



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Joyce Craig
Mayor

BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN NEW BUSINESS

- Face Covering Resolution
- COVID-19 Update from the Manchester Health Department
- MANSD Communication Regarding Change to Remote Learning
- Update Regarding the Hillsborough Superior North Encampment
- November 16 Memo: Winter Sheltering Update
- Aldermanic Committee Appointments
 - Bills on Second Reading: Alderman Roy to succeed Alderman Moreau
 - Lands and Buildings: Alderman Hirschman to succeed Alderman Moreau
- City Hall Closed Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2020

City of Manchester
A Resolution

"In our fight against the ongoing threat of COVID-19, this Resolution is offered in consideration of the health and lives of the residents of the City of Manchester, our visitors, the employees of our community in the public and private sectors, and the success, economic stability, and well-being of the businesses of our community.

"Be it resolved that the Board of Mayor and Aldermen in the City of Manchester considers that infectious diseases are caused by germs such as viruses and bacteria;

"That some diseases have the ability to spread from person to person through respiratory droplets;

"That many public health officials and medical professionals have determined that it is possible for an infected individual to transmit diseases, even without exhibiting any symptoms;

"And that currently the best means of slowing the spread of a respiratory virus such as COVID-19 is by minimizing close personal contact between individuals, which includes social-distancing of at least six feet from one another and covering our nose and mouth by wearing a face covering in places where we are in contact with each other;

"That the leadership of the City's largest health care providers, Catholic Medical Center, Elliot Health Systems, and Dartmouth Hitchcock Health Care System have all expressed support for face-covering requirements;

"That to protect the residents, visitors, businesses, and the employees of our city and businesses, we must require the wearing of face coverings at times in our interactions with other people;

"That to protect our businesses and put them on equal footing with one another, that we must require uniformity in the wearing of face coverings by their employees and customers;

"And that to promote the restoration and recovery of our economy, which has been negatively affected by the spread of COVID-19 and the resulting temporary closing down of our society, that we must respond with intelligent and informed science and medical-based action.

"Therefore we, as the Board of Mayor and Aldermen in the City of Manchester, require that face coverings made of cloth fabric, or other soft material, that covers the nose and mouth of the person wearing the face covering be worn when people are inside buildings that are open to the public and within the social distancing guidelines of six feet or less, as recommended by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention.

DRAFT

"These requirements will not pertain to persons ten years of age or younger, or to persons who believe that they have a medical or other condition which may pose a risk to that person for health or related reasons.

"The requirements of this resolution shall not apply to any customer or guest at a fitness center or other business engaged in the business of fitness training, strength training or classes when their customers or guests are actively exercising and the facility is following all other guidance from the City, State and Federal Government.

"These requirements shall not apply when the only persons within six feet of an individual are members of that person's immediate family with whom the person shares a residence or if the only persons within six feet of the individual are members of the same household.

"These requirements shall not apply when an individual is seated in a restaurant.

"The purpose of this Resolution is a good-faith effort to discourage close interaction with other persons who are not related or who do not generally and regularly socialize to maintain at least a six foot distance from one another, and to increase our awareness that when we are within that distance that we should wear a face covering.

"In no case shall there be a financial fine or penalty of any kind, nor any civil penalty, for enforcement of these requirements.

COVID-19 Update from Manchester Health Department

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

DATA: NHDHHS is no longer releasing daily data press releases. Instead, we ask that City leaders and Department Heads routinely visit www.manchesternh.gov for daily and weekly data updates from the Manchester Health Department. In addition, you may also view the school reopening dashboard created by the Manchester Health Department and the Manchester School District by visiting <https://datastudio.google.com/reporting/f2129907-e99e-44d9-8241-1c5c46d4aa73/page/Az4hB>

TRAVEL: The NHDHHS continues to recommend against any non-essential personal or business travel, and people should avoid gathering with others who are not part of a person's immediate household, even during the holidays.

MASKING: Research released this past week now shows that mask wearing is beneficial for both the community AND the individual <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/masking-science-sars-cov2.html>. We are asking all City leaders and Department Heads to message with their constituents the importance of this individual responsibility to help curb the spread.

