I-1

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS BUSINESS MEETING INFORMATION ITEM

SUBJECT: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Update

ELECTION DISTRICTS: Countywide

CRITICAL ACTION DATE: At the pleasure of the Board

STAFF CONTACTS: Dr. David Goodfriend, Health Department

Erin McLellan, County Administration

PURPOSE: The purpose of this item is to provide information to the Board of Supervisors (Board) regarding the County's response to the COVID-19/Coronavirus Pandemic.

BACKGROUND: On March 11, 2020, the Board requested that a standing item be placed on future Business Meeting agendas to provide information on the COVID-19 pandemic and the ongoing response thereto. This item provides pertinent updates since the last information item.

LOUDOUN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

COVID-19 Related Metrics: The cumulative number of confirmed positive cases in Loudoun County as of February 11, 2021 is 21,897 described as 10,778 females and 10,821 males (298 not reported), with 1,124 in the 0-9 age group; 2,680 in the 10-19 age group; 3,472 in the 20-29 age group; 3,530 in the 30-39 age group; 3,716 in the 40-49 age group; 3,210 in the 50-59 age group; 1,438 in the 60-69 age group; 672 in the 70-79 age group, and 543 in the 80+ age group (and 1,512 whose ages were not reported). Case counts reflect what has been reported to VDH by healthcare providers and laboratories. This does not include any cases that are waiting for test results. The seven-day average of new cases reported as of February 11, 2021 is 126, an increase of 20.6 from the seven-day average of 105.4 as of the February 2, 2021 Board update.

There have been 190 cumulative Loudoun fatalities associated with COVID-19 (an increase of 15 since the February 2, 2021, Board update). These are described as 111 females and 79 males, two in the 30-39 age group, two in the 40-49 age group, seven in the 50-59 age group, 17 in the 60-69 age group, 36 in the 70-79 age group, and 125 in the 80+ age group (and one whose age is not reported). For more information, visit <u>VDH COVID-19 in Virginia: Demographics</u>.

Activity at the Loudoun Health Department's call center remains steady with approximately 500 incoming calls per day. Most callers want to know if the Health Department has received their

vaccine survey, or pre-registration, or when the Health Department will contact them to schedule a vaccine appointment.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

COVID-19 Related Metrics: As of February 11, 2021¹, the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) reports 541,018 total cases and 6,958 deaths in the Commonwealth. For more information, visit VDH COVID-19 in Virginia: Demographics.

Virginia Vaccine Pre-Registration System: The state of Virginia is in the process of transitioning to a new statewide vaccine clinic and registration management system called PrepMod. The new system is expected to be more efficient. It provides more oversight regarding where a person may schedule a vaccine appointment and allows people to confirm their pre-registration status at any time. Staff will update the Board on the Loudoun Health Department's transition to the new system when details are finalized.

COVID-19 Variants: Virginia reports cases associated with two SARS-CoV-2 variants; both variants seem to spread more easily and more quickly than other variants. There is no known evidence that these variants cause more severe disease, but studies are ongoing. VDH announced on February 3, 2021, a case of the variant B.1.1.7 has been identified in a Northwest Virginia resident who recently travelled internationally. This makes a total of four cases of this variant in Northern Virginia. The B.1.1.7 variant first emerged in the United Kingdom in fall 2020, and has since been identified any many states in the United States.

On February 5, 2021, VDH <u>announced</u> the first case of the SARS-CoV-2 variant B.1.351 has been identified in an adult resident of Eastern Virginia. VDH is currently investigating this case and the person's travel history. The B.1.351 variant first appeared in South Africa in late 2020. To date, the B.1.351 variant has been identified in only two other states, South Carolina and Maryland.

Multiple strains of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been documented around the world. Viruses mutate regularly and new strains are expected. According to the CDC, studies suggest the currently authorized vaccines will be effective against these variants. More studies are underway. For more information about COVID-19 variants, visit the VDH COVID-19 website and the CDC COVID-19 Variants website.

New Text Messaging Service/COVIDWISE: On January 28, 2021, VDH announced the launch of a new text messaging service that aims to rapidly notify Virginians who receive a positive COVID-19 viral test result so they can self-isolate. When VDH receives a positive COVID-19 lab result, the texts are automatically generated and sent to a registered valid mobile phone number. The text messages will provide a link to COVIDWISE, Virginia's free COVID-19 Exposure Notifications app, where individuals may anonymously report their positive test result.

