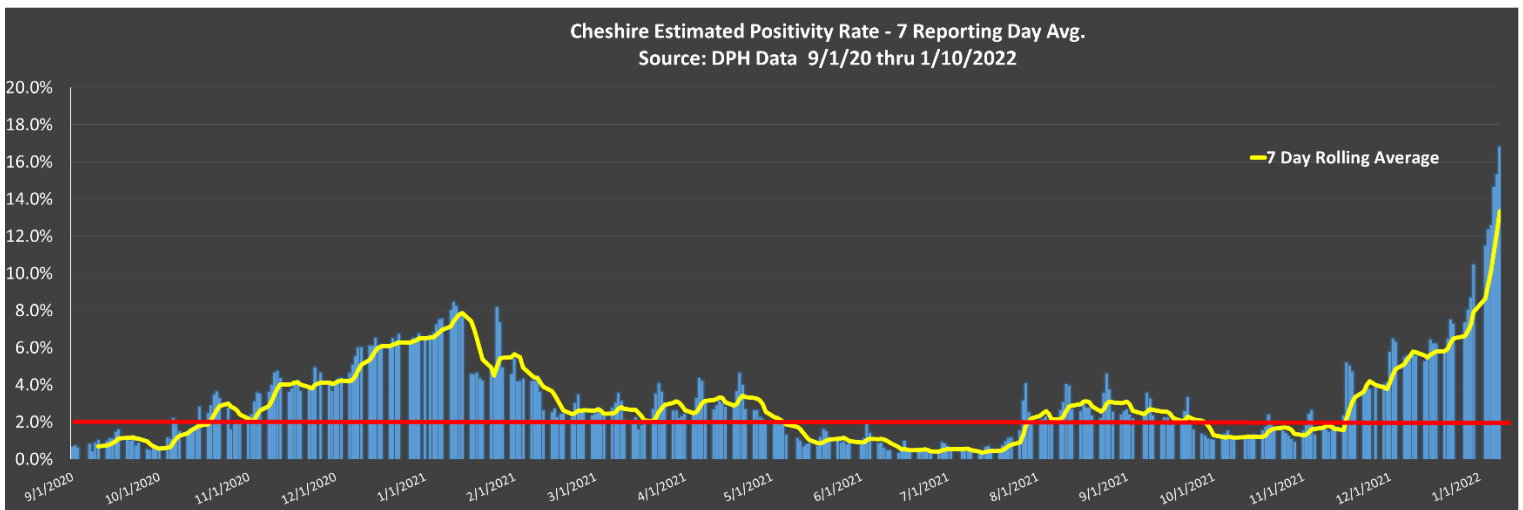


TOWN OF CHESHIRE
84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE, CONNECTICUT 06410
Telephone (203) 271-6660 FAX (203) 271-6639

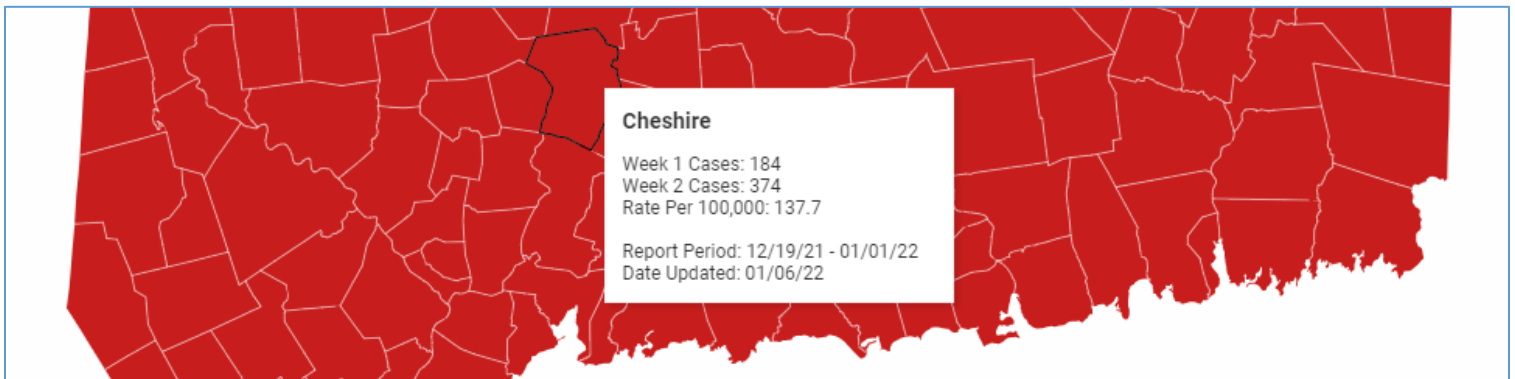
TO: Town Council
FROM: Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Town Manager’s Report – January 2022
DATE: January 11, 2022