Attachments:

- COVID-19 Daily Data Update – November 17, 2020
- Manchester School District Handout: New Daily Case Rates per 100,000 population (14-day rolling averages)



COVID-19 Daily Data Update

City of Manchester Health Department

Updated November 17, 2020

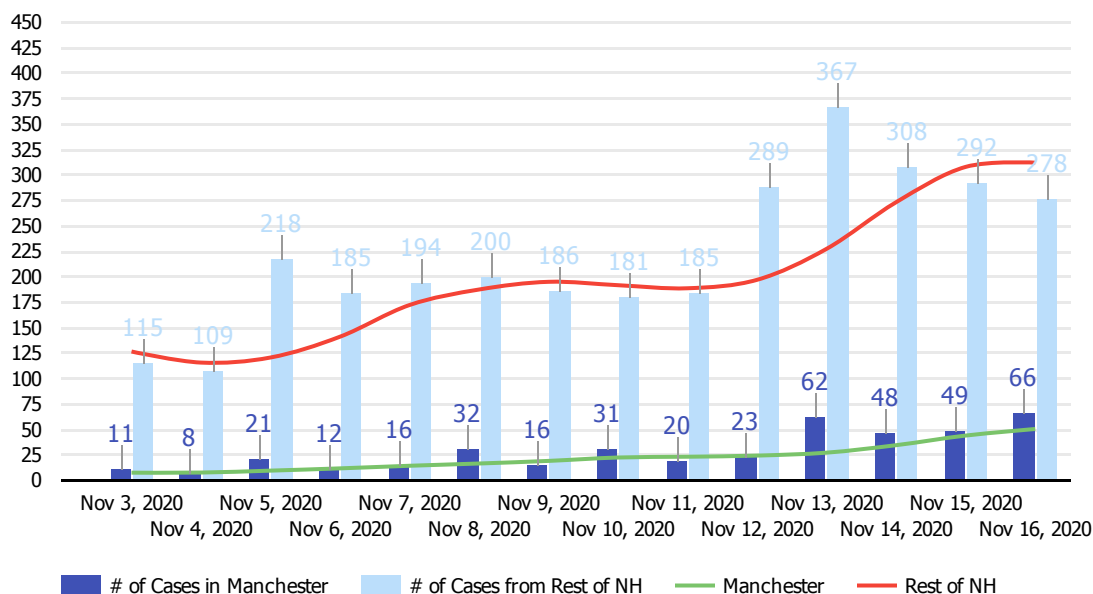


Location ^	# of Positive Cases (Cumulative)	# of Active Cases*	% of Active Cases LTCF-related	# of Deaths (Cumulative)**	% of Deaths LTCF-related
Manchester	2,755	292	3%	133	80%
New Hampshire	15,029	3,344	-	500	-

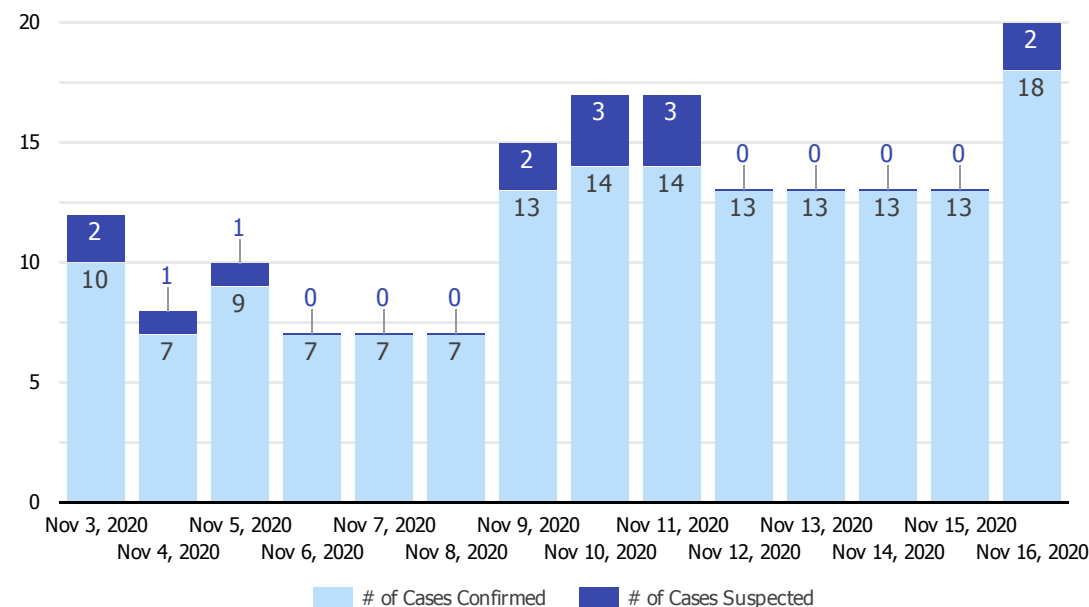
* Active Cases are current known positive cases with an open public health investigation; LTCF = Long Term Care Facility