¹ Data entered at the end of the previous day and published on February 11, 2021.

The texts will only be sent between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. To learn more about COVIDWISE, visit www.covidwise.org.

HOSPITALS

Inova Loudoun and HCA StoneSprings hospitals data are posted on Loudoun County's <u>dashboard</u>. As of February 11, 2021, 32 hospitalized patients are confirmed COVID-19 and 13 hospitalized patients are pending test results. The chart below shows the trendline of this data. The seven-day moving average for confirmed patients has decreased to 28.9, down from 36.9 as of the February 2, 2021, Board update.

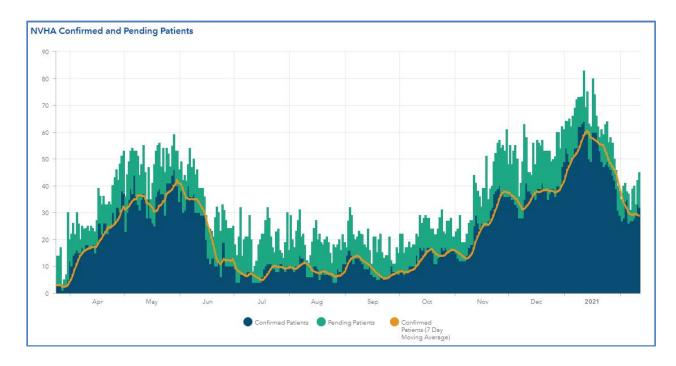


Figure 1. Inova Loudoun and HCA StoneSprings Hospitalization Data

The Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association has an <u>online data dashboard</u> to provide statistics on the number of COVID-19 hospitalizations across the Commonwealth, ventilator usage, current hospital bed availability, and metrics on the number of hospitals experiencing challenges obtaining or replenishing critical inventories of PPE and other needed medical supplies. As of February 11, 2021, 2,136 currently hospitalized patients are confirmed positive, a decrease of 303 patients since the February 2, 2021 Board update. There are 451 confirmed positive COVID-19 patients and those whose COVID-19 test results are pending currently hospitalized in the ICU, a decrease of 64 patients since the February 2, 2021 Board update. Approximately 33 percent of the available ventilators are currently in use at hospitals, a three percent decrease from the February 2, 2021 Board update. Over the summer, this number ranged between 19 and 23 percent.

TESTING

Testing Task Force: The Loudoun County Testing Task Force met on February 4, 2021. Task Force members discussed the progress of vaccination efforts locally and nationwide and remain engaged to assist with these efforts. Members also include infectious disease specialists who have provided updates on seroepidemiological data on positivity trends by age groups.

Loudoun County has established standing testing sites; individuals may visit <u>LC COVID-19</u> <u>Testing</u> for information. The Testing Task Force will meet again on March 4, 2021. Please visit the <u>LC COVID-19 Testing Task Force Webpage</u> for ongoing updates.

New Fixed Testing Events: In February, Loudoun County began holding twice-weekly, free drive-through COVID-19 testing events at multiple locations. The first event originally scheduled for February 2, 2021 at Franklin Park was cancelled due to inclement weather. Unlike past testing events hosted by Loudoun County, these weekly, fixed events will not be mass testing sites and instead are intended to provide regular, predictable testing opportunities for the community. As a result, capacity at these fixed testing sites will be limited.

Loudoun County held the first of these fixed testing events on February 4, 2021 at Franklin Park in Purcellville. A total of 166 persons received a PCR test (nasal swab) at the Franklin Park event. Another event was held at Phil A. Bolen Memorial Park in Leesburg on February 9. A total of 167 persons were tested. The second event at Bolen Memorial Park originally scheduled for February 11 was cancelled due to the threat of inclement weather. The following upcoming testing events will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:

- February 16 and 18: <u>Cascades Library</u>, 21030 Whitfield Place, Potomac Falls (Access the testing location in the back parking lot, near the senior center.)
- February 23 and 25: <u>Dulles South Recreation & Community Center</u>, 24950 Riding Center <u>Drive</u>, South Riding

