>>At this time, I will lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. To the Republic, for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all and now we will have the roll call. That will be starting with Doctor Lowry. Ms. Price. Ms. Wheeler. Ms. Denny's. Ms. Girtman. Mr. Johnson. Ed Kelley is also here. We have 100% attendance. We will go directly to public participation. Brian indicated there was no one there a couple of minutes ago. If there's no one there, Brian, we will go ahead and move into the first item of business today. That is to extend the local emergency related to the virus. This is the ninth extension. I need a motion to approve.

>>Motion to approve. Lowry.

>>Second by Johnson. Any discussion? Call to vote.

>>Yes.

>>And I also vote to approve. The motion passes unanimously. Want to bring something up. Since I've got to leave for the veteran’s event today, I would like for someone, if you feel inclined to, to make a motion that we cancel the special meeting that is scheduled for the 26th. I think that is the date. If we can get that done or if you want to think about it or whatever because I don't really feel we are going to need a special meeting before the June 2 meeting.

>>Agreed. I will make that motion.

>>Limit to cancel the special meeting scheduled for May 26.

>>Second, Wheeler.

>>Any discussion?

>>Discussion post.

>>Yes?

>>So we are canceling the meeting, but as you can see from today's agenda we have a lot to go over. This is a very evolving and fluid situation. So I am wondering why we are canceling it this far out.

>>There were several items added to this that would have been on the meeting next Tuesday that were put into this one. So we would've had something to do. Because the only thing we really had today was the one which could have been done earlier or I could've been done later, and that was to help the businesses get started back up. So you can see where the red lines that were added in, those were added to fill in spaces. They also would have been or could have been on the June 2 issue.

>>Johnson. Wouldn't it be possible if something came up that we could call an emergency meeting if we had to, could we not?

>>We can call an emergency meeting with 24 hours notice if we need an emergency meeting.

>>So we are not on the outs all the way. As it stands right now we don't have much going on. If something does happen we can always get it back agenda. I agree with the motion to cancel.

>>Absolutely. OK. We will call to vote. Mr Lowery.

>>Yes. Ms. post?

>>It looks like Barb is trying to speak.

>>I just wanted to ask if we kept the schedule as it is and decided we didn't need it, couldn't it be canceled?

>>No, because it would already be advertised.

>>OK.

>>We can do one without advertising if we need an emergency meeting with 24 hours notice. OK? I don't see any other cards waving. Ms. post?

>>Yes.

>>Ms. Wheeler?

>>Yes.

>>Ms. Denny's?

>>Yes.

>>Ms. Girtman?

>>Yes. Mr Johnson?

>>Yes.

>>And the chair votes also. So the meeting scheduled two weeks now on 26 May, the special meeting, is canceled. You will move into item 1A which is a request to apply for Homeland Security for a grant program to assist firefighters.

>>Good morning, and members of Council, this is a request to cancel to allow the fire rescue division to apply for assistance to firefighters grant for $265,000. It does require a 10% local match. We will use that for personal protective equipment.

>>Any questions of Mr Joseph Pozzo? Is there a motion to approve?

>>Motion to approve. Wheeler.

>>Did I hear Mr Johnson in their as a second?

>>I'll second it. Johnson.

>>Motion made. Wheeler second but Johnson to approve the request. Any discussion? Call to vote. Mr Larry.

>>Yes.

>>Ms. post.

>>Yes.

>>Ms. Wheeler.

>>Yes.

>>Ms. Denny's.

>>Yes.

>>Ms. Girtman.

>>Yes.

>>Mr Johnson.

>>Yes.

>>And Kelly votes also. Motion passes unanimously to request to Homeland Security for the $265,000 grant funding. Will move on to item 1B. Ryan.

>>Mr Chair, this is the Department of Health and Human Services CARES Act relief. We are accepting in this case here during $391,000 of relief funds for for public health services. Would like to ask for your approval and authorization to complete the required decisions that are required to accept the grant.

