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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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## **City of Cleveland Daily News Updates - #311**

The City of Cleveland continues to take numerous precautions across multiple departments and divisions amid increasing cases of coronavirus (COVID-19). Below are some important updates. **Mayor Frank G. Jackson signed an order on Feb. 24, 2021 extending the City's Proclamation of Civil Emergency through March 31, 2021.** [Click here to view the order.](#) Essential services such as Police, Fire, EMS, waste collection and Utilities will remain operational.

### **City of Cleveland Statement on Police Pursuits**

The City of Cleveland, along with cities around the nation has seen a great increase in violent crime, including homicides, shootings and aggravated robberies. Officers are working tirelessly within the community in order to apprehend these violent criminals and end crime sprees. Mayor Frank G. Jackson, Director of Public Safety Karrie D. Howard and Police Chief Calvin D. Williams stand with members of Cleveland City Council and remain committed to providing the highest level of safety services to the residents of and visitors to the City of Cleveland. Acts of violence will NOT be tolerated and officers will continue to bring criminals to justice.

The Cleveland Division of Police has a General Police Order pertaining to Vehicle Pursuits which provides guidelines under which vehicle pursuits are permitted. The policy emphasizes the importance of conducting vehicle pursuits in a way that lessens the danger to other motorists and pedestrians. All members of the Cleveland Division of Police are trained in the General Police Order governing Vehicle Pursuits (GPO 3.2.02) and supervisors receive specialized training on overseeing and controlling vehicle pursuits. The policy states, in part:

Officers may initiate a vehicle pursuit when ALL of the following criteria are met:

- The Suspect operating the vehicle refuses to stop at the officer's direction and flees apprehension for an actual or alleged violent felony.
- Operating a Vehicle Intoxicated (OVI).
- The immediate danger of the pursuit is less than the immediate or potential danger to the public if the suspect remains at large and the officer is operating an authorized emergency vehicle.

One way that supervisors control vehicle pursuits is by coordinating with the Aviation Unit. When available, the Aviation Unit shall become the primary pursuit unit and shall assist the controlling supervisor in directing the secondary units as needed.

Supervisors are responsible for monitoring and controlling vehicle pursuits with the safety of officers and citizens as a top priority. Each vehicle pursuit is a unique event and can be terminated for reasons including: weather, time of day, volume of vehicle and pedestrian traffic, road conditions, capability of the pursuit vehicle, population density, geographic location, officer familiarity with the area and proximity to certain areas (such as schools, parks, playgrounds, and venues associated with crowds) during those times when pedestrians are reasonably perceived to be active.

On March 9, 2021, the Cleveland Division of Police conducted a city-wide operation targeting multiple suspects wanted for vehicle thefts and carjackings throughout the city and surrounding suburbs. The initiative was directed by the Fourth District Violent Crimes Reduction Team and was assisted by the five neighborhood police districts, the Neighborhood Impact Community Engagement Unit, Gang Impact Unit, Canine, Aviation, and partnering law enforcement agencies. The three suspects taken into custody and approximately seven others are suspected in over 30 Grand Theft Motor Vehicle and Aggravated Robberies, at times shooting at or striking their victims. The suspects range in age from 14-19 years old.

This effort was made possible by collaboration between the Cleveland Division of Police neighborhood police districts, specialized units within the division and outside law enforcement agencies. The collaboration and planning focused not only on the apprehension of the juvenile suspects, but put emphasis on executing the operation safely while keeping in mind that some of the suspects were in their early teens. The utilization of the Cleveland Division of Police Aviation Unit was integral in following and apprehending the suspects as safely as possible and no serious injuries were sustained by officers or those taken into custody.

In addition, City Council announced there will be a special hearing on this topic on Wednesday, March 17 at 10am. We encourage the public to tune in.

[Click here to watch Cleveland's Public Access Channel TV20 Live.](#)

## **Other Important Reminders (Previous Announcements)**

### **Cleveland Division of Fire to 'Sound the Alarm' March 13; Emergency Sirens Citywide will Remind Residents to Change Smoke Alarm Battery**

On Saturday, March 13, at 6:05 p.m. emergency sirens will sound for one minute in unison to urge residents to change their smoke alarm batteries when they adjust their clocks for daylight saving time this weekend.

“Working smoke alarms save lives,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “As you change your clocks this Saturday I encourage everyone to also change the batteries in your smoke alarms. It might just save the lives of your loved ones.”

The “Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery” campaign is a national home fire safety program sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and endorsed locally by the Cleveland Division of Fire and the American Red Cross.

Working smoke alarms reduce the risk of injuries and fatalities related to residential fires by providing an early warning signal and allowing critical extra seconds to escape, according to the NFPA. Although smoke alarms are in a large percentage of Cleveland homes, nearly one-third do not work because of worn or missing batteries.