There will be another COVID-19 Mass Testing event held at Phil Bolen Park in Leesburg on February 24, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Each of these testing events are open to all. There are no age or residency requirements. No prescriptions or appointments are necessary. A person does not have to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 in order to be tested. A PCR test (nasal swab) will be administered, which tests for the novel coronavirus. No antibody or rapid tests will be offered. No COVID-19 vaccine will be available at these events. For additional information including registration forms, visit loudoun.gov/COVID19testing. Visit VDH's website to find additional COVID-19 testing locations in Loudoun County and Northern Virginia, including one-day testing events. For help

finding testing, call the Loudoun Health Department information line at 703-737-8300, Monday through Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

VACCINE

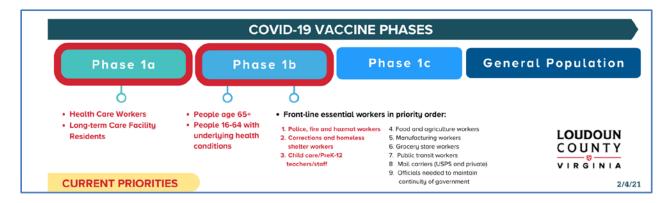
COVID-19 Vaccine Metrics: According the VDH's COVID-19 Vaccine Summary dashboard, as of February 11, 2021, a total of 1,191,875² vaccine doses have been distributed throughout Virginia; 946,404 Virginians have received one dose of a vaccine, and 245,471 Virginians have been fully vaccinated. A total of 11.1% of Virginians have received at least one dose of the vaccine. On January 27, 2021, VDH updated the Virginia Vaccine Summary Dashboard to provide greater transparency and clarity. The dashboard now shows that the majority of first doses available to the Commonwealth have been administered. As of February 10, 2021, Virginia ranked eighth among the 50 states for distribution. More than 9 in 10 available first doses in Virginia have been administered.

VDH's vaccine dashboard indicates that 42,201 doses have been administered to Loudoun County residents an increase of 18,235 since the February 2, 2021 Report. Of those, 9,276 Loudoun residents have received two doses and are fully vaccinated, which is 6,310 more than the February 2, 2021 Report communicated. This total includes doses administered by the Health Department, by hospitals, and by CVS and Walgreens to long term care facilities. Loudoun County has received 40,825 vaccine doses but this does not include the first and second doses received by CVS and Walgreen's for long-term care facilities.

Between December 27, 2020 and February 10, 2021, Loudoun Health Department has administered a total of all 21,386 doses of the Moderna and Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine and is now administering vaccines to between approximately 1,000 persons per day at the new Dulles Town Center POD. Note that this metric includes first and second doses. As of February 10, 2021, a total of 10,376 LCPS employees have received their first vaccination at the dedicated LCPS POD site.

Vaccine Eligibility: In Virginia, Phase 1a and Phase 1b priority groups are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. These priority groups make up approximately half of Virginia's population of 8.5 million. Phase 1a includes health care workers and long-term care facility residents. Phase 1b includes people age 65 and older, people who have high-risk medical conditions as identified by the CDC, people living in correctional facilities, homeless shelters, and migrant labor camps, and frontline essential workers in priority order. The current focus is the first three tiers of frontline essential workers—Police/Fire/Hazmat, Corrections and Homeless Shelter Workers, and Child Care/Pre-K-12 Teachers and Staff.

² Doses Distributed: Cumulative counts of COVID-19 vaccine doses (Moderna and Pfizer) recorded as shipped in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Vaccine Tracking System (VTrckS) since December 13, 2020. Doses distributed does *not* include vaccine allocated to the Federal CDC Pharmacy Partnership for Long Term Care Facilities.



Vaccine Availability: Vaccine supply is the single limiting factor to increasing Loudoun County's ability to vaccinate more people. Like all states, Virginia relies on the federal government to allocate and distribute vaccine doses to the health districts throughout Virginia. Virginia takes the number of weekly doses allocated by the federal government, then further allocates those doses to counties based on population.

For the first week of February, the federal government increased Virginia's allocation of vaccine by approximately 23%, from 105,000 to 129,000 new first doses per week. However, the increase for each of Virginia's 35 health districts, including Loudoun County, is still relatively small. VDH has advised the Loudoun Health Department to expect about the same number of first doses for the next few weeks. VDH further advises that the pace of incoming doses is not expected to increase until at least March 2021. If supply continues on its current track, Virginia and Loudoun County are not likely to meet the demand for Phase 1b until March or April.

