**Virtual Town Hall – Thursday 7/23 at 10am**

**Host - Mayor LaChapelle**
**Moderator – Ryan Arnold**

Easthampton Media

Information on meeting access can be found on the Easthampton Media Facebook page or [HERE](#).

**If you have ideas for a future Town Hall, or would like to be involved, please contact the Mayor’s Office via email at: mayor@easthamptonma.gov**

Watch live on Charter Channel 193 or streaming on [YouTube](#)

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If you would like a copy of the Situation Awareness Report emailed to you directly, please contact the Mayor’s Office at [mayor@easthamptonma.gov](mailto:mayor@easthamptonma.gov).

**Easthampton Public Schools Reopening:** The Communication and Governance Reopening Committee (comprised of educators, parents, and school employees) has been working on a draft document for the Fall Reopening Plan for Easthampton Public Schools. Additional information can be found on the [EPSD website](#).

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend informational forums happening this week to address questions and thoughts. All forums will be held virtually via Zoom. The schedule is as follows:

- Pre-K through 4th Grade: Tuesday, July 21, 2020 from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.
- 5th Grade through 8th Grade: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.
- 9th Grade through 12th Grade: Thursday, July 23, 2020 from 3:30pm to 4:30pm.

To register and receive a Zoom link for one of these forums, please contact Sue Colby at [scolby@epsd.us](mailto:scolby@epsd.us).

**Community Block Funding:** The Baker-Polito administration announced on July 16, 2020 that $19.6 million will be dedicated to municipalities for emergency needs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding will support 181 communities and target low-income residents and small businesses.

This funding will focus on social services, including homelessness prevention, food pantries and assistance, and job training for in-demand health care workers and technicians.

For additional information on the funding, please see the official Press Release [HERE](#).
**Easthampton Coronavirus (COVID-19) Situation Awareness Report**

| July 20, 2020 | Emergency Rental Assistance Grant Program: | The Easthampton Affordable and Fair Housing Partnership is working to contract with a local non-profit agency to distribute a short-term rent relief grant. This grant would help Easthampton residents who are experience housing insecurity due to COVID-19. Proposals are due this Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 12:00 noon. For more information, please click [HERE](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting).

**COVID-19 Funds for Education:** The Baker-Polito administration announced a $16.1 million in relief for special education providers. Special education residential schools have remained open throughout the pandemic to support students with unique challenges. This relief fund is in addition to the $3 million dollars dedicated to support the residential education school system in April.

For further information, please see the official Press Release:

**Additional Resources**

- Massachusetts Testing Information: Includes information on symptoms, contact tracing, and quarantining.  

- Small Business Strong: Small Business Strong is a partnership formed to assist women and minority owned small businesses. For more information, please visit their website:  
  [https://www.smallbstrong.com/](https://www.smallbstrong.com/)

- MassSupport: Free and confidential counseling services during COVID pandemic
  PHONE: 1-888-215-4920 (Phones answered Mon.-Fri. from 9:00am to 6:00pm)
  EMAIL: MassSupport@riversidecc.org

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All Easthampton public buildings remain closed until further notice. Working remotely, staff are monitoring voice mail and email, prioritizing pandemic related matters. Many staff are working a limited schedule. Thank you for your patience.

The latest news on Massachusetts COVID-19 Cases and Testing can be found here:  