



Town of Ipswich

Office of the Town Manager

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March 26, 2020

Ipswich Residents & Business Owners
Ipswich, MA 01938

Re: Coronavirus and Closure Update

Ipswich Residents and Business Owners,

As we work our way through week two of this health crisis, I want to update you with a few changes here in Ipswich since last week. The number of cases in Essex County has climbed since last week to 177 today, the rise in cases was to be expected as they have increased the number of tests they can perform. We currently have two cases in Ipswich, both at the same residence, and our Public Health department is monitoring both cases closely. I understand people are anxious as there have been requests to find out where the infected person has been or works or even lives. We cannot release that information, but rest assured our Public Health Nurse thoroughly researches our positive cases and notifies anyone who has had contact with the person.

On Monday, March 23, 2020, Governor Baker issued a stay at home advisory and ordered all non-essential businesses to close, and gatherings of more than 10 people are prohibited throughout the State.

Given the Governor's orders and trying to help to ensure that we do everything to help “flatten the curve,” all Town Offices will continue to be closed to the public until Tuesday, April 7, 2020. Town Employees will still be required to come to work to maintain essential operations; however, staffing and services will be limited. We will continue to provide all of the necessary public safety, public health, and public utility services that our residents and business owners need. We will also continue to offer other services like limited transportation and food delivery for our seniors and lunches for our students in need. Please reach out to the individual departments should you have an immediate need, and we will try to accommodate while ensuring your safety and our staff as well.

The Select Board will be meeting remotely on Friday, March 27, 2020, at 1 pm, utilizing the Zoom platform for virtual meetings. The public can join the meeting using Zoom or participate by dialing in; login information for the meeting will be on the posted list that will be available Wednesday, March 25, 2020, before noon. Please contact the Town Managers office at 978-356-

6609 or via email at tm@ipswichma.gov if you have any questions about logging into the meeting.

Lastly, as many may have already heard, the Trustees of Reservations has decided to close all of their properties across the State until April 6, 2020, in line with the Governor's new stay at home advisory and closure of all non-essential businesses. After consulting with the Select Board, we have decided to open the beach for Ipswich residents. The beach will be open 3 days a week, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday only from 9 am to 5 pm. You will need to have a 2019 or 2020 Ipswich Beach Sticker on your vehicle to gain access to the beach. Please do not park on Argilla road on days when the beach is closed and walk onto the beach as your car will be ticketed and/or towed.

I remain in constant contact with our Select Board and other leaders as we continue to monitor the situation, and we will do our best to get new information about COVID-19 out to you as it becomes available. Please visit our website at www.ipswichma.gov and our social media sites @ **TownofIpswich** for the most up to date information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this health crisis, and please reach out to my office at 978-356-6609 or via email at tm@ipswichma.gov should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Marino', written in a cursive style.

Anthony Marino
Town Manager