The Loudoun Health Department continues to accept appointment requests for the Phase 1b priority groups in preparation for when more vaccine is available. While health districts are allowed some flexibility in how doses are administered to eligible individuals, based on VDH guidance, the Health Department is scheduling roughly 50% of the available doses for people ages 65 and older, and the remaining 50% for all others who are currently eligible (including those ages 16-64 with comorbidities). This follows the Governor's direction to VDH.

Vaccine Sites:

County's Main Point-of-Dispensing Site (POD): Vaccination sites continue to be limited in Loudoun County due to the limited amount of vaccine supply. On February 2, 2021, Loudoun opened a large-scale COVID-19 vaccination clinic at the Dulles Town Center mall in the former Nordstrom department store. At this site, the Health Department is administering vaccine to Phases 1a and 1b priority groups by appointment only. Due to limited vaccine supply, the clinic is not accepting walk-ins. Staff are stationed at the building entrance with wheel chairs to help those who need assistance maneuvering through the facility.

Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS): LCPS continues to operate its own vaccination clinic at Brambleton Middle School in central Loudoun. Operational since January 14, 2021, the clinic uses LCPS nurses to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to LCPS personnel only.

CVS & Walgreen's at Long-term Care Facilities and Area Hospitals: These large corporate chains continue their vaccination efforts at long term care facilities through a partnership with the federal government. Area hospitals also continue to administer vaccine to remaining health care workers.

Purcellville Pharmacy and Middleburg Safeway: To address gaps in accessibility, as a pilot program, the Loudoun Health Department redistributed 100 vaccine doses to the Purcellville Pharmacy the first week of February. The Health Director has also worked out the details of a second pharmacy in the southern portion of western Loudoun at the Middleburg Safeway store. The Middleburg Safeway utilizes qualified persons on the Health Department's pre-registration list. As the supply increases, the Health Department will consider allocating vaccine to other health care providers in the community, such as private doctors and pharmacies, in order to increase access to vaccine.

CVS (Lansdowne): An additional vaccination site was opened by CVS Health Corporation at their store in the Lansdowne Town Center in Leesburg. Under their contractual arrangement with the federal government, CVS Health Corp is receiving vaccine directly from the federal government. They are committing approximately 26,000 doses to the State of Virginia. The Lansdowne retail store is the sole CVS offering this service and is expected to offer 700 appointments per week initially. All scheduling is performed through their registration portal and they are committed to providing vaccinations for those aged 65 and older. The Health Department through authorization from VDH contacted a number of persons on their wait list to inform them about this new opportunity during its soft-launch on February 9, 2021.

COVID-19 Vaccine Frequently Asked Questions: Loudoun County's COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage provides information and answers to frequently asked questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine in the county. Also, VDH and the CDC continue to update their FAQs on the COVID-19 vaccine. See VDH COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs and CDC COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs.

GUBERNATORIAL ACTIONS

Return to School Direction: On February 5, 2021, Governor Ralph Northam announced during a press conference and in a <u>letter to school superintendents</u> that he expects all public school districts in Virginia to make in-person learning options available by March 15, 2021, consistent with <u>Guidance from the Department of Education</u>. According to the Governor, school divisions may begin phasing in students who need in-person learning the most, such as students with disabilities, students in pre-kindergarten through third grade, and English language learners. The Governor further encouraged school divisions to provide optional summer school learning opportunities to help students catch up on any learning losses.

FEDERAL ACTIONS

Federal Retail Pharmacy Program for COVID-19 Vaccination: The federal government announced a Federal Retail Pharmacy Program that aims to increase access to the COVID-19 vaccine in the coming months. The program is a collaboration between the federal government, states, and 21 national pharmacy partners, including CVS, Walgreens, Rite Aid, Kroger, Safeway, Harris Teeter, Walmart, and Costco, among others. While the program is expected to ultimately include more than 40,000 pharmacies nationwide, the program will roll out incrementally based on available vaccine supply.