** 2 pending confirmation, not included in the number of deaths

New Daily Positive Case Counts - 3 Day Averages



COVID-19 Inpatient Cases in Manchester Hospitals



On 10/2, NH DHHS received 17 delayed laboratory reports for Manchester. These reports have been captured in the total number of cases for Manchester, but have not been included in the daily count because they are not active cases. As of 10/2, NH DHHS is reporting antigen testing results as part of their daily surveillance reports in addition to PCR testing results.

FEDERAL PLAN FOR REOPENING THE COUNTRY REQUIRES: Downward trajectory of documented cases reported within a 14-day period while maintaining testing rates.

CONFIRMED = Positive case that has been laboratory confirmed.

SUSPECTED = Possible positive case pending a laboratory test. Suspected cases increase during disease clusters, including internal to the hospital setting.

Data Sources: Catholic Medical Center; Elliot Health System; NH DHHS COVID-19 Press Releases, NHEDSS

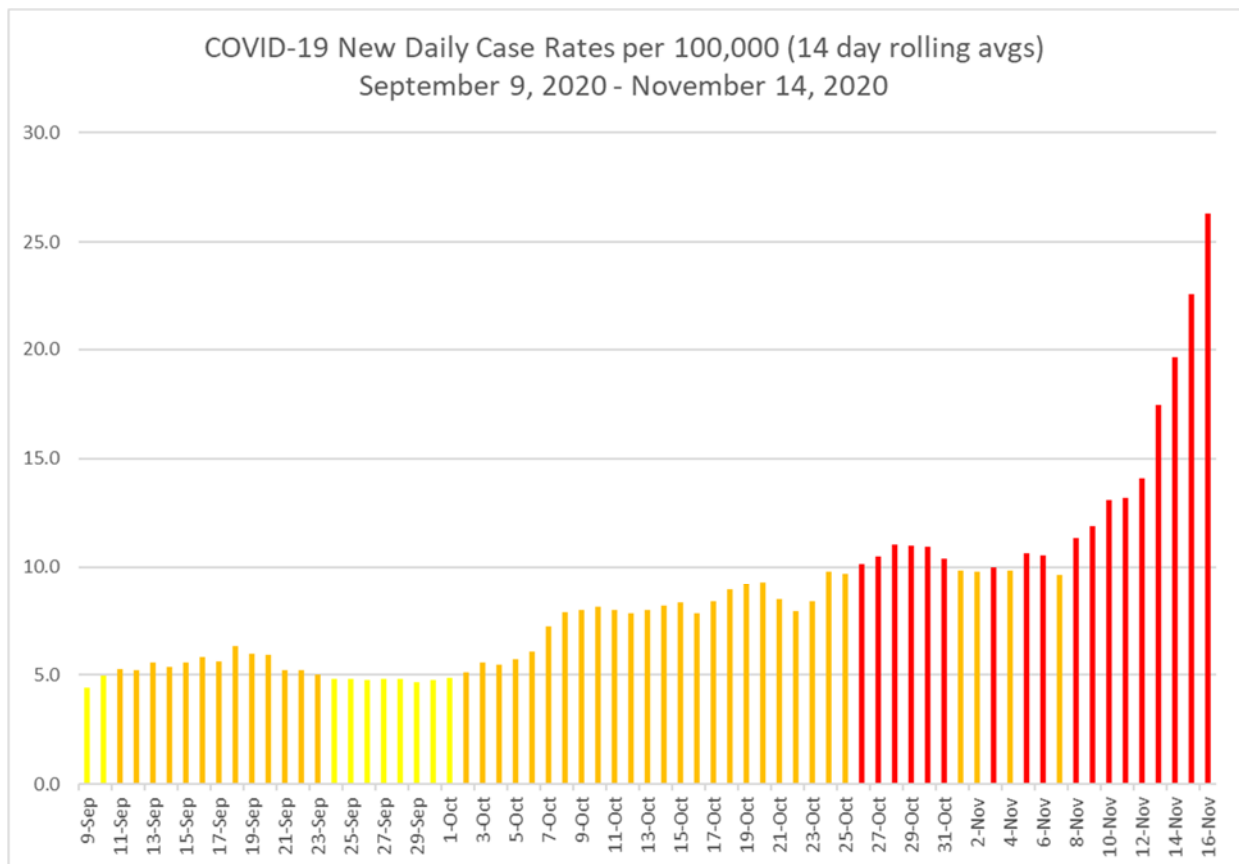
New Daily Case Rates per 100,000 population (14-day rolling averages)

