

LETTER FROM MAYOR CHRIS RILEY
01/21/2022

OMICRON VARIANT HAS NOT PEAKED!

This week the positivity rate for Omicron jumped from 31% to 38.3%. As a result, the *City Council postponed the Annual Town Hall meeting scheduled for Saturday, January 22, 2022 to March 26th*. Health, safety and welfare of our citizens are top priorities.

According to Dr. Ruth Berggren, University Health System, even though the Omicron cases are levelling off in other parts of the country, they are not yet levelling off here in Bexar County. All numbers indicate a *continued rise* in hospitalizations, cases and deaths. There were 5,841 new cases, 1,263 hospitalizations, and 10 new deaths with 277 in ICU and 116 on ventilators. Dr. Berggren does say this variant should peak at the beginning of February, and by March should be back to a much lower positivity rate. (The positivity rate was 2.2% on December 21, 2021).

Dr. Berggren shared the following guidelines:

***Exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID:** If you are vaccinated and boosted, you do not have to stay home or isolate. Do wear a mask and stay separated from the positive COVID family member.

***Exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID and you are unvaccinated, no booster:** Recommend that you stay home for 5 days and get tested on Day 5, which is the optimal time for testing;

***Tested positive and have symptoms:** Stay home for 5 days and if no fever for 24 hours, you can return to work. If you still feel lousy and are coughing with no fever, it is recommended to stay home for 10 days before returning to work.

TESTING SITES: Wonderland of the Americas has testing available with no appointment necessary, Monday – Friday from 8AM – 6 PM through February 4th. Alamodome has drive-through testing for COVID available Sunday – Saturday 7AM – 5PM (Closed 1/22/22 & 1/28-1-29/22). Testing is in Parking Lot C at Cherry St. and Montana. Appointment is required. Call 1-800-635-8611 or visit <https://lnkd.in/eWFcrqYH> . Call 311, Option 8 for other testing and vaccination sites.

Thanks to everyone for continuing to do your part in addressing the spread of the virus. Please get vaccinated and boosted and follow the protocols, i.e., wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart from a non-family member, and stay home if you are sick.

JANUARY 18TH CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Brief highlights of the City Council action from this meeting:

- Held a Public Hearing on Approving a Separation Agreement with former City Manager Gilbert Perales, who resigned in November. Payout was according to his contract (unpaid leave only), with the council waiving the repayment from Mr. Perales of moving costs paid by the city.
- Approved a Resolution Authorizing an Encroachment License to Allow a 4-foot Encroachment of an Historic Barn on the Huebner-Onion Natural Area Triangle Park Conservation Easement, between the City and the Leon Valley Historical Society.
- Heard a presentation from Melinda Moritz, Public Works Director for a proposal to have the City pick up brush over 8 cubic feet which Tiger Sanitation allows during the annual brush pick up. More information will be forthcoming.
- Council received three proposals for City Attorney services. Council will review and a follow up executive session will be scheduled to determine process to follow.

For more information on council meetings, go to leonvalleytexas.gov/ Mayor & Council meeting agendas and view the video.

The next City Council meeting is Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at City Hall, 5:30 p.m. and on-line at www.leonvalleytexas.gov. Please contact me or any of your council members if you have a question or concern.

Sincerely, Chris
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