COVID-19 Pandemic Data

Local case rates for Cheshire have increased dramatically over the past two months. As of Monday, January 10th, our local estimated positivity rate over the past seven DPH reporting days was **16.8%** (746 positives in Cheshire out of 4,450 tests and up from 5.2% last month). The rolling 7-day average of this reported metric (yellow line) is currently **13.3%** (up from 5.6% last month).

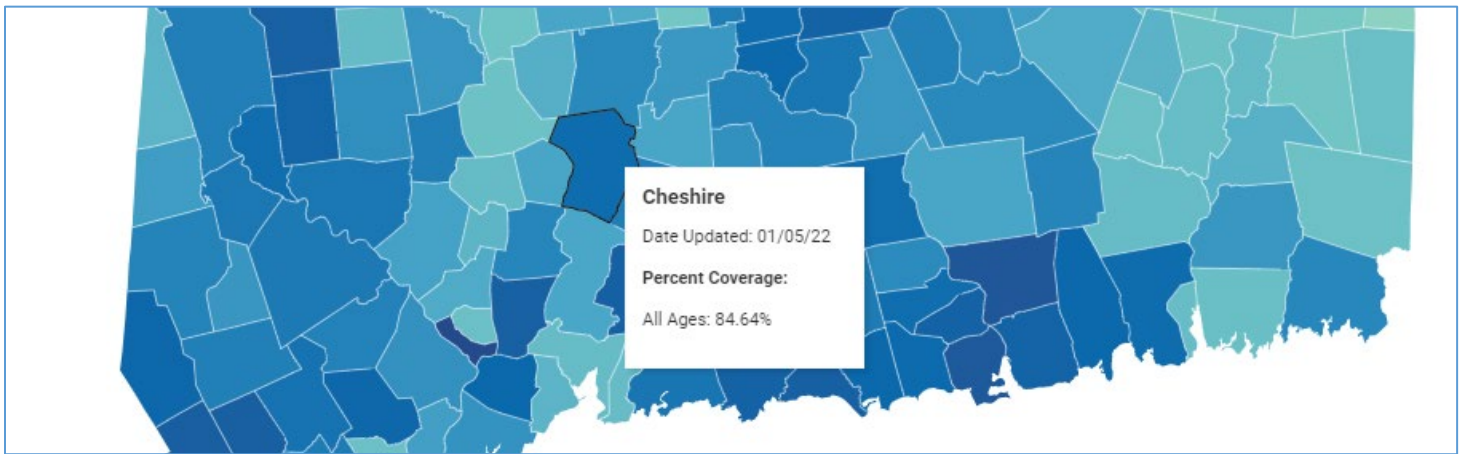


Local case rates in Cheshire have kept us in the “Red” alert level per the weekly color designation from DPH, based on the average daily cases per 100,000 population (Cheshire is reported at 137.7 cases per 100k, up from 41.7 last month).



To date, 84.64% of Cheshire residents of all ages have received at least one vaccination dose, an increase of 2.35% over last month (82.29%).

