



# Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update July 21, 2020



## CONFIRMED CASES

- Today, there are 177,256 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New Jersey, with another 688 still under investigation. Currently, the County has 16,515 cases, with Westfield reporting four new cases since Friday (one on Saturday, none on Sunday and Monday, and three today), bringing our total to 329.
- For a more detailed breakdown of statewide numbers, visit the NJ Department of Health COVID-19 Dashboard.

## STATE UPDATES

- Governor Murphy today advised individuals traveling to New Jersey from additional states with significant community spread of COVID-19 to quarantine for a 14-day period from the time of last contact within the identified state. The updated advisory includes 10 additional states – Alaska, Delaware, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Virginia, and Washington – with Minnesota removed from the list. The total number states on the list is now 31, with full details available here:  
<https://nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200721a.shtml?fbclid=IwAR1-2Rjv1F9kPIV9A8h7He195C56nFmx26nq2S0BJ4WIXoYj5wHnrbH-Vzc>.

- Later this week, the New Jersey Department Of Education will be releasing guidance allowing for parents to choose all-remote learning for their children.
- The Governor signed an Executive Order yesterday to allow contact drills and practices, and competitions, to resume today for high-risk sports. Practices must be held at outdoor venues only, and all sports will have to abide by a number of health and safety protocols.

## LOCAL UPDATES

- The current heat wave serves as a good reminder that Memorial Pool registration remains open! The pool staff has done an exceptional job of working with the current COVID-19 requirements to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. They continue to review the attendance data and are making some helpful modifications to the reservations system to provide members with more options and flexibility. Please remember that face coverings must be worn in all areas where social distancing is not possible (except in the water), and that any reservations that can't be used should be canceled in the system for the benefit of other members.
- Third quarter taxes are due on August 1 and, as always, there is a grace period of ten days. As you may know, in light of the COVID-19 financial uncertainty, the State of New Jersey allowed us to extend the second quarter tax grace period to 30 days. That said, we have not yet been notified if they will authorize that extension again for the third quarter payment. We will of course keep you informed of any information we receive on this issue. As Town Hall remains closed to the public, please remember that payments can be made online, via mail, or in the drop box located in the rear parking lot of Town Hall. For more information about your estimated tax bill, visit [www.westfieldnj.gov/taxcollector](http://www.westfieldnj.gov/taxcollector).
- Are you ready for the next phase of Open Quimby? After listening to the feedback of the community over the past few weeks -- including residents and downtown business owners -- our Reopening Task Force has devised a new, more expansive plan to have Quimby Street emulate an authentic pedestrian plaza model that will provide more space for outdoor dining, allow cars to park for quick curbside pickup and deliveries, and create an attractive destination for Downtown Westfield. As a result, beginning this Thursday, seven days a week, Quimby Street will become a one-way street, with cars moving only in the direction from Central Avenue to Elm Street (the side with non-angled parking). The eight non-angled parking spots on the north side of the street will be open for 15-minute curbside pickup and delivery vehicles only, and will be strictly enforced by the Westfield Police Department.

The south side of Quimby will become a parklet for pedestrians, with no parking permitted. The parklets will have new planters interspersed throughout the open side of the block, and covers for the concrete barriers have been ordered to help beautify these spaces. In addition, two twenty-foot tents, which will now have bistro lights, will be placed together close to the Central Avenue side of Quimby and used by the public for additional dining for take-out orders (from any restaurant) as well as fitness classes. Sanitized wipes will be available for customers to wipe down the tables in between seatings. The Elm side of Quimby and portions of the mid-block will be used for additional dining tables for the restaurants on the block who have already been using this extra space for outdoor dining. I'm also thrilled that we will continue to have live

music on Quimby on weekend nights. You can see the full details of the plan on the DWC website.

I want to thank the Reopening Task Force for their constant attention to community input in devising a longer-term plan to benefit both residents and businesses. In order to configure Quimby for this plan, the street will be closed in both directions tomorrow, July 22, beginning at 8:00AM, until the setup is complete.

Thanks in advance for your patience and cooperation, and I hope you'll agree that the temporary inconvenience is well worth the notable expansion of our outdoor dining space for residents and visitors to enjoy while supporting our local businesses.