

E-Brief 2020

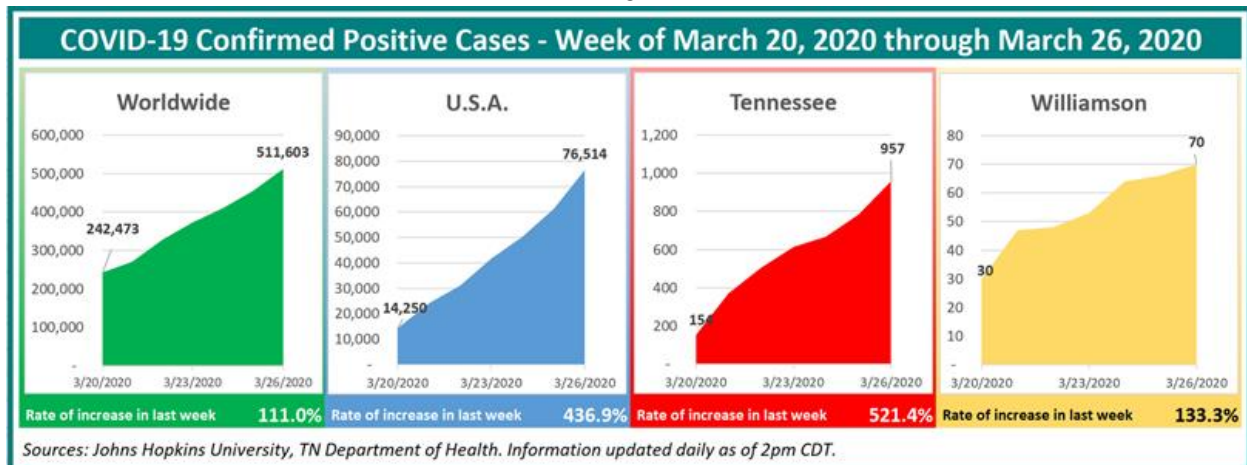


Excellence Innovation Teamwork Integrity Action-Oriented

Friday, March 27, 2020

Coronavirus Update: This has been another long week for all of us as we move ahead, one step at a time. I am so proud of the response we are delivering as a team. You all are stepping in working (many in different ways than we could have imagined). We will need to continue to adapt and respond to an ever-changing situation. The thing that does not change is our commitment to serving the community at the highest level we can. Franklin is and will continue to be a great city! You all are crucial part of that effort. A lot has happened over the past seven days, the City has renewed the State of Emergency we issued last Friday. Earlier this week the Mayor also issued a Stay at Home order, similar to Nashville's order. You can see both at www.franklintn.gov/covid-19. There are also lots of other information and resources on this page to assist you. At last count Tennessee has 957 (+173 from yesterday) cases of COVID-19 and 70 in Williamson County. Below is a graph that we are posting on the website that we update every day.

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We attempted to leave all spaces in our parks open for people to utilize for fresh air, but yesterday we decided to **shut down our close-contact spaces including dog parks, playgrounds, basketball courts, batting cages, tennis courts, and our skate park.** Now that the sun is coming out and it is warming up, we are seeing many families flock to our parks and folks are not practicing physical distancing. Our open green spaces and trails will remain open.

We had a pretty good run at our first fully electronic or “virtual” meetings yesterday for **Capital Investment Committee and Planning Commission.** Kudos to those folks running the meetings in a new way for the first time. It looks like we may be working this way for a while, at least until the end of April.

Mental Health Resources:

We are posting mental health resources on our COVID-19 page at www.franklintn.gov/covid-19 Many are listed below. I realize this is a difficult time for all of us and want to make sure we all take care of ourselves so we can care for others. Also please see the video Human Resource Director Kevin Townsel and I taped last week on Inside the City in the announcement section.

- Employee Assistance Program (EAP)-1-800-822-4847
- Text Williamson to 741-741-this is a text in crisis line.
- Refuge Center: if you or someone you love is looking for remote counseling or counseling support during this time, as always, we invite you to call us at: 615-591-5262. As we often say at The Refuge Center, “*you do not have to walk this road alone.*” See telehealth facts attached.
- <https://www.mhamt.org/>-Suicide Prevention Lifeline number is 800-273-8255. If preferred, you can go to the website and participate in a chat feature.
- Go to <https://screening.mhanational.org/screening-tools?ref=MHAMT> for free, anonymous, evidence-based screenings for anxiety, depression, trauma, etc. The back-end of the screenings provides local resources and do-it-yourself exercises to help.

Johnathon Waldrum, who works for the Parks Department in the Athletics Division, recently passed his “first section” of the UGA Sports Turfgrass Management Certificate Program. This course covers all the fundamentals of turfgrass management for all types of sports turf, from little league



fields to golf courses. This course also explains what grasses work best for different sports and regions. This is a very hard exam and Johnathon is half way to obtaining this certification. Congratulations!

We received a nice thank you note from **Scott Andrews** regarding the efforts of our **IT Department** and our **Leadership Team**.

Good afternoon, Eric, I echo the appreciation for the IT folks. I needed their help yesterday to get all set up to work from home yesterday, and the response from Nate Tarkington. was extremely fast. I also appreciate everything you, Mayor Moore, Vernon, Mark Hilty, and the rest of leadership has been doing with regards to this unprecedented issue. You are all in unenviable positions trying to navigate these new, uncharted waters.

That's it for this week. I am keeping our team in my prayers. Together, we will get through this. Please wash your hands often, practice good physical distancing, and stay tuned for further updates on City operations. Thanks for *all* you do!



Website: www.franklintn.gov

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