

City of Fremont Update

Date: September 25, 2020

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

Birds-eye View of New Lagoons

The picture on the right is a view of the three new lagoons at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) on Morningside Road. The picture was taken by Scott Seelhoff, WWTP Mechanic II, standing on the catwalk between the old and the new digester (shown on the left side of the photo), looking south towards the new lagoons.



The lagoons are nearing completion and industrial wastewater from the Lincoln Premium Poultry Plant began flowing into Lagoon #3 for the first time last week. The remaining two lagoons are scheduled to be placed into service next year after Wholstone finishes their dissolved air flotation system and is ready to send its waste to the lagoons. The methane scrubbing system remains under construction, due to delays in overseas shipping from COVID-19.

Does Six Foot Distancing Work?

It is true that staying 6 feet from other people can reduce the chance of a coronavirus-laden respiratory droplet landing in your eyes, nose or mouth when someone coughs. That is because most of these droplets are too tiny to see, and people are expelling them into the air all the time – when they shout, talk or even just breathe. But, the 6-foot rule doesn't account for all risks, particularly indoors.

Think about walking into a room where someone is smoking a cigarette. The closer you are to the cigarette, the stronger the smell—and the more smoke you're inhaling. That smoke also lingers in the air. Over time, it won't matter where you are in the room; the smoke will be everywhere. Cigarette smoke comprises particles that are similar in size to the smaller respiratory droplets expelled by humans—the ones that linger in the air the longest. While it's not a perfect analogy, picturing how cigarette smoke moves through different environments, both indoors and outdoors, can help in visualizing how virus-laden droplets circulate in the air.

As professors who study fluid dynamics and aerosols, we have been exploring how COVID-19 circulates and the risks it creates. The 6-foot rule is a good benchmark that's easy to remember, but it's important to understand its limitations.

There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!

The 6-foot social distancing guideline is a critical tool for combating the spread of COVID-19. However, as more activities move indoors with the arrival of cooler weather this fall, implementing safeguards, including those you might use to avoid inhaling cigarette smoke, will be essential.

Over 94.1% of Households Counted So Far in 2020 Census

Over 94.1% of housing units have been accounted for in the 2020 Census, with 28.1% counted by census takers and other field data collection operations, and 66% of housing units responding online, by phone or by mail.



As of September 20, Nebraska had 96.1% of the population counted (71.4% self-reported responses and 24.8% in follow up responses).

Over 56% of Nebraska's self-reported responses were through the Internet. Nationally, the self-response rate is 66% and overall response rate is 95%. The top five states with the highest overall responses are West Virginia (99.8%), Idaho (99.8%), Hawaii (99.3%), Maine (98.7%), and Washington (98.4%).

The 2020 Census will conclude data collection operations on September 30, 2020.

Chasing the American Dream?

The phrase "American Dream" was first used in 1931 by the historian James Truslow Adams in his book *The Epic of America*. It meant, he wrote, "that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone." Better and richer and fuller in what way? He didn't say.



What's clearly true is that the American Dream has meant vastly different things to people in different times and places — if it has any sort of genuine meaning at all. In 2007, a photo journalist named Ian Brown began a project that involved interviewing 170 ordinary people and asking them what they thought the American Dream might be. He spent more than a decade at the task, and he learned a great deal. His conclusions are documented in an excellent recent book, *American Dreams: Portraits & Stories of a Country*.

Ian Brown learned, after years of diligent inquiry, that the American Dream is in the mind of the dreamer. It is not a fixed ideal that anyone in politics or government can credibly promise to uphold or restore. So, are you chasing your version of the American Dream?

Joint Law Enforcement Center

Attached please find the third flyer in the eight-week series of educational flyers on the proposed Joint Law Enforcement Center. This week's flyer is information about why the joint center is needed now. If you have questions about the center, please feel free to contact me.

There is no job so important and no service so urgent that we cannot take the time to do the work safely!