The federal government will ship a limited amount of vaccine directly to select retail pharmacies that will vaccinate eligible priority groups at no cost. The vaccine doses shipped as part of this program are in addition to the per capita doses Loudoun is already receiving weekly. Vaccine allocations under the federal program aim to use an equitable approach.

Participating pharmacies vary by state. During a press conference on February 5, 2021, Governor Northam indicated that initially, Virginia will only partner with CVS. A total of 36 CVS pharmacies in Virginia will participate in the program; this includes one in Loudoun County, the Lansdowne Town Center CVS. While the pharmacy and location were out of the control of the Loudoun Health Department, the Health Department continues to work with CVS on a local and state level to use the Lansdowne Town Center location as a resource to better meet the needs of Loudoun's residents, rather than as a parallel process that would bypass those waiting for vaccine.

According to the <u>CDC</u>, states selected pharmacies based on the number of pharmacy locations, the pharmacy's ability to reach populations most at risk for severe illness from COVID-19, and alignment with their existing vaccination plan. Virginia continues to develop the details of the partnership, such as how the registration process will work. Staff will update the Board as the situation evolves.

Emergency Use Authorization for Janssen Vaccine: On February 4, 2021, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) <u>announced</u> its Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee (VRBPAC) will meet on February 26 to discuss Janssen Biotech Inc.'s request for emergency use authorization (EUA) for a COVID-19 vaccine. This is the Johnson and Johnson one-dose vaccine. Johnson and Johnson <u>announced</u> they intend to distribute vaccine to the U.S. government immediately following authorization and expect to supply 100 million doses to the U.S. in the first half of 2021.

CDC Order Requiring Travelers to Wear Masks: On January 30, 2021, the CDC <u>announced</u> that effective February 2, all travelers into, within, or out of the United States must wear masks. This applies to all forms of transportation (e.g., on airplanes, ships, ferries, trains, subways, buses, taxis, and ride-shares). Per the <u>Order</u>, transportation operators must require all persons onboard to wear masks when boarding, disembarking, and for the duration of travel. Operators of transportation hubs must require all persons to wear a mask when entering or on the premises of a transportation hub.

Eviction Moratorium Extension: On September 4, 2020, the CDC Director issued an order that temporarily halted evictions in the United States for the purpose of mitigating the spread of the coronavirus; that order was set to expire at the end of 2020. On December 27, 2020, the President signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, which extended the order until January 31, 2021. On January 29, 2021, CDC Director, Dr. Rochelle Walensky, further extended the order until March 31, 2021. When the Order expires, a covered person will owe their landlord any unpaid rent and any fees, penalties, or interest as a result of the failure to pay rent or make a timely housing payment during the period of the Order, September 4, 2020 through March 31, 2021.

Change to Quarantine Protocols: On February 10, 2021, the CDC has updated their quarantine recommendations for vaccinated persons. Fully vaccinated persons who meet criteria (e.g. asymptomatic) will no longer be required to quarantine following an exposure to someone with COVID-19. Addition considerations for patients and residents in health care settings are provided.

RESIDENT SUPPORT

Information and Referral Program: Loudoun's Information and Referral Program continues to help individuals and families better understand the range of health and human services options available in Loudoun County, including critical services such as food resources, employment services, housing and homeless services, utility assistance, and childcare assistance. Since March 2020, the Department of Family Services (DFS) has received 11,736 calls to the information and referral program. Of those, DFS has made 7,146 referrals to programs providing the services listed above and provided requested information or responded to questions for the remaining 4,555 inquiries. Residents may contact an Information and Referral Line specialist at 703-777-0420 or online, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. After hours and on the weekend, complete an online form or send an email and a specialist will respond the next business day.

Rental Assistance Program: Since the beginning of April 2020, the Loudoun County Department of Family Services (DFS) has received a total of 3,977 inquiries. The department has made 396 unique household rental payments covering 1,187 months of assistance, totaling more than \$2 million to eligible Loudoun households. Each household may receive up to 9 months of assistance. As of December 18, 2020, eligibility is no longer income based. The Board created this program with the reallocation of funds from the Eastern Loudoun County Home Revitalization Program. The program has been funded largely by federal CARES Act dollars and is currently supplemented with local dollars. Learn more about the program at loudoun.gov/lra and watch the "How to Apply" video for a detailed tour of the website and online application: English video and video en español.

