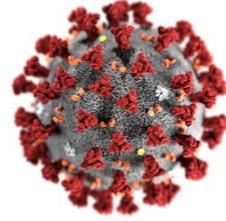




Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update July 7, 2020



CONFIRMED CASES

- Today, there are 173,878 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, with another 682 still under investigation. Currently, the County has 16,450 cases, with Westfield reporting four additional cases since Thursday (two on Saturday, one on Sunday, one on Monday, and none today), bringing our total to 289.
- For a more detailed breakdown of statewide numbers, visit the NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard.

STATE AND COUNTY UPDATES

- Today, Governor Murphy updated the quarantine advisory to include Delaware, Kansas, and Oklahoma, bringing the total to 19 states.
<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200707a.shtml?fbclid=IwAR3l-XBDoNmLwGutpTMwCLbEs4MalhqyriG4YDrP0aAGzPQncUcbxUJdCv8>

- Yesterday, the Governor reported that New Jersey's rate of transmission – the rate at which COVID-19 spreads from one person to another – exceeds 1.0 for the first time in ten weeks. That means for every new case of COVID-19, that case is leading to at least one other new case. To reverse this upward trend, everyone is reminded to wear a face covering, self-quarantine if you've been in a COVID-19 hotspot, and get tested.
- Yesterday, the following reopenings resumed: youth day camps, in-person summer education, NJ Transit rail and light rail service full weekday schedule, and outdoor graduations.
- Effective last Friday, the limit on crowd sizes for outdoor gatherings was raised to 500 people. Limits on all indoor gatherings – 25% of capacity, but with a maximum of 100 people – remain unchanged.
- After 90 days of flags ordered to fly at half-staff for every New Jerseyan lost to COVID-19, flags have now returned to full-staff.

LOCAL UPDATES

- Public Works has begun its summer street sweeping pass through Town, which is anticipated to take about 8-10 weeks to cover 200 miles of roadway. This summer pass was added last year for the first time to supplement the annual fall sweeping that follows leaf collection. You can see where the street sweepers are working each day by visiting westfieldnj.gov/publicworks.
- The highly anticipated second half of the mural under the South Avenue underpass is now underway, which is part of our Public Art initiative, funded entirely by grants, and painted by local artist Ricardo Roig. Be sure to follow Ricardo's Facebook page for ongoing updates about his amazing work.
- Thanks to everyone who continues to provide thoughtful feedback and questions about the recently introduced Historic Preservation Ordinance. Last night, the Planning Board met last night via Zoom and voted unanimously that the proposed ordinance is consistent with the recently updated Master Plan. The Town Council is expected to vote on the ordinance at its August 11 meeting. In the meantime, we continue to collect questions from the public (email hpc@westfieldnj.gov) to be incorporated into our FAQ document that will continue to be updated. This document, along with the presentation made by the Historic Preservation Commission at last night's meeting, can be found at westfieldnj.gov/historicpreservation. I encourage everyone with questions about the ordinance to read the available information and participate in this process.

Lastly, tomorrow is a very exciting day for the community as the Westfield High School Class of 2020 graduation is being held at Kehler Stadium! These students have had a senior year like no other, sacrificing many milestones in the last few months of their high school careers and making the very best out of a difficult situation. I am proud of their accomplishments and resilience, and I know they will go on to do great things to make Westfield proud. You can watch the live stream at 3pm tomorrow at the following link (rain date is Thursday): <https://livestream.com/accounts/19891571/events/9205012>.

Congratulations, Class of 2020!