



# City of Virginia Beach

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February 26, 2021

The Honorable Robert M. Dyer, Mayor  
and Members of City Council

**Subject: COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Brief**

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council:

We had another productive week at the Convention Center POD. We are able to supplement the volunteers with City staff. I am concerned about how long we will be able to retain the volunteers. The City is supplying upwards of 60 employees for each POD in support continuity of service and vaccine administration operations. The Virginia National Guard will be assisting with non-medical operations at the Convention Center starting on Monday, March 1, 2021. The City will be mentoring the Virginia National Guard in preparation for future medical countermeasures deployments across the state. The deployment is expected to last two weeks during which time Virginia National members will support staffing of the vaccination efforts.

The City and VBPHD will be conducting a health equity POD at New Hope Baptist Church on Saturday, February 27 with 300 confirmed appointments. The Virginia Beach Public Health Department is finalizing community vaccine plans.

The attached *COVID-19 Mass Vaccination Brief* details current mass vaccination operations in Virginia Beach. For reference, I have highlighted a few notable points below:

- A total of 81,399 vaccine doses have been administered in the City, and 25,122 people are fully vaccinated. Of the 81,399 vaccine doses administered in the City, 48,958 doses were administered through the City PODs.
- Over 82,000 people have signed up through the City's pre-registration portal.
- Medical staffing and vaccine availability remain limiting factors for the City's mass vaccination operations.

The City remains grateful of the efforts shown by all volunteers and City staff supporting this historic initiative. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Patrick A. Duhaney  
City Manager

Attachment (1)

## EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

February 26, 2021

Mass vaccination efforts for eligible 1B residents continue at the Virginia Beach Convention Center with City staff from across all departments being deployed to support vaccination efforts. This week 40-60 staff members per day were redeployed in support of Vaccinate Virginia Beach.

### OPERATIONS

- 81,399 vaccine doses have been provided in the City of Virginia Beach; approximately 48,958 have been administered locally through City-partnered Points of Distribution (POD) sites
- 56,277 (12.5% of City population) people have received their initial dose, are awaiting second
- 25,122 (5.6% of City population) people are fully vaccinated; 17,604 fully vaccinated through the City vaccination POD at the Convention Center
- Over 82,000 individuals have pre-registered through the Virginia Beach portal for the Virginia Department of Public Health phase 1B waitlist
- We expect to transition the pre-registration portal over to the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) pre-registration portal on March 1, 2021
- The Virginia National Guard is deploying 33 members to participate in Convention Center POD operations. The mission is to shadow operational staff to learn point of dispensing operations for future missions around the state. The mission also includes VNG integrating into our POD operations in support of non-medical job roles. The deployment is expected to last for 2 weeks
- The Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) is working with DCM Ken Chandler to establish a prioritization process for upcoming health equity vaccination sites
- There will be a Health Equity POD at New Hope Baptist Church in the Great Neck area on February 27, 2021. Appointments have been made for 300 community members and will be conducted between 9AM and 3 PM. Second vaccines will be administered March 27, 2021.
- Walmart Pharmacies is conducting a community vaccination POD at the Meyera Oberndorf Central Library on February 25, 26, & 27, 2021. The POD is expected to deliver 1200 vaccines over the three-day period. Vaccination appointments are being scheduled by the Virginia Department of Health using the pre-registration list.

### FEDERAL AND STATE UPDATES

- 1,193,349 first doses have been administered in Virginia (14% of the state population); 587,990 people are fully vaccinated
- 36 CVS Pharmacy Locations in Virginia, including one local in Virginia Beach, are offering vaccination services for people age 65+. This is a direct federal supply and separate from the State's vaccine allocations.
- FEMA has published guidance on public assistance reimbursement in support of vaccination related events.

## FOR WEEK OF 3/1 AND BEYOND

- 2 CLOSED (invite-only) PODs for Tier 1B on Monday, Tuesday from 8AM – 6PM
- 2 CLOSED (invite-only) PODs for Tier 1B on Wednesday, Thursday from 9AM – 4PM
- 5,000 first doses and 4,050 second doses available for next week’s events
- VBDPH and Vaccinate Virginia Beach planning staff are assessing local area needs to determine best placement of Health Equity PODs and will be scheduling additional community PODs moving forward.
- Vaccine supply is expected to increase in the coming weeks with continuation of shared supply strategies between the City of Virginia Beach and local healthcare agencies.

- Why the discrepancy between amount of vaccine we received and amount we planned to administer? (Doses were given to private practices and dialysis center)
- How was Virginia Beach impacted by weather across the country? (Shipments were late, VBDPH borrowed vaccine from Sentara for two days to avoid cancelling scheduled clinics – highlighting the close partnership between the organizations – and VBDPH returned the doses when the shipment arrived).
- How many private practices are receiving vaccines (about 10)

## JIC SUMMARY

The Joint Information Center continued to provide communications management for the preregistration portal and vaccination clinics, updating FAQs and responding to media and citizen inquiries.

- Facilitated media information requests and interviews, responded to citizen inquiries via social media and email
- Corrected a WNIS news report on vaccination scams that incorrectly stated no one will ever call to schedule a legitimate vaccination appointment. Explained that 311 is calling disconnected residents (no internet/mobile phone) to schedule appointments and sent tips on avoiding scams. They planned to air Thursday & Friday.
- Developed concepts and shot video footage for several videos we are producing to give viewers an inside look at the vaccine clinics – expected to begin airing the week of March 1.
- Continuing to update website and FAQs and providing updates to 3-1-1 and others to assist with responding to citizen inquiries.
- **ISSUES:**
  - Why more 2nd doses this week than 1st doses (because all the 2nd dose shots from 1st and 2nd week of opening of phase 1b are now due)