Utility Assistance Program: Administered by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Arlington and Loudoun Cares, the program has received responded to 208 referrals since it began in October 2020 and has a waiting list of over 200. The Utility Assistance Program is funded with \$170,000 in Round 2 CARES Act dollars and has spent \$109,252 in direct payments to date. Residential customers, including those in the seven incorporated towns, who meet eligibility criteria can request support with paying their utilities up to \$1,750 by accessing the COVID-19 Emergency Fund and Helpline at 703-669-5040. Utilities include electric, water, and gas bills, as well as

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propane, oil, or wood, if those are used for heating or cooking. The Utility Assistance Program will transition to the use of general fund dollars starting January 28. It is projected that the program will increase direct assistance significantly due to the end of town moratoria on shut offs.

Complementary Safety Net Payment Program: DFS and the Health Department have made 88 referrals to the County's Complementary Safety Net Payment Program since its start on October 19, 2020. The Safety Net program will continue through June 30, 2021 using general fund dollars and has expanded outreach to Inova Loudoun Hospital. Northern Virginia Family Service is currently processing \$22,671 in requests received since January 25. This program supports residents who test positive for COVID-19 at Loudoun Health Department or HealthWorks events and require financial assistance to maintain good standing with debtors while safely isolating. Individuals may receive up to \$1,500 made payable to vendors on their behalf for household expenses.

Isolation and Quarantine Program: DFS, in coordination with Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Developmental Services (MHSADS), has established temporary isolation and quarantine housing for Loudoun residents to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Eight residents have been assisted to date since the program started on September 10, 2020.

CARES Act Funding for Nonprofits and Faith Based Organizations Round 2: Loudoun County allocated \$2.25 million in federal CARES Act funding for eligible nonprofit and faith-based organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Eligible organizations could request funding for these four programs: Emergency Food Assistance Program, Service Expansion Program, Nonprofit Service Interruption Program, and Nonprofit Service Continuity Program. The County received 64 applications for Round 2 of CARES Act nonprofit/faith-based funding. To date, the County has distributed all awards totaling \$2,160,013 of Round 2 funding. The deadline to expend current funds has been extended to February 28, 2021. Organizations who requested the extension to February 28, will be able to spend their remaining funds by the deadline.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

Work In Loudoun: On January 28, 2021, the Department of Economic Development (DED) announced the launch of its new workforce program, Work In Loudoun. This initiative includes active programming including hands-on service from DED's Workforce Development Manager, Nancy Evanko, as well as a suite of professional matchmaking services designed to connect the D.C. region's talented workforce with open positions at businesses in Loudoun. The three key audiences for this program are existing businesses, prospective businesses, and jobseekers/existing employees that may be looking to upskill/change careers/find a new job. The website (workinloudoun.com or biz.loudoun.gov/work-in-loudoun/) contains a robust collection of labor market data, business resources, and the Loudoun jobs board that was launched during the early months of COVID-19.

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FireUp Business Mentoring and Coaching Program: Applications were reviewed and 15 Loudoun County small businesses have been selected for the FireUp Business Mentoring and Coaching Program. The current cohort brings together businesses from the region, in partnership with Loudoun County, Prince William County, the City of Alexandria, Fairfax County, and the Community Foundation of Northern Virginia. The program begins in the first week of March and is operated by Ureeka, an inclusive online community of entrepreneurs providing resources that are tailored to female and minority-owned small businesses. Additional details are available at grants.ureeka.biz/fireup-program.

Paycheck Protection Program Reopens: The Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Treasury reopened the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) for both new applicants and previous applicants to receive additional aid until March 31, 2021. To promote access to capital, this round of the PPP began with opening to community financial institutions for First Draw PPP Loans on Monday, January 11. The window then opened for Second Draw PPP Loans on January 13, which are for businesses that previously received a PPP loan, used the full amount for authorized uses, and meet all eligibility criteria. The PPP opened for lenders with \$1 billion or less in assets on January 15, and then opened to all participating PPP lenders on January 19. Updated PPP guidance outlining Program changes to enhance its effectiveness and accessibility was released on January 6 in accordance with the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Non-Profits, and Venues Act and the SBA is taking steps to improve the First Draw Paycheck Protection Program loan review so that small businesses have as much time as possible to access much needed PPP funds. This round of the PPP continues to prioritize millions of Americans employed by small businesses by authorizing up to \$284 billion toward job retention and certain other expenses. Additional details are available at biz.loudoun.gov.