In addition to urging residents to change smoke alarm batteries, the Cleveland Division of Fire's Public Education Office recommends that every resident take a few minutes to review fire-safety measures. This includes checking the smoke alarms, establishing an emergency escape route, (identify two ways out of each room), and designating a common meeting place once outside of the home.

Cleveland Fire Stations will have a limited supply of batteries available to residents on a first come, first served basis. Residents may call 216-361-5535 to request smoke alarms if they do not already have them on every floor of the house and every room where people sleep. Residents visiting Fire Stations are required to wear a mask covering their mouth and nose (available upon request.) Temperature checks and social distancing guidelines will be followed.

### **Mayor Frank G. Jackson Announces Return of the Exterior Paint Program**

The City of Cleveland invites residents to take advantage of its 2021 Exterior Paint Program. Applications must be received by April 30, 2021.

The Exterior Paint Program provides paint and materials to homeowners who wish to paint the exterior of their homes. Labor is not included. The goal for 2021 is 500 homes with a total allocation of \$500,000 for the program.

“The goal of this program is to help residents protect their home investments, improve housing stock in our neighborhoods and create a better, more equitable quality of life,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson.

Homeowners, as well as tenants, who meet income guidelines, are welcome to apply for the program. Funds cover the cost of up to \$1,500 for owner occupants or up to \$750 for tenants in paint and materials, though restrictions do apply. Inspections of the property must also be conducted. Applications must be received by April 30, 2021 and the painting must be completed by October 31, 2021.

The Department of Community Development's Division of Neighborhood Services administers services on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested Cleveland residents can obtain applications by calling (216) 664-2045.

#### **Exterior Paint Program Income Guidelines**

<b>FAMILY SIZE</b>	<b>INCOME LEVEL</b>	<b>FAMILY SIZE</b>	<b>INCOME LEVEL</b>
1	\$51,600	5	\$79,600
2	\$59,000	6	\$85,500
3	\$66,350	7	\$91,400
4	\$73,700	8	\$97,300

[\*\*Governor Dewine Announces Guidance to Vaccine Providers on Phase 1c and Phase 2\*\*](#)

## **City of Cleveland Update on Daily COVID-19 Case Reporting**

The City of Cleveland will now distribute daily COVID-19 case numbers via social media each evening. Members of the media and the general public are encouraged to follow the City on Facebook and Twitter where daily case numbers will be publicized upon receipt. The daily round-up of news updates from the city will be shared at the end of the business day.

## **Small Business Administration (SBA) – Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loans Update**

SBA has announced an additional tranche of PPP funding to assist small businesses. PPP loans are available to help keep businesses open during the COVID-19 Pandemic. PPP Loans may be eligible for forgiveness if certain conditions are met:

- Employee and compensation levels are maintained
- Loan proceeds are spent on payroll costs and other expenses
- At least 60% of proceeds are spent on payroll costs

President Biden has announced several changes to the program to make it more accessible:

- **Beginning February 24 and through March 10**, only businesses with fewer than 20 employees are eligible to apply in order to ensure that the smallest businesses have access to this program.
- Rules for sole proprietors, self-employed individuals and independent contractors have been modified to increase access for certain felony convictions.
- Elimination of student loan debt delinquency as a disqualifier to PPP loans
- Non-citizen small business owners may use Individual Tax Identification Numbers to apply for PPP.

Information about the program, including matching small businesses with area lenders, can be found at <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/coronavirus-relief-options/paycheck-protection-program>

## **Students Invited to Apply for Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship Program**

The Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship Program is now accepting applications for the 2021-2022 academic year. The deadline to submit your application is March 28, 2021. To learn more and to apply, [click here](#).

The Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship Program was created by the City of Cleveland in 2007 to provide scholarship funds to the following individuals:

1. City employees
2. Dependents of City employees
3. High school seniors graduating from the Cleveland Metropolitan School District
4. High school seniors in the Youth Development Program or involved with the City of Cleveland Department of Recreation

The program provides scholarships of \$1,000 per year for up to 4 years. Selected scholarship recipients must be a full-time (minimum 12 credit hours each term) student at a four-year, public or private, not-for-profit higher education institution.

Scholarships are renewable for up to three additional years from the first awarded academic year. To be eligible for renewal of the scholarship, students must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA and full-time status.

The City of Cleveland's Mayor Frank G. Jackson Scholarship program is administered through [College Now Greater Cleveland](#). For questions about the scholarship applications, please contact College Now at (216) 635-0324.

### **City of Cleveland & CMSD Release RFQ for Redevelopment of 19 Vacant CMSD Sites**

The City of Cleveland and the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) have today jointly issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select real estate development project teams for the redevelopment of 12 vacant school buildings and seven sites of vacant land owned by CMSD.

“These vacant school buildings and vacant land parcels provide opportunities for economic development in neighborhoods across the City of Cleveland,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “The City of Cleveland looks forward to collaborating with the Cleveland Metropolitan School District on repurposing these assets to foster redevelopment and equity in our neighborhoods.”

