



Here We Grow

## City of Fremont Update

Date: May 1, 2020

To: City Employees/ City Boards/ Mayor & City Council

### COVID-19

#### On-line Assessment Part of State's Test Nebraska Plan

It is estimated that nearly half of all 1.9 million Nebraskans will participate in the Test Nebraska program during the pandemic. The program is a partnership between the state and Nomi Health, a Utah-based company, that combines an on online assessment and appointment scheduler to test Nebraskans to determine the spread of the virus. Federal funds are covering the cost of the program. So far more than 90,000 people have signed up. You can sign up at [www.TestNebraska.com](http://www.TestNebraska.com).

Below is a snapshot of today's COVID-19 statistics. Please note that each underlined title is a hyperlink to that organization's website.

<b>Nebraska</b>	<a href="#">Department of Health and Human Services Dashboard</a> 4,281 positive cases — 23,114 negative tests — 70 deaths
<b>Dodge County</b>	55 positive cases — 435 negative tests
<b>United States</b>	The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <a href="#">website</a> : 1,031,659 cases — 60,057 deaths <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/covid19">https://www.cdc.gov/covid19</a> .
<b>Globally</b>	<a href="#">World Health Organization Situation Report</a> 3,090,445 cases — 217,769 deaths <a href="#">Johns Hopkins University of Medicine COVID-19 Dashboard</a> 3,274,747 cases — 233,792 deaths

#### Some Directed Health Measures set to Expire, Others Continue

The Fremont Board of Health will let the Directed Health Measure that the City put into place on April 3, 2020 expire on May 6. That means gymnasiums and fitness centers will be allowed to reopen on May 7, but must follow State and Federal social distancing measures. Other businesses, like beauty, nail and tattoo salons, barbershops, and massage therapists are covered by the State's Directed Health Measure (discussed below) and must remain closed.

The State's new Health Directive, unveiled yesterday by Governor Ricketts, extends the State's directed health measures for Three Rivers (which includes Dodge County) until May 11. After that, restaurants will be able to open dining rooms, but only at 50% of maximum capacity. Beauty, nail and tattoo salons, barbershops, and massage therapists can also open. All of these businesses are required to follow Federal and State social distancing measures. All of the State issued Health Directives can be found on the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services website <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/COVID-19-Directed-Health-Measures.aspx>.

City Parks are open, but playground equipment will remain closed until May 31, and longer if the health measures are extended.

#### As the Pandemic Closes the World, the Internet Keeps it Open

The Internet has saved thousands of lives in the last three months. If it did not exist, sheltering in place would be nearly impossible. The idea of telecommuting or working from home would be impossible, as people would be forced by sheer economic necessity to go to work, to go to the grocery store, go to the post office, or go to the doctor. People would

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find it difficult, in some cases impossible, to check in on friends and loved ones around the country and around the planet. K-12 education and college education would simply collapse, or governors and school superintendents would have no choice but to open schools and hope for the best.

Without online medical sites, including public health sites, the phone lines to state agencies and doctors, clinics and hospitals, would simply be overwhelmed. It would have been nearly impossible for small businesses and individuals to apply for loans to survive the economic shutdown, and such applications as were possible would have been hamstrung by the delays of sending and receiving the paperwork using the U.S. Postal Service. If we could find a metric to determine what percentage of supplies are now being supplied to the American people through online shopping, and then to contemplate what the lack of social distancing would have been required were such delivery systems not in place, we would be flabbergasted — and the death toll would be much higher.

### **City Employee Terry Dickey Credited with Saving Four Lives**

City employee Terry Dickey is credit with saving four people from their burning home. Terry was driving by their home and noticed smoke coming from the back of the house. He noticed that a car was in the driveway, so he banged and kicked on the door until someone answered it. Because of his efforts, an elderly man and three young teenagers were saved. Terry stayed with the family until the fire department arrived several minutes later.

Hats off to Terry, here is truly a hero and I am proud that he works for the City.



### **Bell Street Overlay Timeline**

The asphalt overlay project on Bell Street is well underway and the contractor who is working on the project (Constructors Inc.) has submitted the completion schedule shown below to the City. The cost of the project is \$664,000.

Concrete operations (handicap ramps)	April 8 – May 19
Asphalt milling	May 20 – May 21
Vehicle detection loops (at traffic light signals)	May 22 – May 29
Asphalt paving	June 1 – June 4
Project complete	June 5

### **Drinking Water Week**

This week we celebrate “Drinking Water Week,” to recognize all the hard work our employees do to make sure our drinking water is safe. Even during the coronavirus pandemic, these professionals continue to work behind the scenes to be sure our drinking water is there when you need it. Please thank them for all they do!



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