



City of
GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ROXANN WEDEGARTNER
Mayor

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March 6, 2020

Dear Residents of Greenfield,

I am writing to inform you of our efforts to engage in proactive planning and to reduce the risk of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our community.

I recently convened a group of City personnel to monitor the latest alerts, to address the City's preparedness, and to communicate with our local health and government partners, our City employees, and the public. This group includes members of City leadership including Fire Chief Robert Strahan, who is also our Emergency Management Director, Valerie Bird, Greenfield Health Director, Superintendent of Schools Jordana Harper, and several department heads. We are following best practices for preparedness and guidelines from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Massachusetts continues to be "low risk" for infection by the coronavirus, and there are no confirmed cases in Greenfield at this time. We urge the public to stay well, and to prevent the spread of disease. Much of the guidance for prevention of the spread of the coronavirus is similar to cold and flu prevention strategies.

You can help keep yourself and your family safe by following these guidelines:

1. Call a medical provider for a fever, cough or difficulty breathing.
2. School children with symptoms need to stay home and not return to school unless they have been fever free (without fever-reducing medicine) for 24 hours.
3. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
4. Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sleeve.
5. Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with hands.

The City is monitoring the situation and will keep the public informed. The health and safety of our residents is at the heart of our work on this matter. We have informative links provided to the City's website, for access by the public. As always, please feel free to reach out to the Greenfield Health Department or to my office with concerns about the spread of coronavirus.

Sincerely,

Roxann Wedegartner
Mayor