>>You have heard the issue. Is there a motion?

>>I will move. Girtman.

>>Motion to approve, Girtman.

>>Second, Denys.

>>Any further discussion? Call to vote. Ms. Wheeler, Denny's, Mr Johnson… And the chair votes affirmative as well. Ms. Wheeler, I see waving something. It is not something to speak, right? I just want you to know that I see. We will move on to item 1C for grant funds to be allocated for a fund of – George?

>>This is taking the CARES Act money that we received, $96 million, taking that money and moving it so that it can be spent. Of course we track separately. At this does allow staff to start releasing the money through the various programs, one of which will be talking about in a minute.

>>OK. Is there a motion to move the 96,000 from the grant funds to be able to move?

>>96 million, Ed.

>>George got me started on the 96,000. Sorry about that. 96 million. Motion made by post. Seconded by Wheeler. Any more discussion on this one?

>>Blame it on George.

>>It's OK. We are not used to seeing 96 million in one shot.

>>Ms. Post?

>>Ms. Wheeler?

>> Ms. Girtman? Mr Johnson?

>>The motion passes unanimously to allocate the grant funds, over 96 million. We will move to item D. This is the relaunch of Volusia Small Business Grants programs. I am guessing Helga or Rick or someone.

>>Rick is going to start about.

>>Rick Karl. Morning Mr Chair, members of the Council. Director of aviation and economic resources. I am here with Helga event Helga Van Eckert. We have changed this up. The purpose is to get this money out as soon as we can. To get the money circulating quickly is the goal. That will generate sales tax revenue and keep businesses alive and allow us to hopefully stay afloat and they will carry on and pay the property taxes. This is in the public interest. This is federal money. First use of the grant is $10 million. It is very important that we get aside as quickly as possible. I appreciate you convening this meeting so we can get this pushed out. Have got to say, this is a Herculean task. This is not just a program. This is a software program that was put together by Helga and the team, our IT folks, and this has been an amazing effort. This is incredibly completed effort. This organization has done an amazing job. Would like to bring up Helga to introduce the program.

>>Thank you. Good morning. I am just going to reiterate the amount of effort that has gone into this all of the departments within the county organization as well as our practitioners in each of the municipalities and our private sector partners. It has been a wonderful experience with everyone working together. There have been some modifications made to this grant based on the feedback we got from all of you last week as well as the feedback that we got from the county staff when it came to the implementation with the desire to focus on getting the dollars out quickly. Can I move this? Oh, here it is. Sorry.

OK. Great. So the major changes to this is the original grant was set up in a fashion that it was set up for dollars that would be spent for the businesses to reopen. What we garnered from it being out there with the community is that so much money has already been spent on doing improvements and getting their businesses ready for the reopening that we modified that criteria to be dollars it had already been spent. We simplified it making it a flat $3000 grant. So as long as a business has experienced a covid economic cost of $3000 or more they are qualified for this grant. There's other criteria. But that is the primary one. This will allow us to push the money out faster. It will allow us to do the review faster as well. And because of businesses that were working with her at various stages, some of them still have the original loss and others have unanticipated costs they incurred. Many of them didn't receive dollars from the PPE or the IDL, which was the basis for limiting it originally. These are all part of the reasons that we have decided to kind of open up the grant. However, there are specific criteria. They do need to be 25 employees or less. They have to be licensed to operate in the county as well as the municipality that they are in. Operations need to have been in place from December 2019. They should not have received any other grant or insurance funding that would cover the additional cost. They have two certified that they had a negative impact over 3000, as I said, they need to be brick and mortar within a commercial or industrial space and not a publicly traded or subsidiary of publicly traded company or a not-for-profit.

So these modifications have been put on so that we can still vett companies because as we said there are about 12,000 unknown county that will qualify for 25 or less. We have a $10 million allocation. So this will allow us to reach out to all the businesses, but the number of grants we can actually provide will be 3333. Part of the reason for doing this is once this grant has been completed it will allow us to take the data that we get from that, get the task force in the county back together and reevaluate with current needs are at that time and adjust to see how we can help going forward. The county is looking at things like bulk purchases for PPE equipment as well as other funding programs that may help not for profits.