COURTS

Extension of Judicial Emergency: On February 8, 2021, the Supreme Court of Virginia extended its Declaration of Judicial Emergency through March 7, 2021 for the 17th time. Provisions of the 16th Order extending the Declaration of Judicial Emergency in response to the Covid-19 Emergency, entered on January 19, 2021 (Sixteenth Order), shall continue to apply in all courts for the duration of this Order unless amended by a future order. The period of Judicial Emergency now extends from March 16, 2020, through March 7, 2021.

Resumption of Criminal Jury Trials: The 20th Circuit Court in Loudoun began its first multi-week criminal jury trial on January 19, 2021. The trial, now in its fourth week, has implemented Loudoun Circuit Court's Jury Resumption Plan, which was approved by the Virginia Supreme Court in the fall of 2020. The court is nearing the jury deliberations phase and has only experienced one-half of a day delay due to a single COVID-19 issue as of February 11, 2021.

PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) continues to support the County's COVID-19 response effort in a variety of ways. PRCS continues to offer childcare through the distance

learning childcare program. Approximately 330 children are enrolled in the program; this dropped by approximately 40 since the winter break and since LCPS returned to one hundred percent distance learning.

PRCS is also assisting the Health Department at the new Dulles Town Center POD site by providing staffing to assist with logistics and parking. Seven PRCS staff members are assisting Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers respond to a high volume of calls and emails at the Health Department's call center; this is largely associated with scheduling appointments for the Phase 1b priority group vaccines. PRCS has visited the Health Department's vaccination site to assess its ability to accommodate seniors and are providing a staff member from the Area Agency on Aging at the vaccination site for assisting with accommodation issues and assistance with seniors that may arise. There is also continued discussions surrounding the exploring of additional potential vaccine locations. PRCS has also communicated the most current information on vaccines to all patrons within their registration system who are in the 75 and older group.

PRCS Sports staff are working with the local leagues to prepare for the upcoming spring season. This includes the approval of all Return To Play documents to ensure all mitigation factors are in place to safely resume outdoor sports. Additionally, the Department has been notified that they have been awarded a grant from the VDSS CARES III Grant for Child Care Providers to help offset the operational costs of several of the departments licensed child care sites.

LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Cases in Loudoun County Public School System: As of February 11, 2021³, there are 15 active coronavirus staff cases and two active student cases across 15 LCPS sites. A total of 31 staff members and zero students are actively quarantining. Since the school year began on September 8, 2020, the cumulative number of confirmed positive coronavirus cases in the LCPS system is 476 staff members and 169 students. For more information, visit LCPS COVID-19 Case Data.

Vaccine for LCPS Employees: LCPS established a vaccination site at a school in central Loudoun (Brambleton Middle School) and on January 14, 2021, began utilizing LCPS nurses to administer the COVID-19 vaccine to LCPS employees. The County and Loudoun Health Department are supporting LCPS in their vaccination effort. As of February 10, 2021, a total of 10,376 LCPS employees have received their first vaccination. Second doses are slated to begin starting February 12, 2021, weather dependent.

Return to Hybrid Model of Instruction: On February 2, 2021, the School Board voted to re-initiate stages 1 through 3 of the in-person learning model for all students who chose hybrid learning for the second semester no later than Tuesday, February 16. Students in stages 1 through 3 who selected hybrid learning for the second semester will return to hybrid learning on February 16, 2021. Students in stages 1 through 3 include students in preschool through fifth grade whose parents chose hybrid learning for the second semester, which runs through the end of the school

³ Data entered at the end of the previous day and published on February 9, 2021.

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year; Monroe Advanced Technical Academy students; Academy of Engineering and Technology seniors and Academy of Science seniors who chose hybrid learning; grades K-12 English learners in proficiency levels 1.0 - 1.9; and students with disabilities. The School Board also approved beginning Stage 4 of the in-person hybrid learning model no later than March 3, 2021. Stage 4 includes middle and high school students who selected hybrid learning for the second semester.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.