Percent of Population All Ages Who Have Received at Least One Dose of COVID-19 Vaccination



Testing Locations, N95s and Home Test Kits

List of 94 Testing Locations in Cheshire’s Area (DHMAS Region 2):

https://www.chesirect.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_8580856/File/Government/Town%20Manager/Testing%20Locations%20Region%202.pdf

Hartford Healthcare Testing Locations & Appointments:

<https://hartfordhealthcare.org/health-wellness/coronavirus/testing>

(Including Newly Announced MidState Drive-Thru Opening January 11th)

Yale New Haven Health Testing Locations & Appointments:

<https://www.ynhhs.org/patient-care/covid-19/testing/testing-locations>

Free N-95 Masks for Residents

The Town has been distributing N-95 masks received from the State of Connecticut to Cheshire residents at three locations in town during regular business hours: the Senior Center, Cheshire Library and Town Hall. Residents with ID or a utility bill can pick up one mask for each member of their household. Since the program began on Thursday, January 6th, the Town has distributed approximately 3,600 masks in addition to the estimated 2,800 given out during the test kit distribution.

At-Home Test Kits

The Town received a very limited supply of At-Home COVID Test Kits on Sunday, January 2nd, of which 1,440 were distributed at Quinnipiac Park on Tuesday evening, January 4th. Remaining kits from those received from the state have been designated for critical workforce needs including public safety and public works in an effort to keep our critical municipal operations functioning. A very limited supply of 90 kits was made available by appointment only on Monday, January 10th for symptomatic or known close-contact seniors. We received 135 calls within the first few minutes of availability and all appointments were filled within minutes. Additional kits are being distributed to congregate settings, group homes and daycares in Cheshire.

Economic Development Update

We were very pleased to announce that [Rebel Interactive](#), a fast-growing digital marketing firm with about 90 employees will be moving their headquarters to Cheshire from Southington, after they officially closed on acquiring the old Furniture Barn building in mid-December. Andrew Martelli and I first met with their leadership team back in August and the Town has worked with them closely over the past few months to provide any assistance or helpful information that we could as they navigated the property purchase. We are confident that the presence of a dynamic, innovative marketing firm full of working-professionals has the potential to be transformative for the West Main Street area. In our initial meeting, their senior executives expressed their own excitement and desire to become a meaningful and contributing member of the Cheshire community through community events, school partnerships, internship opportunities, etc. In August, 2021 they were recognized by [Inc. 5000 as one of the country's fastest-growing companies](#). In addition to offices in the main building, they have plans to turn the old furniture warehouse space at the rear into a high tech video/audio production space for client commercials, podcasts, digital content, etc.



GFOA Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Congratulations to Finance Director/Treasurer, James Jaskot and the entire Finance Department on receiving the Government Finance Officers' Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the FY20 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. This is the 25th consecutive year that the Finance Department has been so recognized and it demonstrates their continuing commitment to excellence in financial reporting to maintain this impressive streak.

Town Planner

I am very pleased to welcome Michael N. Glidden who was selected to succeed Bill Voelker in the position of Town Planner/Development Coordinator. Mike was most recently the Director of Planning and Community Development for the Town of Simsbury. In Simsbury, he served in the role of Town Planner for the past 4 years, having previously served as Assistant Town Planner and Code Compliance Officer over the prior 4 years. Previous to Simsbury, Mike served as Zoning Official and Assistant Zoning Enforcement Officer in the Towns of Waterford and West Hartford. He holds current certifications for Zoning Enforcement Official, Floodplain Manager, Inland Wetlands Agent, Aquifer Protection Area Agent and Grants Administrator. Mike is a resident of Wallingford and currently serves as President of their non-profit downtown association, Wallingford Center, Inc.

