

Monday, June 22, 2020, 4:07 PM

Subject: Commissioner's Weekly Coronavirus Update – June 22, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

To all the great dads at CTDOT and in your life, I hope you were able to find ways to celebrate this Father's Day. I know for all our dads, moms and caregivers with school-aged children, the limited capacity at camps and daycares this summer presents a unique set of challenges and concerns. Please be assured, CTDOT will continue to be as flexible as possible to address issues with work schedules during these extraordinary times - be sure to talk to your supervisor about any concerns you may have.

As you may recall, <u>in April</u> I shared that we implemented a staggered shift for our Highway Operations Maintenance crews to help mitigate the increased concerns and immediate risks of COVID-19 during the virus peak. After splitting shifts for more than two and half months and preparing for the safe return to full operations, I'm happy to report that starting today we've restored full staffing capacity for essential highway maintenance employees and direct support staff. We implemented a number of measures to create a COVID-safe environment, from adequate PPE and cleaning supplies to a COVID-19 Response Book – a complete guidebook binder to COVID-safe directives, guidance, policy and procedures, including paid leave information at all facilities, so we were able to restore Maintenance workforce levels to full capacity. You can read more in the attached.

With our Maintenance crews back at full capacity, I know there may be a lot of questions about timing for workplace reentry for other Bureaus and divisions currently teleworking. Let me assure you, there are <u>no</u> plans to ask employees currently teleworking to return to the office environment in the coming weeks. We have much more work to do to create COVID-safe conditions in our office spaces to be consistent with official guidance, including that from DAS. I will continue to keep you posted on telework and workplace reentry in the weeks ahead.

In the meantime, remember that you can find our COVID-related digital library of announcements and information on our website at https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/StaffCOVID/Info. And as always, please keep sharing stories and pictures of members of your team that continue to go above and beyond. Just send me an email.

Keep up the great work – it is appreciated!

Sincerely,

Joe Giulietti Commissioner

In the News

Newtown Seeing Business, Traffic Increasing Under Phase 2 Reopening—Newtown Bee [June 19, 2020] ... the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) announced a number of steps it has taken prioritize safety for all users of the transportation system as the state enters Phase 2 of its return to pre-COVID operations...

Honorable Mention