But we believe that these modifications that have been made will allow for a good number of businesses to benefit as well as help them get started and provide us with the information we need from a long-term perspective to make sure that there is resiliency in the community. So I can answer any questions if anybody has any.

>>I think what you have done is you have simplified this. You heard what some people were saying at the last meeting that people are going to have a difficult time finding the money to get started back up with. This is the biggest thing that impacts them. We will go with Ms. Girtman first.

>>I'm just wondering, is there a marketing flyer and materials available right now to get out to the public to promote this?

>>So we are counting on the press releases that will, today and we're going to send things to our practitioners to help them spread the word. We can provide that to the Council as well.

>>Thank you.

>>Ms. Wheeler.

>>Thank you, Helga. Again, I just want to get clear, this 3000 is still not for revenue-generating loss, correct?

>>It can be.

>>I wanted to emphasize that because that was one of the big problems that we were having with it. The other thing is for the $3000, do they have to show receipts or anything like that? Or just show that they have had a revenue loss, which will be very easy for anyone to show?

>>They have to show the loss and certify that there was a loss of $3000 or greater.

>>OK. And then my third question is, you know, I am always looking to the loopholes of the people we are missing. There is a lot of nonprofits that are. Are we working on anything to assist in any of that way?

>>So right now this grant --

>>-- Or can we?

>>Right now this grant is not covering nonprofit. We are speaking with nonprofit entities. I believe the PPE equipment may be part of that.

>>Mr Chair, Suzanne Konchan. Can I speak to this?

>>Yes, Suzanne.

>>Thank you. Dona Butler will be up shortly as part of our update. The not-for-profit we see as a separate grant program both for health and human service nonprofits as well as others. We would like to handle them in a different funding format. We are working, were not prepared for your adoption on that this morning. We are rapidly working towards that end. There also exploring a program where the county could purchase in bulk personal protective equipment, masks, gloves, sanitizer, cleaner, Plexiglas, and distributed to both businesses and not-for-profit as 1/3 in separate grant program that we are also working on and in fact the business grant that you've heard about this morning is going to include a link to a survey to businesses so they can help share information back to us as to what their needs are with respect to equipment and other products that might be a part of that third program. So this particular program, we purposefully focused on those work and mortar businesses that are part of our nonresidential tax base that I believe counsel spoke about at your last meeting. And remember, this is round one. I think this can be a long fight to be a heavyweight champion here. We are excited to get this rolled out. I think we are moving to maybe making grant applications available before the end of business this week. Thank you.

>>Mr Chair, if I can just finish with my last. All I can do is just stress the urgency of getting that moving. What we have to call, and I know the Daytona chamber as a foundation that they are willing to have money put in and start collecting money for use throughout the entire county, so I think this is definitely a time for us all to move forward and setting up these programs to help these small businesses. It has to be our top priority, not missing any.

>>And I have already, after today's article in the paper have already received requests about where they can apply. It actually started after our meeting last week. People are saying, "When can I apply?" I am sure you have had increase as well. I don't believe there will be any problem of getting people to apply. We do want to make sure that everyone is made aware of it. We will have that, that will also be announced tomorrow at the 2 o'clock meeting as well as discussed on Thursday and Friday as well. So we will announce that on the Facebook live conferences that we have. We are not going to miss any opportunity. I am sure the newspaper will bring that up since they emphasized it in today's article. So that will help in that form. Does anyone want to make a motion on this?

>>Motion to approve.

>>Motion to approve, Wheeler.

>>Second, Post.

>>Second, Post. Any other discussion?

>>Yes, Mr Chair.

>>Yes?

>>What we have advertised, and what we have said is it is first-come, first-served. We have also put it out that the application will be live today.

>>The intent is for the application to be live Thursday at 9 AM.

>>I read that somewhere.

>>Approved today.

>>I have read previously it will become alive once Council approves it. So go time, I think that is going to be a critical piece. It is going to be Thursday at 9 AM. The application will be online and the link will be on our deck page. But we have a front-page or – limiting. Click on Volusia.org?

>>There will be a link from Volusia.org. The site that it is going to be put on is the Volusia business resource.com.

>>That is one the 90% of our small businesses will not know. That may be the site, but the link to it has got to be from Volusia.org because all of our small businesses and our citizens no Volusia.org. Maybe we just move it over to that one.

>>Have the link sent it to the other side.

>>We have to. You have to connect with this communication. Helga, isn't it Volusia business resources plural?

>>Just to your point, Ms. Deny's, we will make a link on the economic development webpage on Volusia.org that will rock the Volusia business resources.

>>I think you might want to look at our volusia.org deck.

>>Is such a big issue.

>>We can make a slider from the main page.

>>Here's the thing. We are really not relaunch Volusia. This relaunch Volusia should be primary focus when you go to Volusia.org. This should be the logo you see and click on our local or whatever and click through because we are adding too many layers to make a simple application. It has to be front-page and easy to navigate.

>>Will make it happen.

>>Anybody else? Mr Lowry? Ms. post? Ms. Wheeler can make is Danny's? Ms. Girtman? Mr Johnson? the chair votes affirmative as well. The motion passes unanimous. I am going to hand over the virtual gavel to Doctor Lowry and will maintain participation as long as I can as a member. Fred, it is all yours.

>>OK. I believe we are on 1E. I think Dona Butler will have the floor.

>>These are more CARES Act funding we are going to approve and apply and accept these rents. Go ahead.

>>Good morning Mr Chair, members of cancer. Dona Butler from community services. As just indicated, there are two resolutions that allow us to apply for the CARES Act funding for Votran. The first agenda item is 1E that is for funding 5311. It is little over one main dollars of CARES Act relief fund for Votran gold paratransit services. That is in the rural parts of Volusia County.

>>Alright. Let me say before we go any further, I cannot see everybody on my screen. So if people are wanting to comment, you may just have to jump in. We will try to keep it on target as much as possible. OK. We have a motion in regard to this gimmick

>>Motion to approve, Girtman.

>>Second, post. Can someone call Ed and tell him he is on the screen? I don't want to see where he goes next.

>>Tell he has a nice house.

>>OK. Any discussion? Alright. Call a vote. Let's see if I can remember the order here. I will have to leave myself last now. I will just go. I don't have the order written down here. Let me just go as I can. Wheeler.

>>Yes.

>>Girtman.

>>Yes.

>>Post.

>>Yes.

>>Johnson.

>>Denys.

>>Did I miss anyone?

>>Donna, you have the floor for 1F.

>>It is very summer, just a different grant fund. 5307 and CARES Act funding. It is proximate $21 million and it is for funding for Votran for operations.

>>Will make a motion to approve. Johnson.

>>Second. Wheeler.

>>Alright. Any discussion? Alright. We will call the vote. Wheeler?

>>Yes.

>>Girtman.

>>Yes.

>>Post.

>>Yes.

>>Johnson.

>>Yes.

>>Denys.

>>Yes.

>>Active chair Lowery also votes yes. This carried unanimously.

>>This item here we will go through our updates. I just want to say we have a flattened the curve as we were asked to do. You can see and we will go over any updates where we are with the cases. There are still issues that remain out there. I just want to caution everybody. The idea is we are going through a relaunch. We don't want any snafus as we go through that period. I just want to emphasize that. Everything is being done very cautiously. We have a great team here. They are very good at pointing out pitfalls and issues and how we overcome them. I want to thank everyone of them because every one of these areas as we open up has been well thought out. We continue to monitor the data. It is very important. We will take a look at some today. We will get started here with Joseph Pozzo and his emergency management team and public protection team.

