Reopening Summary Sept 16, 2020

Q. What is necessary for a potential Phase II of the virus along with Flu season?

A. Sam Wong, Health Director, City of Framingham. It is important for hospitals and care facilities to have proper supplies of PPE. Everyone is encouraged to get a Flu vaccine to help prevent hospitals from being overburdened with both flu and Covid patients. The City is encouraging employers to host flu clinics and make it easy for employees to get flu shots.

Q. Updates on the vaccine?

A. Several companies are in phase 3 of clinical trials. Public should feel secure that all safety protocols are being followed. These companies will do the right thing regarding all safety protocols. Distribution and logistics of the vaccine will be a challenge and will affect the timing of distribution. Most likely will be a 2 dose vaccine. Most likely first group of population to receive would be first responders, vulnerable groups, etc.

Health Updates for the City of Framingham provide by Sam Wong.

Spike in Framingham due to social gatherings. More important than ever for employers to follow guidelines and enforce all social distancing requirements. The city will continue to work with employers to put together proper safety plan. It is important to get the number of positive cases down in preparation for any spike when cold weather sets in.

Staples, Amazing Things Art Center, and SMOC are testing locations in Framingham.

Q. What are the options for assistance in Framingham?

A. Kevin Shea, Economic Development, City of Framingham answered. Additional $714,000 in HUD money for the Cares Act has been approved for the city. 29 Businesses have been approved for assistance and 38 households have been approved for rent/utility funding. City is going through current wait list and encouraging businesses to review their plans and business models to evaluate how they can operate differently during this time.

Q. Are there any updates for the PPP loans?

A. Bruce Miccile, VP, Middlesex Savings Bank answered. No updates regarding new funding. Waiting on legislation. Still encouraging employers to have paperwork ready and consult a CPA to make sure they maximize the forgiven portion of the loan.