For Immediate Release

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FOURTH EASTHAMPTON RESIDENT TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

EASTHAMPTON, MA – Per MAVEN (MA Virtual Epidemiological Network), Health Agent Bri Eichstaedt was notified of the fourth COVID-19 case in the city since last Sunday. Ms. Eichstaedt explains the next steps, “Our public health nurse has contacted each case and conducted a contact investigation. All confirmed contacts are then notified. All cases are educated on the requirements of isolation and are sent the requirements in writing. Our public health nurse checks in with each patient twice a day.”

Eichstaedt notes, as testing capacity increases, we expect to see more cases, however, it is extremely important to self-quarantine if you start to develop any of the symptoms. If you think you have symptoms related to COVID-19, please call your primary care physician. Do not show up to your primary care physician or emergency room without calling first so they can properly protect themselves and other patients."

Easthampton Board of Health Chair Maggie Hebert reminds us all that “This is a time of hardship for all locally, nationally and globally. Both financial and emotional. Difficult decisions are made to protect and prevent transmission of this pandemic to all residents. The only way we know to prevent transmission is to limit contact with others, therefore decisions are made based on that and not on an individual level. We are all at risk regardless of our daily routine, at risk for contracting the virus or giving it to someone else. Please know we do not make these decisions lightly, nor do our State officials.”

Mayor LaChapelle strongly encourages residents to comply with all local and state orders to slow the spread of the virus. It is crucial for residents to remain vigilant in this unprecedented environment and take every precaution to protect themselves, family members and the community. Specifically, LaChapelle urges Easthampton, “…to show support of front line workers by following public health orders. Their daily sacrifices and commitment keeps our City safe. Everyone must do their part to have their backs.”

Additional COVID-19 updates can be found on the city’s website, www.easthamptonma.gov or the state’s website, www.mass.gov