>>Thank you, Mr Rectenwald. Good morning, Mr Pfister, members of Council. We'll go over the data with Florida Department of Health and our beach director will go over coastal and beach updates.

>>Good morning. Jim judge, emergency management division. We have two new testing sites we will be getting this week. The first is at University high school in Orange city. We selected that site in cooperation with Patricia Boswell. Looking at the current locations and where we felt the need would best be served. He worked very quickly with the school district and superintendent Fritz to get the necessary paperwork completed and up to the state of Florida. That will begin tomorrow morning at 9 AM. It is a drive through testing. There will be two lanes of testing. It will be the nasal swab type testing and the results will be within about seven days. In addition to that, and I know Ms. Girtman has worked on this as well, is the Midtown cultural and educational center in Daytona Beach. They are setting up right now, as a matter of fact, and we anticipate there will be up and running by Friday morning. And we've got some folks from the National Guard, nurses, logistics, coming in to get that up and running. And of course all of these sites are currently in operation around the Volusia.org/pin site. Continuation of coordination calls, literally every day of the week we have coordination calls with the cities and with public health, state division of emergency management, Florida Department of Public Health. So we continue to pass that information onto our community partners. We do have a congregate sheltering plan with the upcoming hurricane season. We have been working on this for a while. Your good to go with that, but we continue to follow the information coming out of FEMA and also with the Florida division of emergency management we do have staff that is participating in a working committee with both the Florida emergency preparedness association, Florida division of emergency management's we continue to tweak the plans as necessary but I think we're good to go even as we get into the hurricane season.

We do have a low-pressure area coming over the Bahamas this area. Not unusual for the season to start in May. He will continue to watch and pay attention to the weather as we get into the month of May here and on into arcane season. The Citizen information Center has been up and running now for a couple of months. But the calls are minimal. We feel that staff can adequately handle the calls. So Friday at 5 PM we will cancel the CIC and staff will handle those calls. I'll be happy to answer any questions or pass it on.

>>Jim, do you know the Midtown cultural education Center testing, is that nasal swab testing there, do you know by any chance what type?

>>George, I don't have that information. I reached out again this morning trying to get additional information. Ms. Girtman maybe has that information.

>>Ms. Girtman?

>>Thank you. My understanding is it will be the nasal swab.

>>It might be got on our site whenever we know what type it is to say because you have so many now. Nasal swab, the antibiotic, all these different types of tests so we know what they are.

>>Absolutely. He will get that.

>>There was a press release put out. Mr Judge, would you hold on one moment please? there was a press release put out by the city of Daytona, the mayor, and I saw a and I saw a Facebook post on it. But I wanted to ask about the hurricane shelters and will be the situation? Are we considering what that would look like a kind of the school board is involved in that somehow. How are we collaborating on the concern?

>>Yes, ma'am. You're working very closely with the school district. Obviously the schools the primary location for our shoulders. Right now the best criteria is approximately 112, 110 ft.² per person. So that is going to have us utilizing quite a few more schools than we would normally provide. But also we are educating public that as we always say throughout the hurricane seasons shelter is a location of last resort. It is the lifeboat, not the love boat. They're encouraging the public to make the preparedness plans now in preparation for the upcoming hurricane season. However, we do have the plan. We are working with the school district. Because we are going to need masks, hand sanitizer, handwashing stations, we are going to need to take temperatures. You're going to need to space out in the facilities as well as sleeping. So there is all of that going into place. Also the emergency operations center, making sure that we have those folks in the operations center during an event that we would need to have available. So working very well but also it goes to cleaning the restrooms and sterilizing every day twice a day in the schools. We want to get people and when they need to get in and get them out as quickly as we can post-storm. You are anticipating an above-average hurricane season. More information will be coming out later this month in the National Weather Service but already the University of Colorado is looking at 18 storms and nine hurricanes, four of which should be category four or greater. In a normal hurricane season it would be 12 name storms and six hurricanes three that would be category four or above. We continue to plan regardless of what the experts are telling us because that is what we have to do. We forgot about it. The school district is an incredible partner. It may also use the fairgrounds as one of our shelters as well, pet friendly, but then also the health department, partnering with them as we handle our special needs population in the special-needs shoulders. So lots of work being done.