The intent of the RFQ process is to identify qualified real estate development project teams interested in each site. Teams are invited to submit site-specific redevelopment proposals for consideration by the City and CMSD. Interested developers will be able to participate in an information session and tours of the building to learn more about the sites. The RFQ and selection process will be facilitated by the City of Cleveland.

“When we developed a plan for the future of our programs and facilities in 2019, the Board of Education asked that we also look at the future of our vacant buildings and property. We are excited to be partnering with the City of Cleveland in redeveloping unused properties and turning them into neighborhood assets,” said CMSD CEO Eric Gordon.

The RFQ calls for redevelopment plans to be guided by principles of racial equity and inclusion with respect to neighborhoods and/or include neighborhood wealth-building initiatives.

[Click here](#) to view the RFQ.

#### **RFQ TIMELINE:**

City & CMSD Release RFQ	March 1, 2021
Informational Session w/Developers (12)	March 16 and 17, 2021 ( <i>RSVP by March 12</i> )
Deadline to Submit CMSD Documentation Request	March 19, 2021
Building Tours	March 22, 23 and 24, 2021 ( <i>RSVP by March 19</i> )
Questions Due	April 12, 2021 ( <i>Answers by April 16</i> )
RFQ Responses Due	April 30, 2021
Respondents Notified of Preliminary Selection	May 31, 2021

Following preliminary selections, project teams will work through due diligence and predevelopment before any properties are sold and transferred from CMSD to the selected development entities

### **City of Cleveland Establishes Call Center to Answer General Vaccine Distribution Questions**

The City of Cleveland has established a call center that is currently available to answer general questions pertaining to the City's vaccine distribution efforts and assist eligible individuals in scheduling an appointment to receive the vaccine.

- Call Center Number: (216) 664-2222
- Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

As a reminder, only individuals who meet the Ohio Department of Health's criteria are eligible to receive the vaccine at this time. Due to limited supply, it will take time for eligible individuals to receive the vaccine. We ask for your patience. As we receive additional supply, we will be opening up additional vaccination sites and scheduling appointments for eligible individuals to receive the vaccine.

### **Calls Regarding COVID-19 Complaints**

With the passage by Cleveland City Council of an ordinance authorizing penalties for non-compliance with Mayor Jackson's mask mandate, enforcement is now in effect. There are two numbers Clevelanders should call regarding non-compliance:

- **Business complaints:** CDPH hotline at (216) 857-7165
- **Individual or private residence complaints:** Cleveland Police non-emergency line at (216) 621-1234

Cleveland City Council recently approved the mandatory use of masks in public spaces as well as certain penalties for individuals and businesses that do not comply. On July 3, Mayor Jackson signed an amended order mandating the use of masks in public in the City of Cleveland to slow the spread of the highly contagious coronavirus. This includes mandatory use in bars, restaurants, shared office settings, rideshares and other shared spaces.

Citations may be issued with fines for the following:

- Any business or person violating the mask or safe-seating order (which maintains social distancing of at least six feet between patrons) is subject to civil penalties in accordance with Ordinance No. 556-2020, specifically chapters 602 and 236.
- Any business in the City of Cleveland with an employee who becomes ill with the coronavirus is required to immediately disinfect and sanitize the premises. Following a warning, they may be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 for the first offense and a civil penalty of \$3,000 for each subsequent violation.

### **Upcoming Cleveland Transformation Alliance Meetings**

The Cleveland Transformation Alliance Committee (CTA) is currently hosting public meetings via Zoom or Microsoft Teams. For more information on these meetings, please visit <http://www.myCLEschool.org>. See details for upcoming meetings below:

#### ***Cleveland Transformation Alliance Board Meeting and Executive Session***

March 15, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Register in advance for this webinar:

**NEW LINK:** <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJctdOyvqTIqGtRpYvkjEdH85uUE7hKmCoH8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Anyone who had already registered through the old link has been contacted and moved to the new format.

The Transformation Alliance will hold an Executive Session at its March 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss personnel matters specific to an employee's annual evaluation.

**CodeRED**

Sign up for CodeRED alerts to receive calls and emails with important info regarding the coronavirus. To sign up online, visit <https://bit.ly/CLECodeRED>, get mobile alerts by downloading the CodeRED app via the Apple or Google Play stores. Seniors who need assistance signing up are welcome to call the Department of Aging at (216) 664-4383 for periodic phone call messaging.

### **Previous COVID-19 Updates from the City of Cleveland**

[Click here to view previous updates.](#)

**For more information about COVID-19, visit the following:**

- [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)
- <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>
- <http://www.clevelandhealth.org/>

### **About the City of Cleveland**

The City of Cleveland is committed to improving the quality of life for its residents by strengthening neighborhoods, delivering superior services, embracing diversity and making Cleveland a desirable, safe city in which to live, work, play, and do business. For more information on the City of Cleveland, visit online at [www.clevelandohio.gov](http://www.clevelandohio.gov), Twitter at @cityofcleveland or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland](http://www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland).