



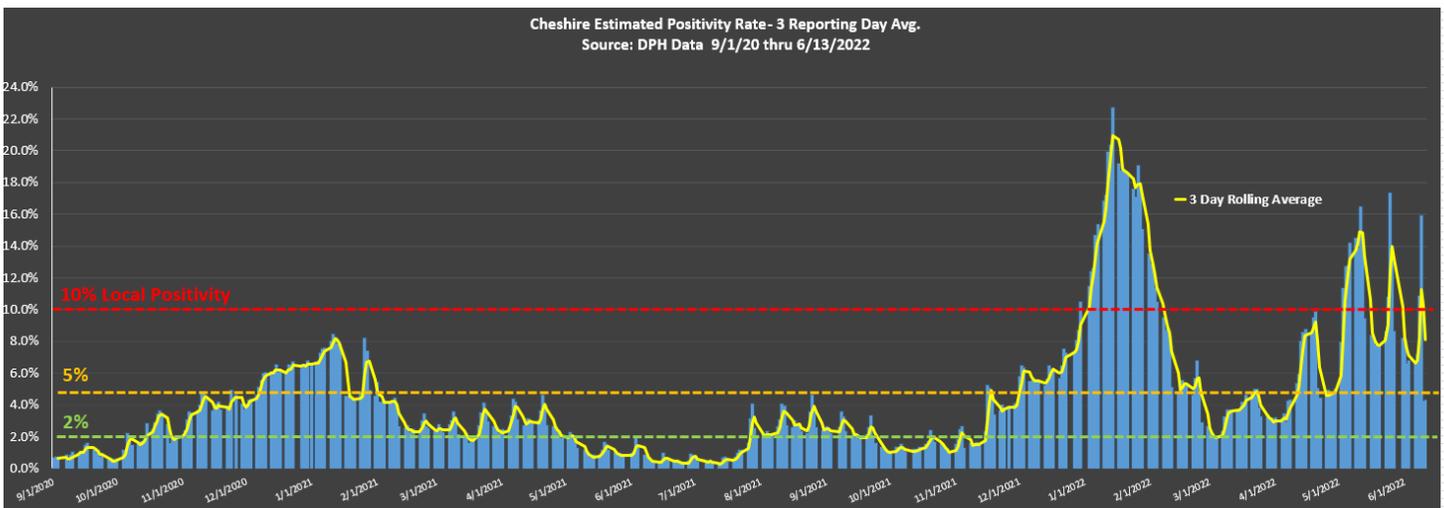
**TOWN OF CHESHIRE**  
**84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE, CT 06410**  
**Telephone (203) 271-6660 FAX (203) 271-6639**

**TO:** Town Council  
**FROM:** Sean M. Kimball, Town Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Town Manager’s Report – June 2022  
**DATE:** June 14, 2022

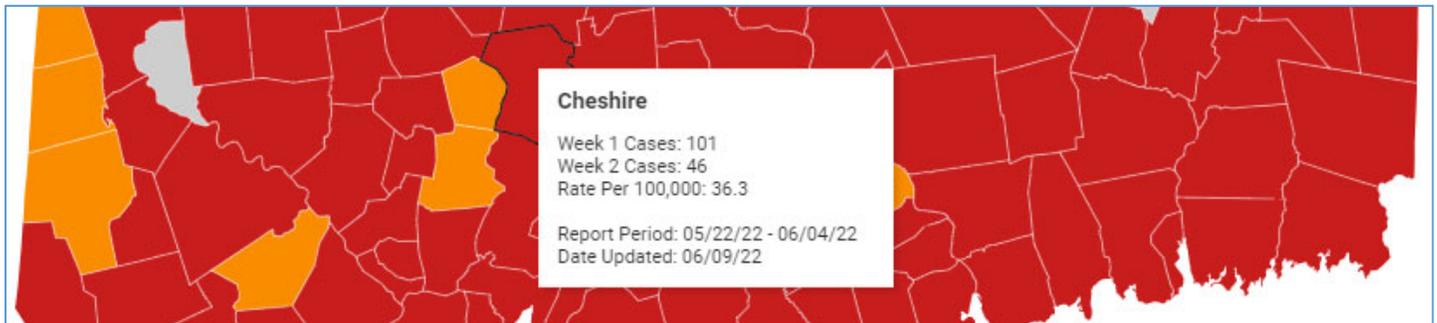
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**COVID-19 Pandemic Data**

Local COVID positivity rate data has been elevated at close to the same level as the Omicron variant surge this past winter, but also fluctuating significantly over the last few weeks. As was the case last month, the increased prevalence of at-home testing, the official reporting data we receive from DPH may be slightly skewed. However, the more-reliable statewide hospitalization numbers have been decreasing over the past few weeks. As of Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, Cheshire’s local estimated positivity rate stands at 4.2% (85 positives in Cheshire out of 2,011 tests and down from 14.5% last month). The rolling 3-day average of this reported metric (yellow line) is currently **8.1%** (down from 13.8% last month).