Public Building Commission Project Close Out Reports

Please see the attached project close out reports for:

- 1) Utility Tunnel Improvements at CHS; and
- 2) Districtwide Lavatory Improvements (Doolittle Phase 2)

UR Community Cares – Cheshire Senior Center Offering

The Cheshire Senior Center is excited to be partnering with UR Community Cares to offer a new program for volunteers to be matched with seniors 70+ or disabled adult residents for free help at home including household chores, yard work, companionship and transportation. The program will be introduced with a Zoom presentation by Senior Center Coordinator Stefanie Theroux on Thursday, January 13th at 11:00 AM. For more information please contact the Senior Center.

Holiday Hours

Please be aware that Town Offices will be closed for the observation of Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 17, 2022.

Upcoming Town Council & Sub-Committee Meetings

Personnel Committee

January 13, 2022 – 5:00 PM (Virtual)

Town Council – Special Meeting (Legislative Forum)

January 25, 2022 – 7:00 PM

Town Council – Regular Meeting


February 8, 2022 – 7:00 PM



"The Bedding Plant Capital of Connecticut"

TOWN OF CHESHIRE

Department of Public Works and Engineering
84 South Main Street, Cheshire, Connecticut 06410
Phone: 203-271-6650 Fax: 203-271-6659

DATE: December 20, 2021
TO: Sean Kimball, Town Manager
FROM: George Noewatne, Director of Public Works and Engineering 
SUBJECT: Public Building Commission Agenda Items for Town Council Approval

The Public Building Commission (PBC) met on Wednesday, December 15, 2021 and reviewed the attached Project Completion Reports for the following Capital Projects: Utility Tunnel Improvements at Cheshire High School and Districtwide Lavatory Improvements (Doolittle School Phase II).

The PBC would like to submit these reports for the Town Council's review at their meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2022.



"The Bedding Plant Capital of Connecticut"

TOWN OF CHESHIRE

Department of Public Works and Engineering
84 South Main Street, Cheshire, Connecticut 06410
Phone: 203-271-6650 Fax: 203-271-6659

DATE: December 15, 2021

TO: Sean Kimball, Town Manager

FROM: The Public Building Commission

SUBJECT: Project Completion Report – Utility Tunnel Improvements at Cheshire High School

The PBC project, Utility Tunnel Improvements at Cheshire High School, is complete. Cheshire High School was built in the early 1950's and underwent several expansions to accommodate increases in student enrollment and added staff. The original portion of the building, containing underground utility tunnels with steam pipes, was suspected of contributing to indoor air quality issues, especially during the winter months. The Public Building Commission was assigned this project in 2012.

Richard Clavet was the subcommittee Chairperson.

A total of \$340,000.00 was appropriated for the project by the Town Council.

RFP #1112-17 was issued to obtain recommendations from qualified and experienced engineering and architectural professionals to assess the existing construction and design of the utility tunnels to provide cost and recommendations for permanent improvements of the utility tunnels. Four (4) firms were interviewed by the subcommittee and GeoInsight was selected.

This project was funded from Capital Account #20400-5800-01122.

In the summer of 2012, water drainage construction improvements were completed. The project included the installation of a footing and sheet drainage system to the interior to the CHS courtyard and then data from these monitors was collected and analyzed by GeoInsight. After the remediation was completed in 2013, GeoInsight continued a quarterly inspection program to monitor the tunnels for humidity and water intrusion issues. In addition, the firm established an on-call system for environmental support.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Utility Tunnel Improvements at Cheshire High School		
Total Allocation		\$ 340,000.00
Total Spent		\$313,247.68
	Total Remaining	\$ 20,390.82
Vendor:	Description	Amount
Geolnsight		\$122,697.00
Clark Electrical Service	New Sump Pump	\$1,125.00
White-Bowman Plumbing/Heating	Pipe Repair	\$4,437.40
Detour Construction	New Sidewalk Senior Courtyard	\$15,000.00
Hubert E. Butler Construction Co.	Courtyard Drainage	\$17,400.00
Heitkamp, Inc.	CCTV Inspection	\$2,500.00
AAIS Corp	Asbestos Abatement	\$90,000.00
Blake Contracting	Senior Courtyard Drainage Imp.	\$56,889.35
Record Journal	Legal Notice	\$195.76
Bond Allocation	Fee for Bond Allocation	\$ 3,003.12
	TOTAL	\$313,247.63

Suggestions for Improvements:

None

Recommendations:

The Cheshire Public Schools should continue to inspect and monitor the CHS Courtyard area and Utility Tunnels.

