



Call Report issued by Debbie Groat

6/10/20	Debbie Groat
	County/City COVID19 Workgroup
	Andrew Hime, Stacy Rappold, Blake Fisher, Rick Konrad, Megan Bluthardt, Rose Butler, Calvin Gladden, Brian Snyder and Dean Hof

DISCUSSION

Main point of discussion was to share information on COVID19 operations, disruptions and supply chain demands:

- a. Debbie opened with sharing information from the Education Subcommittee. They are struggling with determining how they can open and address social distancing and cleaning requirements. For example, transportation services do not have backup buses that can fill the gap with limiting the number of students on the bus at the same time and custodial staff is not sufficient to clean schools now and woefully inadequate for a total touch point cleaning. Social distancing concerns may also lead to parents dropping students off at school that will overburden current transportation channels and design. This may lead to a limited opening that will require some parents to remain home to provide the homeschooling services if schools cannot determine an appropriate way to reopen fully. (Also noted, was Howard Community College’s decision to continue with online learning in the fall with the exception of labs that will be conducted on site.) They await direction from the Maryland State Board of Education. This is all mentioned because it will affect employees trying to return to work in every other sector.
- b. Andrew (AACO) shared that there is nothing official for reopening plans. This decision may be made in the weeks or month ahead. Schools are a consideration in the reopening plans. PPE purchasing is presently under the emergency management team but is transitioning to the Department of Health. Presently, determining the required stocking levels for the path forward. AACO is seeing a shift in the demand/supply cycle resulting in no demand for deposits/pre-payment and lower prices. When evaluating the State’s IFB for PPE supplies, AACO is likely to issue their own to ensure they are covered by FEMA reimbursement requirements and to cover more suppliers.
- c. Calvin (State) mentioned that the RFI for PPE supplies is a Post-COVID19 solution. He also shared that State offices are open and trying to get employees back, especially those that cannot work remotely. Those that can telework will be brought in after those that cannot. Teleworking has been successful. Reopening will likely use a staggered schedule but that is still up in the air.
- d. Brian (Annapolis) recommended, when considering any PPE cooperative solution that participants are identified by “name” rather than using the standard cooperative clause. Based on training he has received, it should be met with more favor in a FEMA reimbursement situation, to be named. Annapolis has opened outdoor dining on a limited basis and hope to expand. They are building their backup PPE stock. Currently, have no precise plans for reopening government buildings but they are being fitted with the requisite shields in public exchange areas.

- e. Dean (Howard) has reviewed the State's approach to the PPE RFI that provides links to the FEMA and MEMA requirements, and plans to use that approach in his solicitations that may trigger FEMA reimbursement. Dean stated that they are presently in an "indefinite teleworking" plan with no precise reopening plan. When it does happen, they are likely to be alternating staff at the 50% level.
- f. Rose (Baltimore) shared similar experiences as the group. They are concerned with stockpiling and China's disputes with the President, regarding how that will affect supply. Watching the affects this is having on business activity and how it will affect "lead times." They are starting the reopening process for offices and considering the longevity of teleworking based on successes.
- g. Stacy (Harford) shared that offices are opened on staggered schedules. Each department orders their own PPE supplies.
- h. Blake/Megan (BMC) shared concerns over mental health matters that may affect return to work plans and encouraged its consideration.
- i. Rick (MWCOG) shared that they are planning for reopening on staggered schedules to ensure social distancing. Stairwells will be one way. Elevators will limit the number of occupants at any one time. Touch points will be cleaned regularly. Barrier shields are being put in place where needed.

Action Items: None