



Tuesday, July 21, 2020, 10:10 AM

Subject: Commissioner's Weekly Coronavirus Update – July 21, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

While Connecticut continues to experience a relatively low positivity test rate, we know that is not the case elsewhere. Our state's progress is fragile and requires constant work to maintain—so I want to again thank everyone for doing their part to keep Connecticut and CTDOT, COVID-Safe.

I know many are eager to learn next steps from the COVID-19 Steering Committee. The work groups continue to work diligently to implement recommendations and mitigation measures to make our workplace as COVID-safe as feasible. Below is a brief overview of some of the efforts in progress:

**Technology Transformation.** CTDOT has remained productive throughout the COVID-19 emergency because of the dedication of our workforce and our ability to leverage technology in new and innovative ways:

- ✓ **Virtual Public Information Meeting (VPIM)** – for the first time in CTDOT history, we have held public information meetings (as required by federal regulations) virtually instead of in-person meetings. See more [here](#).
- ✓ **Microsoft 365** – our IT department has deployed 2,800+ licenses of online MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and Microsoft TEAMS tool to support virtual collaboration and social distance recommendation
- ✓ **Better Connections** – our IT team coordinated with BEST to improve Remote Desktop connections to work computers and upgrade CTDOT's dataline bandwidth and internal Wi-Fi. *(Thanks to the IT team for keep us out front!)*

**Facility Updates.** While everyone who is authorized to telework is strongly encouraged to continue working remotely until we can minimize the risks of COVID-19 as much as feasible, there have been a number of changes:

- ✓ **Sanitizing Stations**—the installation of hand sanitizing stations in convenient locations, including in front of elevator bays.
- ✓ **Building Entrance**—new signs and floor decals directing employee traffic flow and reminders of social distancing and face covering requirements.
- ✓ **Occupancy Limits & Awareness**—new signage in kitchenettes and elevators regarding maximum occupancy to promote social distancing.
- ✓ **Garages & Maintenance Facilities**—each facility has been equipped with a COVID-19 Resource Binder and check-list of health and safety supplies minimum and maximum required to keep in inventory to maximize the health and safety of employees.

While there is more work to do, know the teams are fully engaged and working towards the implementation of recommendations, which includes employee feedback from our survey.

**Finally, I want to share an important warning about COVID-related phishing emails.** Do not fall for **fake e-mails about COVID-19**. Recently, phishing attacks have increased drastically since the outbreak. Please be cautious opening attachments or clicking on links you received in emails that seem to come from **trusted sources**. If you can't tell if an email is legitimate or not, please contact our DOT IT Team at [DOT.Helpdesk@ct.gov](mailto:DOT.Helpdesk@ct.gov), they will be able to help you.

And remember, as always, our COVID-related digital library of announcements and information is on our website at <https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/StaffCOVID/Info>. **Keep emailing** me your stories and pictures—they are truly appreciated!

Thanks for all that you do—day in and day out.

Sincerely,

Joe Giulietti  
Commissioner