The Public Building Commission recommends that the remaining balance of \$20,390.82 in Capital Account # 20400-5800-01122 be returned to the council for final disposition.

GN/am

CC: Sean Kimball, Town Manager
James Jaskot, Director of Finance



"The Bedding Plant Capital of Connecticut"

TOWN OF CHESHIRE

Department of Public Works and Engineering
84 South Main Street, Cheshire, Connecticut 06410
Phone: 203-271-6650 Fax: 203-271-6659

DATE: December 15, 2021

TO: Sean Kimball, Town Manager

FROM: The Public Building Commission

SUBJECT: Project Completion Report – Districtwide Lavatory Improvements (Doolittle School Phase II)

The PBC project, Districtwide Lavatory Improvements (Doolittle School Phase II) is complete. This project is a multi-year effort to modernize the bathrooms at school facilities. Phase II of the project included the construction of two (2) gang restrooms and one faculty bathroom at the school.

This was a well-managed project by Mr. James McKenney, PBC Subcommittee Chairperson, Mr. Richard Clavet, PBC subcommittee member and Mr. Don Nidoh, subcommittee member.

Silver-Petrucelli & Associates was selected by the PBC to be the designer of record in the amount of \$26,400.00. The design firm submitted one Change Order for Hazmat Services in the amount of \$7,683.50. Silver-Petrucelli successfully completed the design work and construction administration for Phase I of the project on October 14, 2019, which included upgrading the staff bathroom, student bathrooms and providing full ADA compliance.

On February 5, 2021 a total of seventeen (17) bids were received and ranged from \$407,000.00 (highest) to \$289,000.00 (lowest). Council awarded M.A. & M, Inc. dba Aresco Construction, the construction contract in the amount of \$289,000.00. Aresco Construction had the experience of working on Phase I of the project in 2019, they were low bid, and even after encountering unforeseen structural masonry work they were still able to meet the construction deadlines for the opening of the school year.

Funding for the project came from Capital Account 20400-5800-01358.

Mobilization began on June 17, 2021 and substantial completion of the project was August 20, 2021.

PROJECT SUMMARY

Phase #2 (2020 -2021) - Doolittle Bathroom Improvements	
(Multi-Year Project)	
Total Expended:	\$330,794.00
VENDOR:	AMOUNT:
Silver-Petrucelli & Associates	\$26,400.00
ChemScope CO #1 - Hazmat Services	\$7,683.50
M.A. & M., Inc. dba Aresco Construction Company	\$289,000.00
Construction CO #1 PA Speakers	\$2,089.00
CO #3 Pressure Reducing Valve Replacement	\$5,440.00
Legal Notice 2021-05 Record Journal	\$181.50
TOTAL	\$330,794.00

Suggestions for Improvements:

The Cheshire Public Schools were satisfied with the outcome of this phase of the project. Silver-Petrucelli & Associates and Aresco Construction were knowledgeable and professional.