As of June 9<sup>th</sup>, local case rates in Cheshire have remained in the “Red” DPH alert level 36.3 daily cases per 100k population (up from 29.9 cases last month).



### **COVID-19 Test Kits Available for Residents to Pick Up:**

Free COVID-19 test kits remain available for Cheshire residents to pick up at both the Cheshire Public Library and Human Services Department during regular operating hours. Please bring proof of residency with you (i.e. driver's license, library card, etc.)

### **Chief Dryfe to be Appointed President of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association:**

Congratulations to Chief Neil Dryfe who will be sworn in this Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> as the next President of the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association for the 2022-2023 year. This is a very well-deserved honor but also a great opportunity for Chief Dryfe to represent and advocate on behalf of the profession and for legislation and policies that are in the best interest of communities like Cheshire.

### **PZC Adopted Affordable Housing Plan:**

On May 23<sup>rd</sup> the Planning and Zoning Commission adopted the Town of Cheshire's 2022-2027 Affordable Housing Plan in advance of the June 1<sup>st</sup> deadline as required by CT Public Act 17-170. The Affordable Housing Plan was shared previously with Town Council members and is available on the homepage of the Town website ([www.cheshirect.org](http://www.cheshirect.org)). The Affordable Housing Plan will serve as a supplemental addendum to the existing Plan of Conservation and Development, and is designed to articulate the community's specific efforts to increase the availability of affordable housing.

### **Cheshire Senior Center Wins National Award:**

The Cheshire Senior Center has been recognized nationally for its Nutritional Distribution Outreach program by the National Council on Aging. The program won Best Nutrition Program in the nation from the National Institute of Senior Centers (NISC). NISC's Program of Excellence Awards are designed to honor and promote outstanding efforts made by senior centers throughout the nation that offer innovative, creative and replicable programs for older adults.

### **Dog Licenses Now Available:**

As of June 1<sup>st</sup>, we are now in dog license season. For additional information on the process, fees, and required documents, please go to our Town website at:

[https://www.cheshirect.org/news/dog\\_licenses\\_available\\_june\\_1\\_2022](https://www.cheshirect.org/news/dog_licenses_available_june_1_2022)

### **Bartlem Beats Concerts Coming Soon:**

The Bartlem Beats Concerts will be starting up next month, and the four dates for 2022 have just been announced:

- Friday, July 22nd
- Friday, July 29
- Friday, August 5
- Friday, August 12

The shows on each of these dates will start at 7:00pm and rain dates for each will be the following Tuesday. Performers will be announced on the Parks and Recreation Department's website in the coming weeks.

### **Fire Department Receives New LED Light Tower:**

The Cheshire Fire Department recently took possession of a new LED light tower. This was acquired through the State of CT DEMHS regional grants.

### **Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall:**

The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall was in Cheshire from June 1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> at Bartlem Park and there were numerous events held during this time. Organizers estimated that close to 10,000 individuals visited the Wall during its time in Cheshire. We recognize and thank all of the individuals and organizations that supported this community event and whose efforts were integral in making it happen.

### **Town Facilities Closed Monday, June 20, 2022:**

Town facilities will be closed on Monday, June 20, 2022 in observance of Juneteenth. Please note that while the Town offices will be closed, the Cheshire Community Pool and various recreation sports clinics and lessons will remain open as scheduled. Additionally, there will not be a delay in trash and recycling collection.

### **Economic Development Update:**

- HOB Industries, Inc. acquired 25 Knotter Drive a 40,000 SF building on 7 Acres for \$2.1 million. HOB Industries will be consolidating operations currently in Wolcott and Waterbury into this new Cheshire location. They will be performing extensive renovations on the building and bringing upwards of 30 employees to the site. HOB Industries is a metals manufacturer and the largest producer of “wick clips” for candles.
- The first meeting of the Cheshire Manufacturer’s roundtable will be held on Thursday June 16<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. This will be the first in a series of quarterly meetings connecting local manufacturers ranging in size from small tool and die businesses to large international producers. Sean McKeown from Cheshire High School is part of the group and we believe this will lead to opportunities for our High School Students tracking for a career in manufacturing.
- Rebel Interactive will be cutting the ribbon on their new facility which is rapidly taking shape on West Main Street on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.
- The Town of Cheshire received its award for excellence in Economic Development & Land Use Planning at an event in New Haven on June 7th. We were in good company and one of only three gold level awardees.
- Lot 7 in the Stonebridge Crossing Development was recorded on the land records as closing for \$4.5 million.
- The BAR Planning Grant will be submitted on Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> for the West Main Street area.
- The Waverly building is finally available for long term leases after significant negotiation. The hope is to now be able to secure a restaurant and other businesses for this historic center.

**Upcoming Town Council & Committee Meetings:**

**Budget Committee Workshop (Full Town Council)**

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 6:00pm (Council Chambers, Town Hall)

**Town Council Special Meeting (Tentative)**

Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at 7:00pm (Council Chambers, Town Hall)

**Town Council Regular Meeting**

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 7:00pm (Council Chambers, Town Hall)