



From: Office of the Mayor

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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City of Cleveland Provides Coronavirus & Other Important Updates - **Update #251**

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.

234 New Confirmed Coronavirus Cases and One Fatality Reported in Cleveland

The Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) has been notified of 234 more confirmed cases of coronavirus in city residents on December 21. The City was also informed of one new fatality. This brings the total to 17,148 confirmed cases in the City of Cleveland and 180 fatalities. The new confirmed cases include males and females whose ages range from under one years old to their 90s. CDPH is working to identify their close contacts who would require testing or monitoring for COVID-19 symptoms. Additionally, 27 cases were transferred as it was determined they were not Cleveland residents.

As of Dec. 21, there are 570,774 confirmed cases and 7,423 confirmed fatalities in the State of Ohio. There are more than 17.95 million cases and 318,782 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.

Cleveland Police Officer Remains Suspended Without Pay

Director of Public Safety Karrie D. Howard and Police Chief Calvin D. Williams announce that a Cleveland Police Officer will remain suspended without pay after pleading guilty to misdemeanor assault in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court on Dec.17, 2020. The officer was originally suspended without pay in March of 2020. [Click here to view the suspension letter.](#)

John Hawk, 41, was indicted on charges of Felonious Assault and Abduction in March of 2020 after the Cleveland Division of Police Internal Affairs Unit investigated a complaint filed against him. Now that Hawk's criminal case has been resolved, standard operating procedure dictates that the administrative, pre-disciplinary hearing shall reconvene. A decision on what discipline, if any, Hawk will receive will be determined after the pre-disciplinary hearing. As the criminal case was just resolved Dec. 17, the continued pre-disciplinary hearing has not yet been scheduled.

John Hawk was hired by the Division of Police in November of 2018. He was most recently assigned to the Fourth District on Basic Patrol.

Any additional information will be posted via GOV QA.

Cleveland Police Officer Terminated

Director of Public Safety Karrie D. Howard announces that Cleveland Police Officer John Petkac has been terminated from employment following an internal investigation which began after it was discovered that he used excessive force during the course of arrests on multiple occasions.

An internal investigation was conducted by the Cleveland Division of Police, Internal Affairs Unit. Findings of the investigation were forward to the Chief of Police for review and then submitted to the Office of the Director of Public Safety for final discipline. Director Howard determined that Petkac failed to employ proper tactics, used excessive, unnecessary and objectively unreasonable force, was untruthful in reports, failed to employ de-escalation tactics, failed to utilize an intermediate weapon, failed to accurately report the use of force and deployed his conducted electrical weapon (CEW/Taser) against a male, who at the time was passively resisting.

John Petkac, 30, was hired in March of 2014. He was most recently assigned to Basic Patrol in the Third District. Petkac is terminated effective today, December 21, 2020. [Click here to view the charge and termination letters](#) here and [here](#).

Any additional information will be posted via GOV QA.

Update: City of Cleveland Announces Waste Collection Delays and City Office Closures

In observance of Christmas and the New Year, 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

Neighborhood Resource and Recreation Centers as well as the Willard Park Garage attached to City Hall will also be closed on the dates listed above.

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.

The b-roll opportunity scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 23 with broadcast media is dependent upon receipt of the vaccine. The City will provide a status during Tuesday's press briefing or in the daily update.

Other Important Reminders (Previous Announcements)

2021 City of Cleveland Division of Waste Bulk Pick-Up Schedule Now Available

The 2021 City of Cleveland Division of Waste Bulk Pick-Up Calendar is available for [download here](#).

In addition to bulk pick-up dates, the calendar includes information about proper waste set out. Here are some tips to make sure your waste collection is compliant with city set out guidelines:

- Rule of three: Remember that the limit for bulk pick-up is three items.
- Residents may leave out for collection items such as appliances, tables, chairs, mattress box springs, couches and furniture.
- All mattresses, box springs and cloth furniture must be wrapped in plastic.
- In addition to the three items, residents may leave out up to four tires.
- The City does not accept construction material.
- Boxes and loose bags are not bulk items.
- Carpet must be cut and rolled into 3-foot long pieces and must not exceed 40 pounds.

The Division of Waste also reminds residents of the following waste regulations:

- Only waste in officially issued City carts will be accepted, and loose trash or bags outside City roll carts will not be accepted.
- The following will be not be accepted in or outside of roll carts: construction materials, hazardous waste, bricks, dirt, concrete, cinder blocks, auto parts, loose metal items, medical waste or fluorescent tubes. No wet paint should be placed in roll carts. All paint cans should be dry before they are placed in roll carts.
- Do not place hot charcoal ashes in roll carts.

For further information regarding waste collection, please call the Division of Waste Collection at (216) 664-3711 or visit <http://www.clevelandohio.gov>.

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.

Halloran Skating Rink to Open January 4, 2021 with New Improvements

The Halloran Park Skating Rink is scheduled to open for the season on January 4, 2021. Hours of operation are 12 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and admission is free. Skates can be rented for \$1.00. CDC protocols regarding mask and social distancing will be implemented. Anyone interested in utilizing the facility can contact Halloran Park at 215-664-4187 to register for ice time or for additional questions regarding operations. Staff will also be onsite on December 28, 2020 from 11:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to answer questions.

The opening of the rink was delayed due to COVID-19, and during that closure, some improvements have been made to the rink to accommodate ice hockey. Penalty boxes were constructed and hockey lines were painted in the ice, funded by Ward 11 Councilman Brian Mooney's discretionary funds.

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](#).

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.](#)

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.

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=UVBsMlJKdnkrcTVVV0FWMkZ0V0p0Zz09>

Meeting ID: 995 6249 8689 Passcode: 610799

One tap mobile

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+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/99562498689>

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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Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/95274808308>

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.