New Daily Case Rates for the Current School Year (2020-2021)

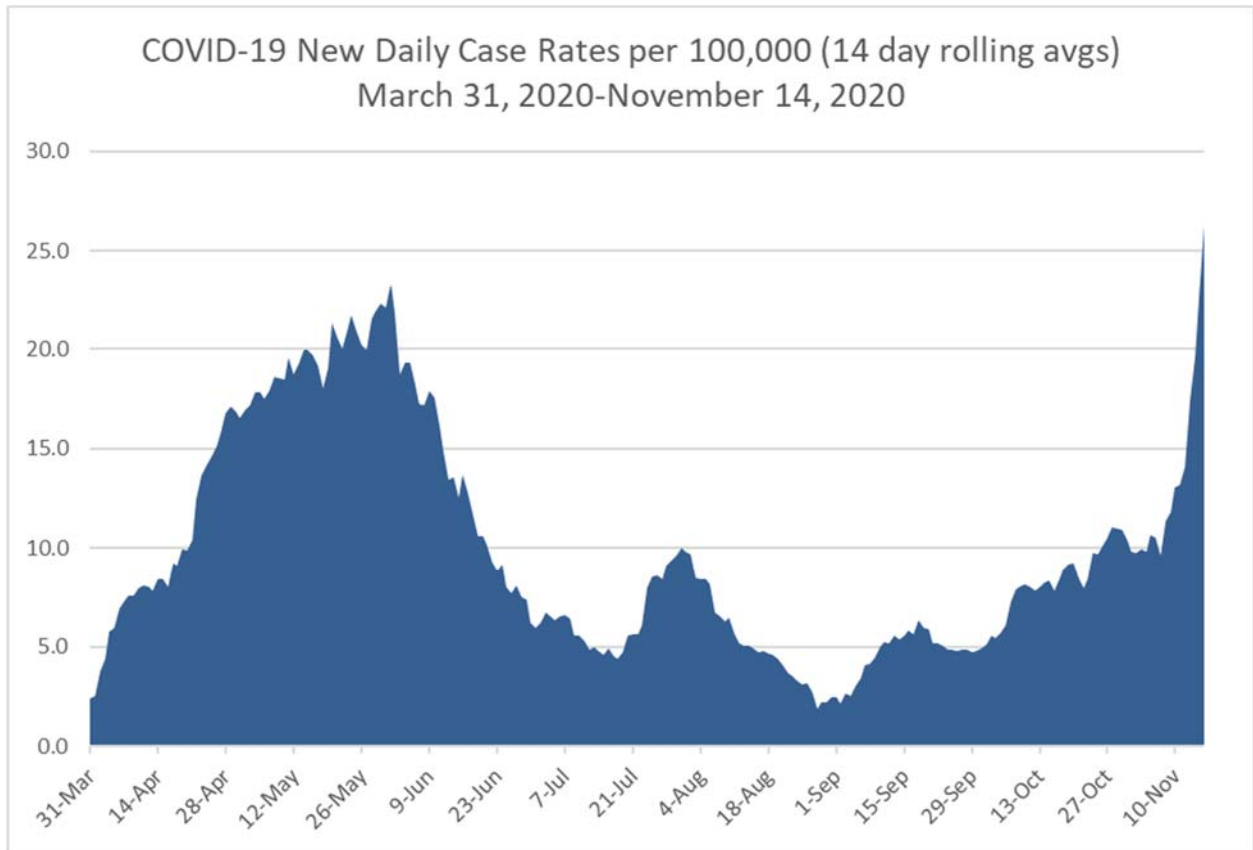
- The Manchester School District is currently in its 9th day at a Red level for New Daily Case Rates of COVID-19 per 100,000 population (calculated as a 14-day rolling average).
- Per the School District's metric, a continuous 14-day review period is needed to change a trend in either direction.
- Based on projections, even if the value remained at zero cases over the next 5 days, the rate would still remain above the Red level threshold of 10 cases per 100,000 population.
- Therefore, it is anticipated that the trend will persist in the Red for this full 14-day review period, which will end on November 21st.
- As of November 16, 2020, the new daily case rate is 26.3 cases per 100,000. This is the highest the rate has been in Manchester since the start of the pandemic.

