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

AGENDA ITEM #5
June 16, 2020
**Discussion**

Montgomery
County Council

## SUBJECT

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update (County Council sitting as the Board of Health)

## EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Dr. Travis Gayles, County Health Officer and Chief of DHHS Public Health Services
Dr. Earl Stoddard, Director, Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
Dr. Raymond Crowel, Director, Department of Health and Human Services (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 emergency response to the COVID-19 public emergency from Dr. Gayles and Dr. Stoddard.

**The following is data from the Maryland.gov website on June 7, 2020:**

| STATEWIDE DATA | 9-Jun | 10-Jun | 11-Jun | 12-Jun | 13-Jun | 14-Jun | 15-Jun | June 14-15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Confirmed Positive Cases | 58,904 | 59,465 | 60,197 | 60,613 | 61,305 | 61,701 | 32,032 | (29,669) |
| Total Confirmed Deaths | 2,686 | 2,719 | 2,750 | 2,773 | 2,799 | 2,811 | 2,817 | 6 |
| Probable Deaths | 125 | 125 | 125 | 127 | 127 | 128 | 130 | 2 |

| COUNTY DATA | 9-Jun | 10-Jun | 11-Jun | 12-Jun | 13-Jun | 14-Jun | 15-Jun | June 14-15 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Confirmed Positive Cases | 12,968 | 13,124 | 13,276 | 13,348 | 13,534 | 13,607 | 13,657 | 50 |
| Total Confirmed Deaths | 628 | 633 | 635 | 640 | 647 | 651 | 655 | 4 |
| Probable Deaths | 39 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 39 | 0 |

**The following data is from the Montgomery County website as of June 12, 2020:**

| 12-Jun-20 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| CASES MoCo | Male | Male | Female | Female | Total | Total |
| Age Group | Count | Rate | Count | Rate | Count | Rate |
| 0-17 | 404 | 324.7 | 380 | 318.8 | 784 | 321.8 |
| 18-49 | 3421 | 1607.6 | 3420 | 1545.0 | 6841 | 1575.7 |
| 50-64 | 1534 | 1538.5 | 1453 | 1310.8 | 2987 | 1418.6 |
| 65+ | 1172 | 1790.5 | 1521 | 1761.4 | 2693 | 1773.9 |
| TOTAL | 6531 | 1300.0 | 6774 | 1259.7 | 13305 | 1279.2 |

| DEATHS MoCo | Male | Male | Female | Female | Total | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Age Group | Count | Rate | Count | Rate | Count | Rate |
| 0-17 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| 18-49 | 24 | 11.3 | 7 | 3.2 | 31 | 7.1 |
| 50-64 | 63 | 63.2 | 17 | 15.3 | 80 | 38.0 |
| 65+ | 253 | 386.5 | 276 | 319.6 | 529 | 348.5 |
| TOTAL | 340 | 67.7 | 300 | 55.8 | 640 | 61.5 |

| MoCo Deaths | Count | Rate |
|---|---|---|
| White (NH) | 304 | 67.3 |
| Black (NH) | 152 | 79.0 |
| Asian (NH) | 60 | 37.2 |
| Hispanic | 103 | 49.8 |
| Other | 21 | NA |
| TOTAL | 640 | 61.5 |

**Montgomery County Metrics**

Montgomery County has adopted the following metrics that will be used to determine when it is safe to move to different phases of reopening businesses and other activities.

1. A sustained decrease of new cases during a 14-day period in an environment of increased testing.
2. A sustained decrease in the number of COVID-19 related daily deaths.
3. A sustained decrease in the COVID-19 related hospitalizations.
4. A sustained decrease in COVID-19 related ICU hospitalizations.
5. A sustained decrease in the number of COVID-19 related patients going to County emergency rooms.
6. A sustained daily acute care bed utilization rate of 70% or less of total acute care bed space.
7. A sustained daily Intensive Care Unit (ICU) bed utilization rate of 80% or less of ICU bed space.

8. A sustained daily rate of 70% or less of critical care equipment, such as ventilators.

9. A sustained flattening or decrease in test positivity.

10. An increased testing capacity to be able to test 5% of residents on a monthly basis.

Except for achieving declining cases (met 12 of 14 days), declining new deaths (met 13 of 14 days) and use of 70% or less of acute care bed space (met 8 of 14 days), the County has met these metrics for 14 of 14 days using a 3-day rolling average.

**In addition, the County has stated the following as additional goals that should be achieved:**

➢ Testing networks in place to offer high throughput testing.
➢ Leverage health care network to provide testing to symptomatic and asymptomatic patients.
➢ Accessible testing options available across the County utilizing a diverse network of options, including health care providers, alternative test sites, mobile testing units, etc.
➢ Sustained flattening or decrease in test positivity.
➢ Continuing current efforts and partnering with the State on a state-driven, large-scale contact tracing effort that will allow for contacting cases within 24 hours upon receipt of results and identified contacts within 48 hours.
➢ Compiling and using data by race, gender, age, geographic location to inform policy decisions related to health outcomes.
➢ Ability to disseminate information, programming, and policies that address the impact of social determinants of health on Covid-19 outcomes.

**COVID-19 Background (from Maryland.gov)**
COVID-19 is a disease caused by a respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is a new virus that hasn't caused illness in humans before. Worldwide, COVID-19 has resulted in thousands of infections, causing illness and in some cases death. Cases have spread to countries throughout the world, with more cases reported daily.
**COVID-19 is thought to be able to spread like the cold or flu through:**
Coughing and sneezing, which creates respiratory droplets
Close personal contact, such as touching or shaking hands
Touching an object or surface with the virus on it
**Symptoms of COVID-19 include:**
Fever
Coughing
Shortness of breath; in more severe cases, pneumonia (infection in the lungs)

Link to County Website:
https://montgomerycountymd.gov/HHS/RightNav/Coronavirus.html

## SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The Board of Health is continuing its regular briefings.