

# COVID-19 Council Update

## April 6, 2020

### Current Statistics as of 04/06/2020:

- 1,681 confirmed and probable cases within the Snohomish County
- 58 Deceased countywide
- GenCare Scriber Gardens (Lynnwood) now has 7 confirmed cases
- 252 Cases within Lynnwood
- 5 Fatalities in Lynnwood

### Status Update:

- On Friday, Governor Jay Inslee extended the stay home order through May 4<sup>th</sup>. It appears that the stay home order is effective and models suggest that Washington will reach out peak in mid-April. Today the Governor announced that kids will not be returning back to school this school year and will continue to do distance learning through mid-June.
- Our EOC is still activated at a level 3 and our EOC Command staff are in daily communication with each other. We are now on our 2<sup>nd</sup> operational Incident Action Plan (IAP). These IAPs will be updated weekly. The plan identifies our goals and strategies for the existing operational period, the department COOP plans, staffing and contacts, and the organizational structure for each department and the EOC.
- A county quarantine/isolation site at Angel of the Winds Arena went live last week. This facility provides for 100 quarantine beds and 50 isolation beds. It will be staffed with medical personnel, on-site private security, and 24/7 LE. It is designed to house people that cannot otherwise self-quarantine at home. As of this morning there was no one at Angel of the Winds. Only people sent there are under a direct order from the Health Officer. They are evaluating the site and may scale back size and location if demand remains low.
- On Friday, the CDC and the Washington State Department of Health came out with the recommendation that healthy individuals should wear cloth masks while in public. Our EOC Logistic Section Chief has purchased 200 2-ply cloth masks that should be here this week, and an additional 300 3-ply masks that should arrive next week. These masks will be for our essential staff who are still providing services to our community.
- In terms of other PPE we currently have a decent supply. We have received one shipment of N95 masks from the federal government, however those masks did not pass our fittest. We will use those for general exterior protection similar to cotton masks. We have another order for surgical N95 masks that we hope to still receive.
- The Families First Corona Virus Act went into effect on April 1<sup>st</sup> and to date we've had five employees under consideration for the different types of paid leave under the Act. Our HR team is working with supervisors and individual employees to determine on a case-by-case basis, which type of leave is most appropriate for the employee. The financial impacts are unknown at this time as it really depends on how healthy we stay and what types of leave are most appropriate for each employee. It is still unknown if we

will receive reimbursement from the federal government so we are diligently tracking our expenses just in case.

We have had about 200 donated hours from employees to the shared leave pool. These hours would be available should an employee reach a leave without pay situation for a Covid-19 related event after benefiting from the protections of the FFCRA.

- Our EOC Manger Commander Steichen and PIO Moore participate in daily calls from the SnoCo DEM/ECC.
- Mayor Smith participates in regular calls with County Executive Somers and all County Mayors and Tribal leaders.
- During the initial few weeks of the crisis, our City's leadership team was conducting daily meetings to assess our city response, staffing issues, and communications. Starting this week we are scaling those meetings back to be our EOC Command Staff, HR Director Chinn, Mayor Smith and City Administrator Ceniza.
- We continue to be in close communication with South County Fire and Rescue. We speak throughout the week about activities, protective measures, strategies, and operations. South County Fire has merged their FOC into a Fire Coordination Center with Everett, Marysville and District 7. By unifying these agencies, which encompass the majority of the county, they will essentially be able to serve as an area command to manage all fire/EMS resources if the situation were to get worse and DEM made the request. This is a smart move for providing medical services to the community at-large. This does not change the services we receive form them in any way.
- Our parks playgrounds, sports courts, playfields and skatepark remain closed, but we are keeping parks open space, trails, and parks bathrooms open. The bathrooms are cleaned and sanitized twice daily.
- The impacts of COVID-19 on our overall workforce has been negligible. As of this morning only 2.8% of our workforce is currently on sick leave. We have had one confirmed positive COVID-19 employee, and that employee is now past the 14 day quarantine is back to work. Currently, we have 2 employees that are in isolation and 3 employees who are in quarantine.
- Utilization of telecommuting has been very successful. Outside of the Public Works and Police Departments approximately 70% of our staff are telecommuting.
- An update from IT: We have heard stories coming out regarding security issues related to the use of Zoom. However our IT department is confident that the way we are using zoom partnered with our security measure are keeping us safe. Just like any technology we are asking our users to be vigilant and protect their personal information, not give out their passwords.
- Messaging continues to be a critical component of our City's response to this public health emergency. We have two overarching goals in our strategic messaging and that is to build community resiliency and encourage community compliance.
  - A postcard was mailed to every Lynnwood residential address on Friday, and should have arrived by now. The message is to please stay home unless you are going out for groceries, medical care, or essential work. Thanks to Councilmember Altamirano-Crosby, this postcard has also been translated into Spanish.
  - We continue to message through our city website, Lynnwood eNews, our city social media accounts.

- We are sharing and amplifying the messages of our local and regional partners to promote health department guidelines, safety messages, and what services and resources are available in our community.
- Internal communication is also a critical piece of our city's response and we are making efforts to keep our employees informed and provide them with the appropriate resources so that they can stay healthy and continue to provide essential services to our community.
- We are looking at ways to increase our messaging to our diverse community including limited-English speakers.
- We have a webpage dedicated to being the clearing house for covid related information and that webpage is [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/COVID-19](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/COVID-19)
- We have created a 'What's Open for Business in Lynnwood' webpage and it lists what restaurants and other businesses are open during the stay home order. We also have other resources for our local businesses located on our city website, such as information on how to access the federal stimulus grants, loans and other resources. That website is [www.LynnwoodWA.gov/OpenForBusiness](http://www.LynnwoodWA.gov/OpenForBusiness).
- Food security is a major concern for our community and we are 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 reports that their numbers have drastically increased – they served 275 households the first week of March, and last week they served 567 households – 47% of which were first time visits to the food bank.
  - The Edmonds School District has handed out over 50,000 meals from March 16-April 3.
  - Foundation for Edmonds School District & Nourishing Network: is assisting ESD with meal distribution and have distributed 2,500 meals at 4 sites in Lynnwood. They are also hosting pop-up pantry boxes and have served 165 families, they are providing about 370 families with pantry boxes and weekend meals, and they have partnered with local restaurants to distribute approximately 700 meals to families.
  - Homage Senior Services: Homage reports an increase in meal delivery. We are awaiting exact numbers for Meals on Wheels distribution.