Scale:

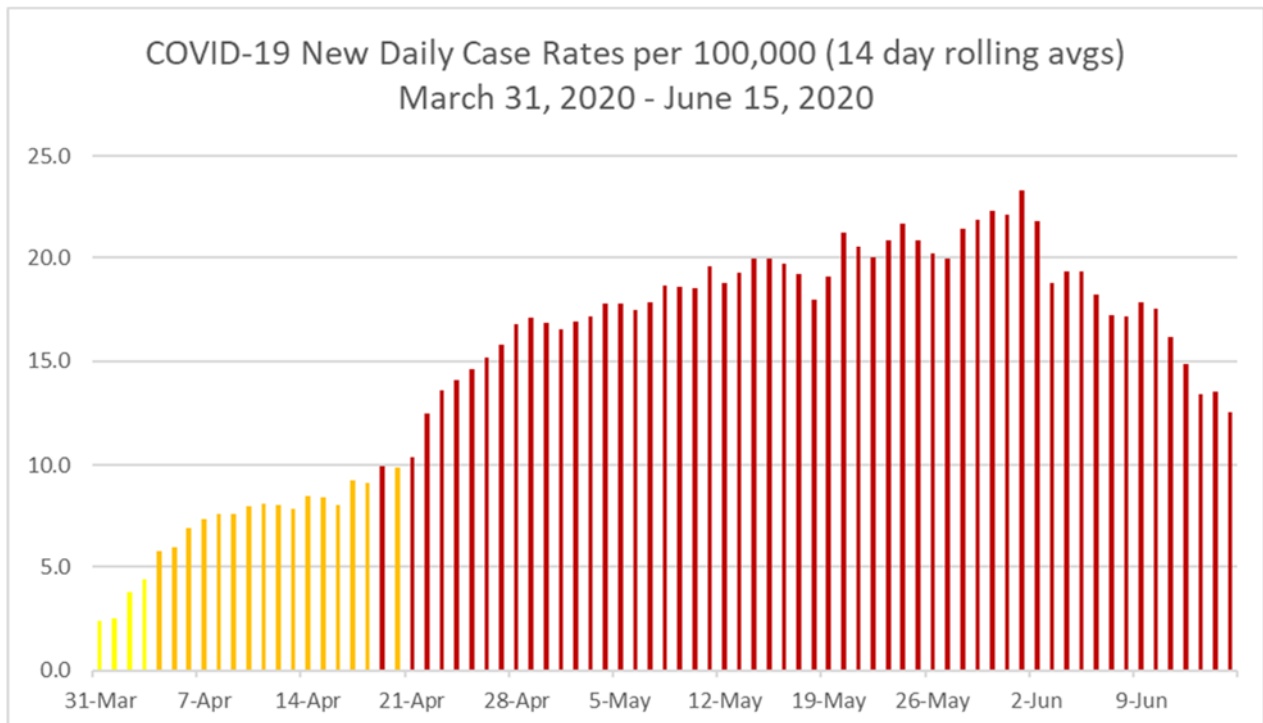
- Green = 1 case or less per 100,000 population
- Yellow = 2-4 cases per 100,000 population
- Orange = 5-9 cases per 100,000 population
- Red = 10+ cases per 100,000 population



