



# **NEEDHAM PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION**



## **Update on COVID-19 From the Town of Needham and Needham Public Health**

March 30, 2020 – The Town of Needham and Needham Public Health today provided the following update regarding COVID-19.

### **State DPH COVID-19 Numbers**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is reporting that as of March 30, 2020 there are

- 5752 cases statewide
- 628 Norfolk County
- 56 deaths

It's important to remember that most people who are confirmed to have COVID-19 recover. For more state data, visit [www.mass.gov/coronavirus](http://www.mass.gov/coronavirus).

Town data is updated and publicly released each Tuesday. To find the most recent confirmed cases for Needham, visit [Past Daily Updates](#).

### **MBTA Update on The RIDE Paratransit Service**

The MBTA has announced temporary updates to the T's paratransit service, The RIDE, in a continuing effort to prioritize safety, protect the health and safety of the T's customers and workforce, and to preserve the continuity of transit services for those who must travel for purposes that are absolutely necessary. These temporary changes were made in consultation with The Riders' Transportation Access Group, the Boston Center for Independent Living, and the Massachusetts Senior Action Council.

Already in effect, unless otherwise noted, RIDE updates include the elimination of shared RIDE trips, temporarily extending RIDE eligibility and postponing eligibility appointments, adjustments to booking windows, updates to subscriptions, and a reduction in transfer trips.

Details on these changes can be found at [www.mbta.com/TheRide](http://www.mbta.com/TheRide).

### **Trader Joe's Helping Needham Seniors Get Needed Groceries**

Thank you to the wonderful team at Trader Joe's for helping our seniors in Needham. Last week, Trader Joe's packed 13 bags of groceries for older residents. The groceries were then delivered by our team from the Center at the Heights. If you are an older adult in Needham and are interested in signing up for this service or learning more about the Council on Aging can help you, please call us at 781-855-3629.

### **Community Council Providing Help for Families in Need**

The Community Council continues to assist families in need during the COVID-19 outbreak. Individuals or families who need food due to income changes should reach out to the Council; income certification has been put on hold until further notice. For residents who want to help, please note, the Council is not accepting any food donations to ensure the safety and health of Council employees, volunteers and clients. The Council is purchasing food in bulk and pre-packing boxes of food for distribution. Financial donations help the Council meet the need. Please note, all Council programs are on hold until further notice and the thrift shop is closed and not accepting donations. For more information on how you can help, visit the "how you can help" page: <http://needhamcommunitycouncil.org/how-can-you-help/>

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