From:	Neukirch, Ghida
To:	All Users
Cc:	Taub, Emily
Subject:	City Buildings Reopening Plan UPDATED WITH NEW STATE GUIDANCE FOR VACCINATED PEOPLE
Date:	Monday, May 17, 2021 3:55:34 PM
Attachments:	

Good afternoon colleagues,

Governor Pritzker issued an Executive Order today aligning the State's mask guidance for fully vaccinated people with the CDC. Individuals are considered fully vaccinated 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna vaccines), or 2 weeks after the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen single dose vaccine. Individuals who do not meet these requirements, regardless of age, are not considered fully vaccinated. Below is the State's media release for reference. The City's Reopening Plan has been updated to reflect this information.

If you or your family members are not vaccinated, but wish to register or obtain information, go to the City's web site at www.cityhpil.com/covid-19. You're welcome to reach out if you questions at any time.

We also updated the City's Reopening Plan to reflect the fact that municipal buildings will remain closed for walk-in service on Mondays. Appointments with personnel are available on Mondays upon request. There are no changes to the City's hours of operation.

Please review the Reopening Plan, and if you have any questions, please contact your supervisor, Department Director, HR Manager Taub or me. Thank you!

Ghida S. Neukirch, CM
City Manager

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, May 17, 2021

CONTACT

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Gov. Pritzker Aligns Illinois Mask Guidance with CDC for Fully Vaccinated People

Administration to Rescind Emergency Public Health Rules Following New CDC Guidance

CDC: Fully Vaccinated People No Longer Need to Wear a Mask in Most Instances or Practice Social Distancing

SPRINGFIELD – Following guidance from the CDC that fully vaccinated people can stop wearing a mask and practicing social distancing in most indoor and outdoor settings, Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health have announced that Illinois will align state executive orders with the latest CDC guidance and rescind IDPH emergency rules enforcing masking and distance.

The CDC continues to require masks for everyone in healthcare settings, in congregate settings and on transit. In addition, in line with CDC guidance, the Illinois State Board of Education and Illinois Department of Public Health require masks in schools. The Illinois Department of Children and Family Services requires masks in daycare.

"Getting vaccinated is the ultimate protection from COVID-19 and the quickest ticket back to normal life," **said Governor JB Pritzker.** "With public health experts now saying fully vaccinated people can safely remove their masks in most settings, I'm pleased to follow the science and align Illinois' policies with the CDC's guidance. I also support the choice of individuals and businesses to continue to mask out of an abundance of caution as this pandemic isn't over yet."

"While the updated guidance from the CDC is welcome news, let me remind everyone that this guidance is only for those people who are fully vaccinated," **said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike.** "Individuals who do not have the protection afforded by one of the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines should still wear a mask. While more than 64% of adults in Illinois have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine, we need to increase that number. To slow down disease spread and the development of even more deadly variants, we need as many people as possible to be vaccinated."

The Governor is issuing an updated executive order to remove the mask requirement for fully vaccinated people in most settings, and the Illinois Department of Public Health is rescinding emergency rules in the Control of Communicable Disease Code that enforce masking and distancing for vaccinated people in business settings. In line with CDC guidance, individuals who are unvaccinated should continue wearing masks in most settings and both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals should continue to wear masks on public transportation, in congregate facilities, and in healthcare settings.

As of today, more than 4.6 million Illinoisans are fully vaccinated — 58% of residents 16+, 64% of residents 18+ and 86% of residents 65+.

LATEST CDC GUIDANCE

The CDC still recommends that unvaccinated people continue to take preventive measures, such as wearing a mask and practicing social distancing. In their latest guidance, the CDC now reports that indoor and outdoor activities pose minimal risk to fully vaccinated people and that fully vaccinated people have a reduced risk of transmitting SARS-CoV-2 to unvaccinated people.

Fully vaccinated people can:

- Resume activities without wearing masks or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance
- Resume domestic travel and refrain from testing before or after travel or self-quarantine after travel
- Refrain from testing before leaving the United States for international travel (unless required by the destination) and refrain from self-quarantine after arriving back in the United States
- Refrain from testing following a known exposure, if asymptomatic, with some exceptions for specific settings
- Refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if asymptomatic
- Refrain from routine screening testing if feasible

For now, fully vaccinated people should continue to:

- Get tested if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- Follow CDC and health department travel requirements and recommendations

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From: Neukirch, Ghida
Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2021 9:56 PM
To: 'all_users@cityhpil.com' <all_users@cityhpil.com>
Cc: Taub, Emily <etaub@cityhpil.com>
Subject: City Buildings Reopening Plan & Other Important News

Colleagues,

I hope you and your families are doing well. It's been fourteen months since we suspended walk-in services to our municipal buildings and shifted our entire administrative operation to predominately online and mail services. The City's actions have been made with extreme care and consideration for the safety of our employees and the public, and based on guidance and information provided by public health officials from the IDPH and CDC. As we have reported, Governor Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Public Health confirmed the entire state will move into the Bridge Phase of the Restore Illinois reopening plan tomorrow, Friday, May 14th. The Bridge Phase is the final step before the full reopening of Phase 5. Under Bridge Phase, there are expanded capacity limits for

businesses, dining, offices, events, conferences and gatherings. Barring any significant reversals in key COVID-19 statewide indicators, including increasing hospitalizations, Illinois could enter Phase 5 as soon as Friday, June 11th.

The City's Municipal Buildings will reopen for walk-in service effective June 1, 2021. Please read the Reopening Plan which sets forth guidelines as we reopen our buildings for walk-in service, facility enhancements and the City's face covering policy. As you likely know, the CDC reported today that fully vaccinated people no longer need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting, except where required by federal, state, local agencies, or other laws and regulations apply. We are communicating with State and local health agencies pertaining to this matter and will advise when modifications to the reopening plan are advanced.

The June 1 reopening date was selected based on the COVID-19 State metrics for our region and the surrounding area, the opportunity for our employees and families to be vaccinated, and a transition period for employees to make child care and other family arrangements. Please note that the Fire Stations remain closed for walk-in service (except by appointment only), and the Police Department Training Room remains closed as public meeting space. City Council, Commission, Committee and Board meetings will continue to be held virtually until at least Phase 5.

Please also review the Flexible Work Schedule Pilot Program which provides for continued flexibility for employees to work remotely based on position responsibilities, and business and organizational needs.

This pandemic has reinforced the important work of local government professionals, and I am so proud of the manner in which our organization has responded to the demands, challenges and opportunities. I applaud you for your level of commitment and professionalism, and working to ensure our priorities and objectives are met, in a safe, responsible and efficient manner.

As always, if you have any questions or recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact me or your department director.

Respectfully,

Ghida S. Neukirch, CM
City Manager

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