Cumulative View of New Daily Case Rates Since the Start of the Pandemic



New Daily Case Rates from Last School Year (2019-2020)



Smith, Lauren

Subject: RE: Important: Change to all remote learning

From: Manchester School District <communications@mansd.org>

Date: Tue, Nov 17, 2020 at 3:02 PM

Subject: Important: Change to all remote learning

In this message:

- **Remote learning update:** MSD will go fully remote starting Monday
- **About going remote:** Staffing and community spread are major issues
- **Exceptions to change:** Specialized populations will be in person
- **Personal items:** Students should bring items home on final day in person
- **Food distribution:** Meal pickup available; we are working on bus distribution

Remote learning update: Last night, the Board of School Committee approved Superintendent Goldhardt's plan for students - with limited exceptions (see below) - to move to all remote learning starting Monday, Nov. 23. This will continue until at least Jan. 19. For hybrid students in Cohort A, today would be the last day of in-person learning. For hybrid students in Cohort B, Friday is the last day of in-person learning.

About going remote: This change is not what anyone wants – there is still no replacement for in-person learning. We understand that this places a massive burden on families. Unfortunately we've reached a point that, due to quarantines, staffing buildings is a daily challenge. In addition, our metric calls for remote learning when community spread of COVID-19 reaches a set level. We are on track to reach that level in a few days.

Exceptions to change: We are working to keep specialized populations in person to the greatest extent practicable. This includes: self-contained classes, IEP students already identified to come in four days a week, high-need English Learners (same ones who have been receiving in-person 4-days a week), and identified CTE programs at MST (Fire, Aviation, LNA). It is important to note that our ability to do this is dependent on staffing. Staff are increasingly being forced to quarantine due to contact with positive cases of COVID-19.

Personal items: Although students have a limited amount of personal items in school, they should plan on bringing those items home on their final day in person. This means that students in the A cohort for hybrid learning would bring home personal items today. Students in the B cohort must bring home personal items Friday. If this is not possible, families can coordinate with schools to pick up items.

Food distribution: We will continue with meal pickup at schools. We expect to restart meal distribution by bus again quickly. We will provide more information on bus distribution as soon as possible.



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Joyce Craig
Mayor

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen
From: Mayor Joyce Craig
Date: November 17, 2020
Re: Update Regarding the Hillsborough Superior North Encampment

Over the last month or so, the State has been engaged in efforts to end camping on the state-owned property at the Hillsborough County Courthouse located on Chestnut Street. As we understand this effort, the State is enforcing a State anti-camping statute and plans to clean up the property when it is vacated. However, they have not shared their plan.

The City has been engaged with a wide range of partners including Families in Transition/New Horizons, The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester, and Healthcare for the Homeless to name a few, for many years to address housing and homelessness in our City. This work has been especially challenging during the COVID-19 pandemic and, once again, as has happened every year, we will see a critical and pressing need for safe, warm winter shelter—a need which will no doubt be increased and made more complex by the pandemic. To put this in perspective, In January 2019, there were 74 individuals living unsheltered in the City of Manchester, compared to the 365 unique individuals identified by our outreach teams as living unsheltered in our City over the past 10 months.

Because of a lack of an overarching state-wide approach, homelessness plans in communities around New Hampshire have been reactive. On November 5, I, along with the mayors from all 13 cities in New Hampshire asked the Governor to establish a commission, similar to the Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs, to develop and implement a statewide homelessness plan that would establish a set of metrics to define success, implement accountability measures, and track progress.

