial package that Ohio Governor Mike Dewine's administration introduced in October, \$50 million from the Corona Relief Fund was allocated to 47 Community Action Agencies. The available funds will assist Ohioans who have fallen behind on their water, electric and sewer bills payments.

Cuyahoga County CARES funding is being made available through CHN Housing Partners to Cleveland Water, Cleveland Public Power and Water Pollution Control qualifying customers who acquired past due balances after March 1, 2020, and who are at or below 120 percent of median household income and have been affected by COVID-19, including through income loss.

The City of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County residents are encouraged to contact CHN Housing Partners and apply today while funds are available. The deadline to apply is December 31.

For more information on the CARES Act funding, visit www.chnhousingpartners.org/utilityassistance.

For more information on the eligibility criteria or to apply online today, click [here](#).

City Now Accepting Applications for Cleveland Small Business Grant *Emergency Working Capital Program – Specially Impacted Businesses*

The Emergency Working Capital program is designed to assist businesses whose operations are specifically impacted by COVID and have had to take exceptional measures to maintain operations throughout the pandemic. Businesses may receive a \$10,000 loan for working capital and operations costs and a \$10,000 grant to offset costs of PPE and other safety measures. Applicants must complete the Emergency Capital Working Fund [Loan Application](#) and the 1-page [supplemental questionnaire](#). Applications for this program should be submitted electronically to economicdevelopment@clevelandohio.gov.

City of Cleveland Now Accepting Requests for the Tree Canopy Revitalization Program

The City of Cleveland announces its Tree Canopy Revitalization Program. As part of this program the City is now accepting requests from property owners for a free tree installation during the spring and fall planting seasons.

Property owners can complete an [online request form](#) to have a tree planted on their tree lawn, in front of occupied structures or sidewalk cut-outs typically found in commercial areas in front of businesses. Each location will be surveyed in person by a Field Operations Forester to ensure there are no conflicts with the surrounding infrastructure and that the site is suitable. Approved sites are then added to a list for a tree to be planted during the next available planting season. All requests are handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Tree Canopy Revitalization Program was created in support of Mayor Frank G. Jackson's tree planting initiative, in which he pledged up to \$1 million a year to replenish the city's tree canopy. To request a tree or to learn more, [click here](#).

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:

Governance Committee

Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 10 a.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/99562498689?pwd=UVBsMIJKdnkrcTVVV0FWMkZ0V0p0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 995 6249 8689 Passcode: 610799

One tap mobile

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+13126266799,,99562498689#,,,,,0#,,610799# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/a4bRMdSIQ>

CTA Board Meeting

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

<https://zoom.us/j/95274808308?pwd=UFRQL3QzZk51VjN5Y1BTNWozdnRqUT09>

Meeting ID: 952 7480 8308 Passcode: 028052

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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/9171111111>

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.