



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Linda McMillan, Senior Legislative Analyst
 Essie McGuire, Senior Legislative Analyst
Purpose: Receive briefing and have discussion – no vote expected
Keywords: Coronavirus, COVID-19

AGENDA ITEM #2(A)
 February 8, 2022
Discussion

SUBJECT

Updates from County Government– Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Health Planning

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

- Dr. James Bridgers, Acting Chief Health Officer, (DHHS)
- Dr. Earl Stoddard, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
- Sean O’Donnell, Program Administrator, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (DHHS)

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- Council sitting as Board of Health to receive updates.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Council will receive an update on the public health data and response to COVID-19 from County Government.

Background Information

State and County Data on February 3, 2022 (Maryland.gov website)

	Confirmed Cases	Confirmed Deaths	Probable Deaths
Maryland	960,201	13,353	258
Montgomery County	158,225	1,871	56

On February 3, 2022, the Maryland.gov website reported the State’s positivity rate was 7.15%.

On February 3, 2022, the CDC COVID¹ Tracker by county, showed that Montgomery County was in HIGH Community Transmission with a case rate of 269.92 cases per 100,000 population for the last 7 days and a positivity rate of 5.64%.

The February 3, 2022, CDC COVID Tracker reports:

¹ Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID Tracker https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=Maryland&data-type=Risk&list_select_county=24031

89.6% of the County population aged 5 years old and older is fully vaccinated.
84.1% of the TOTAL County population is fully vaccinated.
50.4% of the fully vaccinated population has a booster.

Montgomery County Case Metrics (from Montgomery County website)

Montgomery County continues to monitor metrics regarding the spread and prevalence of COVID-19 in the community. The primary indicators follow the CDC Tracker which classifies metrics by Low, Moderate, Substantial, and High. The secondary metrics are classified as the county as Very High, High, Moderate, Low, or Very Low risk of transmission/utilization. Indicators can be viewed at: <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/data/>

Primary Indicators

Number of cases per 100,000 residents in the past 7 days. As of February 3, 2022, there were 220.5 cases per 100,000; which was a **HIGH** level of transmission.

Test positivity rate – 7-day average percentage of tests administered resulting in a positive case. As of February 3, 2022, the County website reports a positivity rate of 4.9%; which is a **LOW** rate of transmission.

Secondary Indicators

Percent change in new cases per 100,000 population during the last seven days compared to the previous seven days. As of February 2, 2022, the rate was -60.2%; a **VERY LOW** risk of transmission.

Percent of hospital inpatient beds in the community that are occupied. As of February 2, 2022, 69.4% beds were occupied which is a **LOW** rate of utilization.

Percent of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds in use. As of February 2, 2022, 74.4% of ICU beds were in use which is a **LOW** rate of utilization.

Percent of inpatient beds in the community occupied by patients with COVID-19. As of February 2, 2022, 16.5% of beds were occupied with COVID-19 patients which is a **HIGH** rate of utilization.

Board of Health Order – Masks – January 25, 2022

On January 25, the Board of Health adopted an amended Board of Health regulations regarding the wearing of masks that became effective on January 25, 2022. The new Board of Health regulation continues indoor mask requirements at any location accessible to the public in Montgomery County. The Board of Health Order will terminate without further action on February 21, 2022. In addition, the Council will meet as the Board of Health every week to evaluate the public health data associated with community transmission of COVID-19.

The following is a link to the Order that became effective on January 25, 2022:

https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/ccllims/DownloadFilePage?FileName=10350_1_19990_Resolution_19-1139_Adopted_20220125.pdf

Montgomery County is distributing free N95 masks, while supplies last, through County libraries. The following is a link to the press release with specific information:

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=39867

Montgomery County is distributing rapid tests, while supplies last, through County libraries. The following are links to the press release and additional information on the COVID webpage:

https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=39792

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/testing.html>

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