As you know, only one in four individuals living unsheltered in our community reports being from Manchester, and we welcome any effort from the State that results in more sheltering and more housing for anyone that is unsheltered in Manchester. However, we do not support temporarily, intermittently, or involuntarily relocating unsheltered persons from one outdoor encampment, to another outdoor encampment, especially since that would contribute to increased health risks in our City during the ongoing and worsening pandemic.

Outreach to unsheltered individuals has been ongoing and available in all encampments across our City, including the state-owned property at the Courthouse, and will continue. We are grateful to our partners and we are committed to the safety of the public, of the City and its employees, of our partners, and of the occupants at these locations.

The City is not partnering with the State in any unconstitutional efforts. Our focus is, and always has been, on helping individuals in need. We are open to and continue to provide services to any person who is homeless.

Despite the pandemic, outreach to help individuals and to connect them to services continues during this time, and I thank all, including the Fire, Police, Health, and Welfare Departments and all our community partners who work so hard and with such tremendous dedication to this work.

We cannot lose sight of the fact that those experiencing homelessness across the state are residents of New Hampshire, who deserve our respect, care and assistance. These individuals make up our most vulnerable populations, who have suffered due to a lack of coordinated statewide response.

I look forward to working with the State as a partner in preventing and ending homelessness in New Hampshire.



CITY OF MANCHESTER

Joyce Craig
Mayor

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen
From: Mayor Joyce Craig
Date: November 16, 2020
Re: Winter Sheltering Update

Earlier this afternoon, the City participated on a conference call with representatives from the State regarding emergency sheltering during extremely cold weather. Participants from the City included: myself, Anna Thomas, Public Health Director, Dan Goonan, Fire Chief, Meghan Geoffrion, Emergency Management Coordinator, and Lauren Smith, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office. Participants from the State included: Lori Shibinette Commissioner of DHHS, Christine Santaniello, Director of Economic & Housing Stability, Ann Landry, DHHS Associate Commissioner for Medicaid & Population Health, Katja Fox, DHHS Health Care Program Specialist, and Ann Edwards, Associate Attorney General.

The highlights of the call are below:

The City again requested use of the Armory for sheltering. The State denied our request because they said the National Guard needs the building for training. We asked if training could happen in another location and the State said no. We requested use of the Sununu Center, where Granite Pathways had been (currently vacant), and the State said no because there are kids living at the center.

The City shared research done to date in terms of utilizing City owned building(s) for emergency sheltering. The State asked if the City had considered renting a large, climate controlled tent. The City confirmed we had, and stated it was extremely expensive – in the neighborhood of \$1 million.

The City communicated how our non-profit partners are doing all they can to provide services and shelter to the many people living unsheltered. However, they do not have the capacity to

handle the influx of people from other areas. The City discussed this situation with the State back in July and the Commissioner suggested she could find another non-profit partner who could assist the City. When asked about the status of this, the State mentioned they are working with an organization, NFI North, Inc. (NFI), to increase transitional housing. However, this transitional housing would only be for individuals who are released from the New Hampshire Hospital and who live in or around Manchester. This project is more than nine months away from completion, and this is the first the City is hearing about it.

When asked what other communities are doing, the State mentioned that many of the local non-profits are securing hotels/hotel rooms. The State said they have funding to cover hotel rooms, and that they located a hotel in Hooksett and asked Families in Transition/New Horizons (FIT/NH) to rent the hotel rooms. FIT/NH declined because of the liability in terms risk of damage that the State doesn't cover.

The State mentioned there are funds available to assist with costs associated with an emergency shelter. Given their consistent message about available funding, the City asked if there would be funding available to purchase a building in the City, fit it up, and staff it with a Housing First model. It is believed the building could accommodate 38 Housing First apartments at a cost of approximately \$6 million.

Next steps are as follows:

The City:

- Outline staffing needs and costs for an overnight warming station
- Finalize plan and costs for emergency shelter and provide to State by Friday

The State:

- Determine if the City can use the Armory parking lot for a tent
- Determine if a non-profit partner would be willing to accept liability for renting hotel rooms
- Look into funding options for the Housing First project

The State provided no information about their plans for moving people from the state-owned property at the County Courthouse.