

# COVID-19 Council Update

## April 27, 2020

### Current Statistics as of 04/27/2020:

- 2,559 confirmed and probable cases within the Snohomish County – WA State 13,521
- 107 Deceased countywide – 749 deaths statewide
- GenCare Scriber Gardens (Lynnwood) has 12 confirmed cases; 2 deaths
- Lynnwood Post-Acute Rehab now has 45 confirmed cases; 4 deaths
- 487 Cases within Lynnwood
- 15 Fatalities in Lynnwood (unchanged)

### Status Update:

- The current focus of the EOC and our departments in terms of COVID-19 is developing plans for the gradual rollback of services. Starting tomorrow we will be meeting with each department to determine a phased rollback plan based on ongoing guidance from the Governor and health district. Our plan is to ensure social distancing is maintained, continue to maximize telecommuting as much as possible, while slowly returning to providing direct services to the public. The pace of this plan, and its timeline, are still undetermined, but the means in which it will be accomplished, and the order of service restoration will be identified based on COOP prioritization and the governor's orders.
- Our EOC remains activated at level 3 and our Command staff are in daily communications with each other. We are now on our 4<sup>th</sup> operational Incident Action Plan (IAP). That plan will be updated this week and we will likely shift back to weekly IAP's assuming there will be ongoing changes to the Stay Home order as well rollback restrictions.
- The SAFE teams completed their countywide outreach and assessment efforts last week. This work involved social workers, physicians, paramedics and law enforcement officers visiting homeless encampments to screen individuals for COVID-19. The numbers in these camps were dramatically lower than what we saw in the last point-in-time survey. The county has reached out to our partner counties to the north and south to see if their numbers have increased so as to identify where these people went.
- The city has received and disbursed many face coverings to staff. This initial order of face coverings was not ideal, but the quickest we could get to protect staff. We are actively placing a new order for better masks that will provide proper protection but allow for more comfortable wear, which is critical to achieve compliance and a content workforce.
- Governor Inslee held a press conference on Friday April 24<sup>th</sup> in which he authorized the opening of existing construction projects. Numerous safety protocols were identified within this plan to ensure safety and minimize the potential for transmission. The plan requires a site-specific COVID-19 Supervisor to monitor employees and enforce the site COVID-19 safety plan. Monitoring and enforcement will be overseen by L&I. Director Kleitsch can detail the specifics if desired and its impacts on DBS.
- Today Governor Inslee authorized the easing of outdoor restrictions. He reopened day use at state parks, and state public lands managed by DNR and WDFW. He has allowed fishing, hunting, and the playing of golf with restrictions imposed on each.

Social distancing must be maintained, and group sizes are limited. He did not authorize public gatherings, events, team sports, and camping among other things.

- Today the Governor also announced the distribution of funding to local governments from the federal stimulus package. Each city will receive a minimum of \$25K. This will cover critical expenses arising from the emergency. I have not established how those funds will be distributed, or the specifics on utilization, but that information should be forthcoming.
- As a representative of the police department I applied for a COVID-19 federal grant last week through the Department of Justice. That grant was approved on Friday. The grant award is approximately \$38K and will be used to pay for a respirator FIT test machine, electrostatic sprayers for facilities and vehicles, sanitation equipment, respirators and other associated PPE.
- A drive-thru testing site will be located in Lynnwood in the back parking lot of the Health District's Office located at 6101 200<sup>th</sup> Street SW. Testing will run from 9:00 until 3:30 this Wednesday and Friday and can be scheduled through the Health District's website. Testing is by appointment only. Only those who are sick and have developed any of the identified COVID symptoms within the last 14 days will be eligible to register for a testing appointment.
- Julie Moore and I participate in daily calls from the SnoCo DEM and the Health District.
- Mayor Smith participates in regular calls with County Executive Somers and all County Mayors and Tribal leaders.
- The impacts of COVID-19 on our overall workforce continue to be negligible. As of this morning only 2.19% of our workforce is currently on sick leave. We have had one confirmed positive COVID-19 employee, and that employee is now back at work.
- Utilization of telecommuting has been very successful. Outside of our essential employees from Public Works, Police Department, and Parks & Rec, approximately 70% of our staff are telecommuting.
- Messaging continues to be a critical component of our City's response to this public health emergency. It is important for us to be actively communicating with our community members regarding important health messaging, community resiliency and engagement efforts.
  - Our efforts have been largely successful in this regard. Aside from the city's homepage our COVID-19 resource page is the #1 spot for visitors to go. We have had nearly 14,500 unique visits to that page.
  - The City's social media platforms continue to be important communication tools for us to share our city messages regarding the city's response efforts, resharing information from our community partners, and sharing positive and/or educational information targeted at creating a connected online community.
- We launched a community resiliency effort called *Lynnwood Connects Call-In*. The Lynnwood Connects Check-In program is a weekly phone call to see how residents are doing and share a friendly conversation. The calls are intended to provide an opportunity to connect to those who may be feeling socially isolated by linking individuals with a friendly, caring City of Lynnwood staff member. Check-In calls can be provided in Arabic, Chinese, German, Korean, Russian, Spanish, and Ukrainian. South County Fire's Community Resource Paramedic program and Verdant Health Commission have been assisting us with recruitment for this program as they often have interactions with isolated and/or vulnerable community members.
- We continue to support our business community by serving as a resource and connector to the variety of business resources such as how to access the federal stimulus

resources, grants, and loans that are available now, and those coming soon. Our most recent communication to local businesses was alerting them to the most recent stimulus package and the replenishing of funds to the Payroll Protection Program. The Economic Development Department has been assisting Economic Alliance Snohomish County with reviewing the applications received for the 'Working Washington Small Business Emergency Grant' program through the WA State Department of Commerce.

We are also promoting our businesses that are remaining open through our Open For Business webpage [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/OpenForBusiness](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/OpenForBusiness).

- We continue to support and be in close communication with our partners at the Lynnwood Food Bank, Homage Senior Services, the Edmonds School District and Foundation for Edmonds School District, all of whom are providing food to our community members. We are supporting these operations by way of recruitment of volunteers and/or helping to promote the need for monetary donations and food donations.
  - The Lynnwood Food Bank is continuing to report increasing numbers of families served during their Wednesday and Friday distribution days. Last week they reported serving 682 households – accounting for 2,615 individuals. 42% of those households are new to the Food Bank. This increase is expected to continue into the foreseeable future. The City has been helping to recruit volunteers for the Food Bank and at this time they have had adequate volunteer support. Our Patrol Division of the Lynnwood Police Department is assisting with traffic control on food distribution days to help manage the overflow onto 52<sup>nd</sup> Ave and on. The Verdant Health Commission recently gave the Food Bank a grant for the purchase of meat, eggs, and dairy. They have not yet received any of the pre-packed food boxes through Food Lifeline funded from the State. They have not yet heard when we will receive them, how many they'll get, or what will be in them. Finding dry goods in bulk is difficult at this time, but they are continuing to look for them. Their needs in this category include pasta, rice, peanut butter, beans, etc. The Food Bank is coordinating a 'Drive By Food Drive' and the City will be helping to promote this effort. They continue to support the Edmonds College food pantry and Foundation for Edmonds School District pantries