Overall Status: **Significant**

Plan/Operation Name: COVID-19 Response

Daily Update for: 22 March 2020 (changes noted in blue text)

Status Code Legend:

- Low Risk: Normal operations; limited risk
- Medium Risk: Degraded operations; heighten awareness; area incidents
- Significant Risk: Limited functionality; emergency activation; local incidents
- High Risk: Ceased operations; full activation; measurable local impact

Current News / Situation

Templeton is in a state of emergency (16 MAR 2020); the town is continually planning and operating to provide prevention practices as well as maintain a safe and healthy public. Templeton is adhering to all state mandates but providing continuity of government. Staff participates in daily and weekly planning sessions and information updates; data from those meetings are considered for public release. We have adopted formal incident command structure as of 20 March. The State Public Health Laboratory has obtained federal approval to use an automated platform to perform one piece of the complicated COVID-19 testing process: the extraction of viral genetic material from patient oral and nasal swabs. This removes the necessity to rely on paper reports and manual entry.

COVID-19 symptoms of this infection may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include: Fever, Cough, and shortness of breath, and in severe cases, pneumonia (fluid in the lungs). Call your healthcare professional if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19.

National Cases: 15,219 MA State Cases: 525 Worcester County Cases: 24 Templeton Cases: 1

Issues:

- Templeton Fire/EMS are using a pre-screen checklist (protocol sheet) to protect first responders
- Childcare facility closures go into effect today, 22 March through at least 6 April (MA GOV directive)
- Public parks; the town is having discussions on closing public parks as the risk of using playground equipment may pose a risk; no action has been taken at this time

Town Offices and Partner Status:

- Town Hall: minimally manned by staff; closed for public access until 6 April; use the website for transactions or call; Open Meeting Law has been temporarily amended by the state; budget meeting postponed until 28 March; next BoS meeting 23 MAR 20 (teleconference & YouTube)
- NRSD Facilities: limited manning; providing staff support from central office; providing student meals
 using 'drive up/drive thru' method; Central Office #(978) 939-5661
- Senior Center/COA: closed; minimally manned;
- Library: closed
- Food Pantry: open with specific instructions; fully stocked thanks to our community partners
- Emergency Services: vestibules only; open and ready; special safety precautions are being observed; new way to sign up for CodeRed messages: text "templetonma" to 99411
- DPW: full operations; office closed to public
- TMLWP: full operations; office closed to public

Specialized Resources

- Board of Health; manned and operational
- 2-1-1 call center; phone service remains overwhelmed and has long wait times; recommend using chat or local resources
- Templeton Emergency Operations Center (EOC); not manned, only command system is active

Citizen Resources

- Offers of Assistance; we have started to get calls for volunteering; at this time, we have not needed
 or used volunteers, but we have developed a system to record those wishing to help
- Social media; updates are being pushed, please be aware of mis-information and unsubstantiated claims; overall, social media remains as one of the methods to stay connected and informed

Contact / Information

Board of Health (978) 894-2770 Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen (978) 894-2755

Town Website: www.templetonma.gov MA DPH: www.templetonma.gov MA DPH: www.templeton/www.templet

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