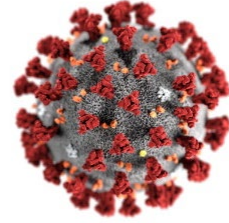




Mayor Brindle's COVID-19 Update January 26, 2021



(COVID related remarks from the January 26, 2021 Town Council Meeting)

COVID-19 UPDATES

- The seven-day average for confirmed COVID-19 cases in New Jersey is down 13% from a week ago, and down 3% from a month ago, indicating that the pandemic's second wave may be starting to decline, even as today's COVID-related deaths represent the second-highest total this month and January has been the most deadly month since May.
- On a statewide basis, the rate of transmission decreased slightly today to 0.92, and the statewide positivity rate for tests on Thursday, the most recent day available, was 9.62%. As always, more detailed information about statewide numbers is available on the NJ COVID-19 Dashboard.
- On the vaccination front, New Jersey has received approximately 1 million doses of coronavirus vaccines, 450,000 of which were dedicated for use in the federal program that contracted with CVS and Walgreens to run vaccine clinics at 1,500 long term care and congregant living facilities statewide. While all six vaccine mega-sites and nearly 300 other locations are up and running, there continues to be widespread frustration as demand outpaces the supply available for these sites. Yesterday, the State launched a hotline to schedule vaccinations for those who are eligible (855-568-0545), although limited appointments are available. In total, 627,677 doses have been administered to date in New Jersey.
- As many of you know, Union County opened up additional but limited online appointments on Sunday for its Kean University vaccination site, which were quickly filled due to extremely high demand. The County has stated that they will not open additional appointments online for the upcoming weeks until they can verify how many doses they will be receiving. I want to reiterate that, while the County is overseeing local distribution currently, our Regional Health Department continues to explore all possible avenues to provide broader vaccination access for our residents who, like many across the State, are finding the process of securing a vaccination appointment very difficult.