

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 30, 2021

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **COVID-19 Update**

As you are aware, Dallas County Public Health Committee has raised the COVID-19 threat level back to red; meaning high risk of transmission. The number of positive cases in Dallas County are sharply increasing and we are experiencing a significant increase in the number of police officers and fire fighters that are also being affected.

Both the Dallas Police and the Dallas Fire-Rescue Departments are working to ensure their safety protocols stay current to reflect the latest CDC guidance and have implemented a number of safety measures to further protect their members as well as the public.

- All personnel able to work remotely are doing so in accordance with Phase III of the City's response plan.
- Facilities are being cleaned and disinfected daily and as needed.
- Quarantine, Isolation and Testing procedures are in place for any member that becomes symptomatic or suffers an exposure (on and off duty). These procedures are in accordance with CDC Guidelines and State mandates.
- A tracking mechanism is in place for all members in quarantine / isolation, with daily contact being made for monitoring and support.
- DFR has uses the Aeroclave RDS 3110 Decontamination Unit in Rescues to reduce the risk of infection of personnel and patients.
- DFR has launched department wide rapid testing utilizing the BinaxNow Testing Kits
- DFR launched an operation for COVID19 Booster shots for DFR, DPD, and Dallas Marshals on November 1st.

These measures are in place to help reduce the spread of the virus. However, with the recent sharp uptick in cases due to the Omicron variant, staff wanted to make the City Council aware that the current trend could pose challenges to current service standards and have a negative impact on overtime as we move forward into the new year. That said,

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the safety of our officers, firefighters, and the public is our top priority, and we will do everything feasible to mitigate these challenges.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my office at (214) 670-5365.



Jon Fortune
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billieae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity, and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors