

COVID-19 Update – Message from the County Manager

Today marks the beginning of phase 1 of Governor Roy Cooper's plan to reopen North Carolina. Phase 1 begins at 5:00 p.m. and will remain in effect through 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 22.

Phase 1 of the Governor's plan does not replace the state's current <u>Stay at Home Order</u>. Phase 1 of <u>Executive Order #138</u> is in addition to the state's Stay at Home Order and requires the following:

Phase 1 Requirements:

- Eliminates the distinction between essential and non-essential businesses
- Allows most retailers to reopen, with some exceptions, that can comply with specific requirements to open at 50% capacity
- · Allows residents to leave their homes for non-essential goods and services
- Encourages state parks and trails to reopen
- Allows residents in groups of up to 10 people to gather outdoors while following social distancing guidelines
- Opens childcare centers for working families
- · Encourages residents to wear cloth face coverings while outside of their homes

Click here for more information on what is allowed under phase 1 of Executive Order #138

Also – the Small Business Leaders Roundtable is in the process of creating a toolkit to assist small businesses in creating a plan to implement safe practices at their workplace as they reopen. The toolkit will be ready for release on Monday.

Meanwhile, Mecklenburg County is developing its plan to resume operations at our County facilities. I am working with my Executive Team, Cabinet members and Department Directors to create a plan that will allow for a phased approach based upon the specific demands of each department. I hope to have more details on the County's plan soon.

In addition, next week will be a busy one for the County as we work toward adopting the operating budget for fiscal year 2021. On Wednesday, May 13, a special meeting will be held for the Board of County Commissioners to receive funding requests from Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools. The Town Manager of Cornelius will also present a request for financial support for its Cain Center for the Arts, which is currently in development. Wednesday's meeting will begin at 1 p.m.

Then at 6:00 p.m. Mecklenburg County residents will have an opportunity to weigh in on my Recommended Budget for fiscal year 2021 during a <u>virtual Budget Public Hearing</u>. The meeting will be held virtually, as a precaution to help protect the health of County residents, BOCC members and County staff. Residents can view the meeting on the Government Channel or <u>online</u>. Residents may also listen to the meeting by phone by calling, (410) 418-9388 and entering access code 717 082 156.

Click here to learn more about the meeting or ways to submit comments or speak during the meeting.

Thank you for your continued support as Mecklenburg County works to move forward during the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit <u>MeckNC.gov/COVID-19</u> to stay up to date with the latest information.

Sincerely,

Dena. R. Diorio, Mecklenburg County Manager

Department of Social Services Offers One-Time Work First Cash Assistance

Due to the economic impact of COVID-19, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services will issue a one-time benefit of \$265 for each eligible child in an active Work First Cash Assistance Household.

Recipients must meet the following criteria:

- You applied for Work First Cash Assistance prior to April 1, 2020, and
- You were approved, and you are receiving Work First Cash Assistance for April 2020.

Children not included in the monthly Work First Cash Assistance will not receive this one-time benefit.

North Carolina will issue this one-time benefit beginning May 22, 2020. This one-time benefit is in addition to regular Work First Cash Assistance that program recipients already receive.

To learn more about the one-time payment call the North Carolina EBT Call Center at 1-866-719-0141 or the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services at 704-336-3000.

For more information, contact DSS Deputy Director MenTchaas Ari.

News Releases:

- <u>***NEW Information Regarding Phase 1 in North Carolina</u>
- ***NEW County Transitions to State Stay at Home Order
- ***NEW DSS to Issue One Time COVID-19 Benefit Payment for Work First Cash Assistance
- <u>***NEW Virtual Budget Public Hearing Scheduled for May 13</u>
- ***NEW COVID-19 Cases Reported as of May 3
- ***NEW Update on Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Click here to view a full list of news releases.

Media Update:

Mecklenburg County Manager Dena R. Diorio and Public Health Director Gibbie Harris gave an update on COVID-19 cases in Mecklenburg County, on Thursday, May 7. Click here to view the latest media availability.

COVID-19 Symptoms:

As the pandemic continues to impact the community, click here to view a list of COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID-19 Testing and Medical Advice:

Residents who feel they may have been exposed to the virus can contact the County's Public Health Hotline at 980-314-9400 to speak with a medical professional or for guidance on testing.

What to Do If You're Feeling Sick:

Click here for more information on what to do if you think you may have been exposed to the virus.

Frequently Asked Questions - Residents:

Click here to view a list of the most frequently asked questions related to COVID-19.

Resources for County Employees:

Employee Rights Under Families First Coronavirus Act

On April 1, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act was signed to help provide additional paid leave for government employees affected by COVID-19.

Click here to learn more about the act.

The latest <u>MecklenburgCountyNC.gov</u>
Board Bulletin
is <u>now available</u> online.
Reformatted for the web and published by Mecklenburg County Web Services
Login here with your email address to unsubscribe from the service, update your subscriptions, update your e-mail address, or change your password.
Email us your questions comments or suggestions.
Remember - sending only a link to our online publications saves our natural resources, your time, money, and disk space.
This service is provided to you by Mecklenburg County Taxpayers
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This email was sent to sjohnston@tuesdayforumcharlotte.org using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Mecklenburg County Government · 600 East Fourth Street · Charlotte, NC 28202 · 704-336-7600 (311)
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