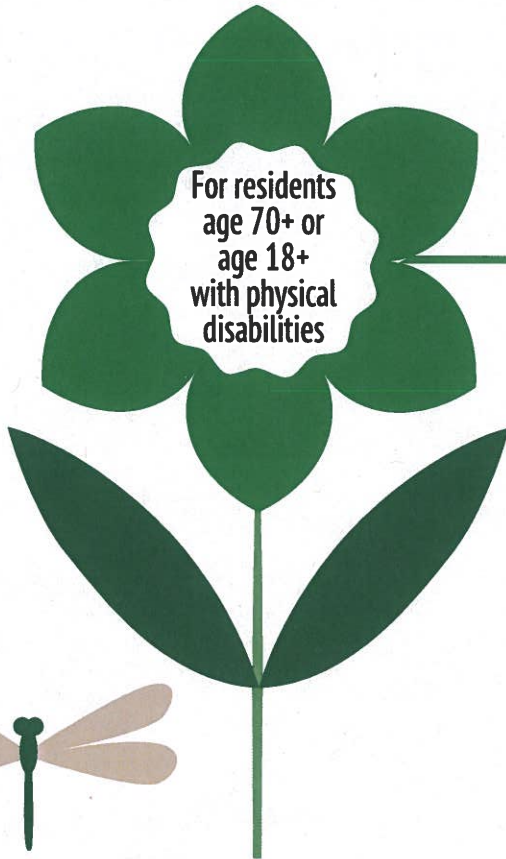
Recommendations:

Districtwide Lavatory Improvements is a multi-year capital project. The Public Building Commission recommends putting any unused funds back into the capital account for Phase III of the renovation project.

GN/am

CC: Vincent Masciana, Cheshire Public Schools
James Jaskot, Director of Finance
The Public Building Commission

Cheshire Residents: Free Help at Home



For residents
age 70+ or
age 18+
with physical
disabilities

- Household chores
- Yard work
- Companionship
- Transportation

Participants are background checked



Local volunteers
needed age 15* and up
(*ages 15-17
require adult consent
and supervision)

Sign up now at:

www.URCommunityCares.org

Michelle Puzzo, President

860-430-4557

info@URCommunityCares.org



A new community connection from
Cheshire Senior Center.

Please contact Stefanie Theroux, Coordinator
of Senior Services at 203-272-8286 or email
stheroux@cheshirect.org for details.

Household Tasks

- Wash inside windows
- Dust
- Wash, fold, put away laundry
- Iron, mend clothes
- Clean, organize living area
- Sweep, vacuum, mop floors
- Change linens, make bed
- Clean bedroom
- Clean kitchen surfaces, appliances
- Clean refrigerator
- Wash/put away dishes
- Prepare meal, cook, clean up
- Water indoor plants, maintain plants
- Pet care, walk pets
- Bag up trash, de-clutter
- Organize cabinets, closets, drawers

Yard Work

- Water plants, tend to gardens
- Mow lawn
- Rake leaves, clean up yard
- Trash
- Bring in mail, papers

Companionship

- Play board games, cards
- Socialization
- Share music, play Instruments
- Coach technology use

Local Transportation

- Medical appointments
- Shopping trips, errands in town

Visit www.URCommunityCares.org for a full list of services.

Special requests will be considered.

About UR Community Cares, the online platform for free home-based assistance

- **Our mission:** To connect people who need at-home help with those who want to help, town by town.
- **Our model:** We provide a secure digital platform with free access for all enrolled participants at URCommunityCares.org.
- **Who we help:** Community members age 70+ or age 18+ with a permanent or temporary physical disability.
- **Who helps us:** Volunteers contribute their time on a monthly or weekly basis. Local agencies refer and enroll residents in need of free home-based support.
- **What supports us:** Municipal funding, grant awards, sponsorships and donations from individuals and organizations.
- **What funds are used for:** Annual background checks for the safety of all participants, top-tier website security and updates, insurance (including transportation) and COVID-compliant supplies.

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and 100% volunteer-based.



Seeking Volunteers for Cheshire Acts of Kindness

Free home-based assistance is now available to Cheshire residents ages 70 and older or adults with physical disabilities thanks to the Cheshire Senior Center's partnership with UR Community Cares. Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a volunteer to help a neighbor with household chores, yard work, companionship or transportation? Just one hour a week or even a month, at your convenience, will make a huge difference to help keep people living safely and independently in their homes. Learn more at www.URCommunityCares.org or contact Stefanie at 203-272-8286 or stheroux@cheshirect.org for more information.

