

Larry Solomon

Hello Union Residents...

Mayor Larry here with another update. Let me give you an update on two fronts... Covid 19 And Our New Lifestyles, and Mt. Zion Road.

Covid 19 And Our New Lifestyles.

It is important to stay on top of the latest numbers so let me quickly review.

- In Northern Kentucky, there have been 10 additional cases as of last evening. 46 are in Boone, 80 in Kenton and 41 in Campbell.
- The good news is that there have been NO deaths in our area in the last three days, so we have only had 13 deaths in Northern Kentucky.

While these cases are confirmed, what is not confirmed is the total amount of our fellow Kentucky residents who actually have the virus...those who have not been tested or are showing very minimal symptoms. These individuals are still contagious and part of the reason the CDC has changed the guidelines on mask usage for the general public to the following...

It is now being recommended that everyone utilize some manner of face protection when visiting some of the remaining public spaces like grocery stores and hardware stores. There are several ways to do this, with a simple bandanna tied cowboy style, or a folded mask with hair ties or rubber bands, or even sewing a personal mask if you are crafty.

There are several people in Union sewing masks for others, either for free or to purchase. The Facebook marketplace or Esty are two great examples on how to find these options within our community. My friend's seamstress wife made a couple masks for my wife Judy and I. I called mine the Mayoral Mask! (Judy just rolled her eyes!)

If you have any surgical or N-95 style masks, we ask that you please consider donating them to the hospitals and first responders, then purchase or make a custom mask from these other sources. More information on how to donate and a description of these types of masks can be found on our webpage at <u>www.cityofunionky.org</u>.

If you've been following the news, you'll hear a lot about this epidemic peaking, i.e., "peak week". We must remember that we in Kentucky are behind those areas contracting the virus first. The NKY Health department expects our peak to happen *sometime in May*. With that said, it is more important than ever to continue social distancing and to be healthy-at-home as advised by the State. I social distanced while riding my motorcycle last weekend. I encourage you to get out and enjoy this weather by riding bikes, doing yard work or going for a walk.

Mt. Zion Road.

As a result of more Union residents staying at home, Anthony Griggs (State Highway Department Engineer heading up the Mt. Zion Road Project) informed us that less daily traffic has sped up work on the project! As a result, the new Mt. Zion/US42 traffic light is now open. The old road light will be removed and that intersection will be a right-turn-in and right-turn-out. (BTW...All old Mt. Zion road sections will be renamed sometime in the future.)

I now have information about Hampshire and Hempsteade traffic lights. The Hampshire (Wetherington and Mt.Zion Road) and Hemsteade (soon-to-be-built) traffic lights are scheduled to be operative by mid-July.

Please watch for workers in this area and be aware that lane closures may be necessary at times to allow for this progress, so plan ahead for potential delays. Work is on track to finish up by late summer/early fall, so please be careful driving on Mt. Zion Road until construction is completed.

Lastly,...

Unfortunately, we had to cancel the Easter Egg Hunt which was scheduled for Saturday, April 11. However, it may be possible to have the Easter Bunny to make a special visit back to Union after the quarantine period is over.... Stay tuned for more info!

Remember we are all in this together. Let us continue to keep ourselves, our families, our friends, our neighbors, and our fellow Union residents safe and healthy. We will get through this together as a community.

Sincerely, Mayor Larry



Mayor Larry Solomon