For Immediate Release



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Positive COVID-19 Cases in East Hartford

(March 20, 2020) East Hartford, CT— As anticipated, we are beginning to receive confirmation from the Connecticut Department of Public Health of positive cases of COVID-19 among East Hartford residents. "Positive cases of COVID-19 in East Hartford have been expected as community transmission of the virus has been occurring in the area" said Jim Cordier, Health Director for the East Hartford Health Department. The East Hartford Health Department will work with the individuals to ensure all appropriate CDC guidance is followed to limit any potential for exposure to others.

The Town of East Hartford's main objective is to continue to keep residents safe and slow the spread of the virus. "The single best way to slow the spread is to practice social distancing, and the Town is recommending that all individuals both adults and children, stay home and not interact with individuals outside of the household" said Cordier. Social distancing is crucial in helping to reduce the spread of the virus and limit the number of people who are infected.

Everyone should be taking the everyday preventative actions to help protect themselves, these include:

- Staying home if you are sick except to get medical care
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Washing your hands with soap and water frequently and for at least 20 seconds
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands afterward
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces

COVID-19 is a Novel Coronavirus which first emerged in China in December 2019. Symptoms of the virus include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. For more information, resources, hotlines, testing, and how you can visit local businesses while practicing social distancing, please visit <u>www.easthartfordct.gov/covid-19-information</u> In addition, the Town of East Hartford will also share important information and updates on our Facebook account <u>Town of East Hartford, CT – Government</u>.