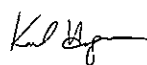

MEMORANDUM

TO: MAYOR JENSEN AND BOROUGH ASSEMBLY
FROM: KARL HAGERMAN, EOC INCIDENT COMMANDER 
SUBJECT: COMMUNITY RISK COMMUNICATION PLAN
DATE: 12/3/2020
CC: STEVE GIESBRECHT, BOROUGH MANAGER
DEBRA THOMPSON, BOROUGH CLERK

After much work to arrive at a COVID-19 community risk communication plan, the EOC is presenting the plan to the Assembly and public in draft form. The goal with making the plan available as a draft is so that the Assembly and public can take time to read the provisions, understand the indicators being used, ask questions about the plan and request improvements or clarifications in order for this to be an effective tool for the community. Once the EOC is satisfied that the plan has had adequate public review, it will be returned to the Assembly for final approval. It is a living document that may change when new information is gained or local, state or federal mandates are enacted or repealed.

Plan Purpose: As a COVID-19 based risk communication tool, the plan has incorporated applicable mandates as appropriate, but it is predominantly a community recommendation guide. As the risk levels rise and fall, each colored risk designation has general and detailed mitigations to be followed or considered by various groups in the community.

The Dashboard: The face of the plan is the dashboard. It will be accessed via the internet through the local Covid Information Hub, Borough website or PMC website and will have local COVID-19 data and risk level indications plainly stated and updated daily. There are embedded links in the dashboard so that someone can go to another page for additional information - such as the risk indicators, definitions of commonly used terms or more detailed mitigation information for each risk level. It is a very "hands on" type of dashboard that will provide the community with information, data, disease status and health care system status.

Multi-agency Plan Collaboration: It is important to note that both the school and hospital have their own internal risk mitigation plans with their own color-coded system. Facility specific risk level indicators will be clearly visible on the community dashboard and will link to the written plans/policies of both the school and hospital for anyone that would like additional information on those plans or policies.

Risk Level Decisions: An EOC committee will rely on the daily data updates and a core EOC group including the Incident Commander, Command Staff (Medical Officer, Public Information Officer, Safety Officer) and Section Chiefs (Operations, Medical, Planning, Finance, Logistics) to determine the appropriate risk level for the community.

Risk Level Stability: A "moderate" or "high" risk level within the community, once achieved, will remain at that level for a minimum of 7 days before being considered for reduction, based on improving situational risk indicators. This is a cautious approach and will prevent a situation where the risk level changes too often and creates confusion. With that being stated, the risk level may rise to a higher level at any time if risk indicators show a need to increase mitigation efforts and control the spread of the virus.

Mitigation Recommendations: There are recommended mitigation strategies for each risk level. Those recommendations include guidance on gatherings, personal social health measures, social distancing, essential business and government activities, travel, schools and non-essential business activities. The guidance allows our residents and businesses to have a frame of reference on the best practices for coronavirus mitigations, depending on the severity of the virus situation in Petersburg. The goal for all of Petersburg should be to keep our local risk assessment in the yellow as much as possible and to eventually get to green once the overarching risk to health care and wellbeing are no longer threatened by COVID-19.

Review Comments Welcomed: As a draft plan, I am requesting that the Assembly and public offer feedback at any time to make the plan better. The overriding goal of the plan is to communicate with the community about the status of the coronavirus and its impact on the healthcare system and our citizen's wellbeing. If we aren't communicating well, the plan is not working to its full potential.

Please forward any questions, comments or clarification requests to eoc@petersburgak.gov .

The dashboard and plan can be found at this link: [COVID-19 Dashboard v2 - Smartsheet.com](https://smartsheet.com/sheets/COVID-19-Dashboard-v2)

A screen shot of the dashboard is included in the Assembly packet for illustrative purposes.