



MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MAYOR BYRON W. BROWN ANNOUNCES IMPORTANT UPDATES TO BUFFALO'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

2020 Census: Mayor Brown continues to urge participation to help secure federal aid

Buffalo, NY – Mayor Byron W. Brown today challenged residents to participate in the 2020 Census to boost the City of Buffalo's response rate. As of May 21st, the City's response rate stands at 47.6%, more than 12% below the national rate. Mayor Brown stated, "The COVID-19 situation will deeply impact the Western New York economy. Every cent of federal aid we can get for the recovery phase of this emergency will count. By participating in the 2020 Census, residents can take an active role in ensuring the City will receive hundreds of millions of federal dollars to continue infrastructure improvements, power quality educational programming and support other important initiatives that members of our community count on. For less than 10 minutes, residents can have a major impact on our community and prove that we take care of one another in the City of Good Neighbors."

To complete the questionnaire, visit 2020Census.gov.

Parking reminder

Mayor Brown reminds City residents to cooperate with the City's alternate parking rules. Please obey the "No Parking 6 pm Thursday to 6 pm Monday" signs. The alternate side parking is needed to ensure that emergency vehicles can get down those streets.

Help local veterans this Memorial Day Weekend

Mayor Brown encourages residents to help local veterans by supporting the Buffalo Blues for Veterans Livestream Concert Series this Sunday, May 24, from 3:30 to 4:30pm. The weekly show features local musicians and has raised nearly \$5,000 to help veterans since the beginning of the COVID-19 emergency. For more information, visit the Buffalo Blues Live Stream Series Facebook page.

Buffalo City Hall remains closed during Phase One

Buffalo City Hall remains closed to the general public at this time. If you are a business eligible for gradual reopening in Phase One and you require assistance or documentation from the City, you must call or email our offices. You can find contact information at buffalony.gov.

The City of Buffalo is ready to assist companies eligible to reopen

For businesses allowed to reopen, the Office of Permits and Inspection Services is assisting companies with any specific permit and licensing needs that cannot be met online at www.buffalony.gov/435/Permit-Inspection-Services. For licenses, call 851-6583 or 851-4951. For permits, call 851-4935 or 851-5033.

Connecting residents to COVID-19 testing

Residents looking to get tested for COVID-19 can find the closest test site by visiting covid19.buffalony.gov. The map contains a complete listing of all COVID-19 testing sites, with addresses, which are located throughout the City, contact information for setting up an appointment, hours of operation and whether the site requires a prescription by a doctor for testing.

Mayor Brown asks residents to give blood

ConnectLife says the need for blood is constant. Mayor Brown is encouraging healthy, COVID-19 symptom-free residents to consider donating to help maintain an adequate blood supply. Donating is safe and physical distancing precautions are in place to protect donors. To make an appointment or to host a blood drive, visit connectlifegiveblood.org.

Helping families in need

On Friday, May 22nd, the Belle Center will be giving away bags of free groceries to families in need at 104 Maryland Street. The distribution runs from 9 am to 1 pm.

Apply now for Love Your Block Community Response Fund Grants

Mayor Brown continues to urge community groups to apply for the new Love Your Block Community Response Fund, a grant program that supports community efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the City of Buffalo. Qualifying community-based groups, block clubs or neighborhood organizations can apply for these mini-grants, of up to \$500, for projects that will fund efforts to help slow community spread or support frontline workers. Applications must be submitted by June 29, 2020. For more information, visit buffaloveyourblock.org.

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