



**Mayor**  
**Jerome A. Prince**  
City Of Gary, IN



**4-24-20**  
**City of Gary COVID-19 Update**

Greetings. This is Mayor Jerome A. Prince with the City of Gary COVID-19 update for Apr. 24, 2020.

We remain under Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb's Stay-At-Home order. We continue to support Gov. Holcomb's order, and we are closely monitoring all federal and state guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic.

Like the rest of you, we are awaiting Gov. Holcomb's next decision on the Stay-At-Home order. We have reason to believe the governor will gradually lift restrictions on businesses and travel.

We must remember each state may decide how they are going to handle their own travel and business restrictions. Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker has indicated Illinois will extend its Shelter-In-Place order through the month of May.

If that happens, we expect more people from Illinois will come into Northwest Indiana to shop and conduct other business. That will increase our chances of exposure to the COVID-19 virus, because we know Cook County, Illinois, is a hotspot for the virus.

We must continue our social distancing practices as more people travel across the state line into Indiana.

We are getting a clearer picture of how the COVID-19 disease is affecting our residents, thanks to information compiled by our statistician Martin Brown in the Gary Sanitary District:

- about one-third of our positive cases are in the 46404 zip code
- this area stretches from Grant St. on the east to Clark Road on the west and from the Indiana Toll Road on the north to the Grand Calumet River on the south
- We also know 60 percent of the positive cases in Gary are in the 40-year-old to 70-year-old age ranges.

Finally, we know about 51 percent of the positive COVID-19 cases are among women.

We have proof the COVID-19 virus is spreading across Gary. We can and must do more to be smart about containing this spread by avoiding in-person gatherings of more than 10 people and staying home as much as possible.

## **Updates**

# of Indiana residents COVID-19 tested:	75,553
# of Indiana residents COVID-19 positive:	13,680
# of Indiana COVID-19 related deaths:	741
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 tested:	6,797
# of Lake County residents COVID-19 positive:	1,445
# of Lake County COVID-19 related deaths:	63
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 tested:	1,436
# of Porter County residents COVID-19 positive:	204
# of Porter County COVID-19 related deaths:	5
# of Gary residents COVID-19 positive:	344
# of Gary COVID-19 related deaths:	11

## **Closing**

We are hearing more good new stories about our Gary residents.

Ms. Dorothy Hall works at the reception desk at the entrance to City Hall. At the end of March, Ms. Hall was diagnosed with the COVID-19 virus. She became extremely ill and spent weeks in the intensive care unit.

There was a moment when her family was told to consider making final arrangements.

But, with a strong resolve and many prayers from families and friends, Ms. Hall began making progress and getting better. According to her daughter, the family and even some of her health care providers are calling Ms. Hall's recovery a miracle.

Ms. Hall is scheduled to be released from a medical facility next week, and her family is planning a great celebration for her.

I wish Ms. Hall all the best in her recovery, and I'm excited to hear the great news.

I know we are asking a lot of our Gary residents, but it takes a community effort to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Please be calm and patient. Let's stick together and we will get through this together.

---