



VILLAGE OF SCARSDALE

CORONAVIRUS LOCAL READINESS REPORT

Village Manager's Comments – February 25 Village Board Meeting

As we've all been following the daily reports on the CoVID-19 infectious disease, better known as the Corona Virus, I thought I would update the Board and community on the current situation within the Village of Scarsdale. Like all other local governments in Westchester, the Village does not employ a health department, as we all utilize the Westchester County Health Department for health related issues within our jurisdictions. The County Health Department is further informed and guided by the New York State Health Department and in the case of CoronaVirus, the Center for Disease Control as well. The County Health Department has held press conferences on the CoronaVirus, and provided frequent updates on the County's website as the health related issues and actions unfold. They have also provided guidance to local government First Responders on the safe and proper handling of service calls. The School District has also been guided in this regard with specific instructions provided by the NYS Health Department which are currently in effect. A copy of the District's current protocol is included on the front page of its website with the NYSDOH detailed guidance document included. Please know that Scarsdale's Chief of Police meets frequently with the District's Head of Security and the District's Director of Special Education and Student Services and matters such as this and will continue to do so as this CoronaVirus situation develops.

Currently there are no known cases of the CoronaVirus in New York State and to both the County and NYS Health Departments report that the risk to residents and students is very low. The New York/New Jersey area airports have taken precautions with travelers returning from certain countries with known Corona Virus cases, to complete questionnaire about their travels, symptoms and contact information upon arrival. Protocols are in place for travelers deemed at risk from self-home isolation to video monitoring of individuals placed on home isolation for the 14 day incubation period. There have been no CoronaVirus cases in Westchester, but should a traveler be recognized as high risk for the Virus, they would be subject to an involuntary home quarantine and Westchester County's Emergency Response Agency, referred to as 60 Control, and would be notified. 60 Control in turn would notify the local Police Department of the presence of this case within their municipality.

Please know that Scarsdale's local emergency response departments, specifically the Police and Fire Departments and the Scarsdale Volunteer Ambulance Corps, met three weeks ago, and in conjunction with the County Health Department's specific product guidance, equipped their departmental personnel with protective gear, including gloves, eye protection, masks, and a certified disposable respirator. Additionally, based on NYS and County Health Department best management practices, the Police Department's Patrol Lieutenant issued a Patrol Bulletin on February 5th on handling Suspected CoronaVirus Dispatch and Response calls. Calls for patient conditions involving fever, respiratory issues, cough, shortness of breath, flu like symptoms or general malaise, now require the dispatcher to ask if the individual had recently traveled abroad to one of the high risk areas. If answered in the affirmative, SVAC and PD will be dispatched with SVAC personnel responsible for handling the patients. SVAC will also notify the receiving hospital of a potential infected patient in route. In addition, if there were other

parties present and in contact with the patient, the Police Department will immediately contact the County Health Department to report.

I would also mention that Scarsdale Police Chief Matturro hosted a meeting today with more than a dozen local Police Chiefs to discuss, amongst other items, the Coronavirus and this response protocol is consistent throughout the County. Additionally the Department maintains our so-called "Best Aid" intermunicipal agreement with Eastchester, Bronxville and Tuckahoe to activate a Joint Coverage Action Plan if warranted amongst these jurisdictions.

Please note that as of today there are 53 confirmed cases of the Coronavirus in the United States, with none in NYS. That being the case, Coronavirus is a real threat and should be taken very seriously. However, as stated by the County Health Commissioner, through maintaining proper awareness, staying informed and taking proactive measures, like washing your hands frequently and vigorously for 20 seconds each time, you can significantly help to prevent yourself from infection.