>>One other question. I remember our last emergency hurricane. I visited shelters. There were no cots or any type of comfort provided. Is that something that we considered doing with any of our grants to be able to provide for some level that people are somewhere for a couple days to be able to provide something that can be disinfected but something that is usable?

>>Yes, ma'am. We do provide cots to our special needs clients. We do ask their caregivers to accompany them, but we do ask them to bring something to sleep on whether it is a portable lounge chair, their own type of cot or air mattress. That is typical for the other 66 counties do in the state. When it comes to general population shelters, again, we push a great deal of information. Again, the schools are a shelter of last resort. We do encourage them, again, to bring a book, a cot, a lounge chair, some extra personal items. They are going to a facility, they're going to get no proximate 110 ft.². What they do with that 110 ft.² is up to them to make it as comfortable as possible. Certainly we do have a great stock of cots working with the health department to get the special needs shelters.

>>Alright. Thank you.

>>Mr Chair, I would like to comment.

>>This is Ed. I am back by phone.

>>I recognize Mr Kelly. Go ahead.

>>I just want to let you know I am back on by telephone as opposed to video.

>>OK.

>>Mr Chair. Johnson. In reference to that, we are supposed to provide safety and security. We can't afford to supply all of the amenities of home. It is up to the people to bring some of their own stuff. We don't have the storage area or the money to keep up with all the stuff. Some of the stuff you may not use for some, eight, 10 years. And you have to store it. By the time you use it again some of it has gone bad. It is up to the people to bring what they need to sleep on. Actually, they're supposed to bring their own food, and they don't. It is up to the people to take up part of their own needs. A government just can't afford to take care of everything people want. So I say if they want a cot, bring a cot. If they want a mattress, bring a blowup mattress. That is up to them, not up to us.

>>Anyone else? Alright. Continue report.

>>Is to give a quick update of total numbers, and US there is over one main cases.

>>Can you identify yourself?

>>I'm sorry. This is (unknown term) with public protection. Sorry about that. 80,684 deaths and 9.3 million tests. In Florida there is 42,982 confirmed cases and 1735 deaths. 561,741 test was about 7.3% confirmation rate. In Volusia, and these are numbers as of this morning, there is 551 cases, 29 deaths and 13,282 tests, which is about a 4.1% confirmation rate. Again, we see a continued decline. The previous slide there showed Florida is a continued decline and then moving into Volusia County this one is including those cases from Tomoko. So we see those spikes and we see the case range there is up to 50 on the left-hand side. But even with those included cases from Tomoko, we saw a little bump up with that most recent day from Tomoko but overall a general decline. And then removing those cases from Tomoko, and as of this morning on the Florida Department of Corrections website, there's 132 inmates confirmed and still 19 staff. So when I exclude the cases from Tomoko I am only excluding those inmate cases because those are the ones we know are counted for Volusia County. So just so that is kind of clarified.

It is a little back-and-forth. If you look at this when we are on a continued decline or maybe a little bit just kind of a stagnant in the last few days. It should be noted, and some good news here is that since about May 3, I believe, we have had less than 10 new cases per day. So we are down to some pretty low numbers. Still some new cases being reported each day, but again, less than 10, really, since the second or third of May, excuse me. If we just look at the next slide, this is a couple days old because of the timing to get these together, but we do still see those high areas or Ormond Beach area and the 32124, which is where Tomoka is, and in the last couple of days there been a couple of ZIP Codes or maybe a case has been added here there. There are less than 10 new cases pretty. We continue to keep an eye on the new cases produced we can react accordingly. Questions?

>>Alright. That sounds great. Alright, I didn't hear any. We will move on.

>>Mr Chair. Hold on. Ms. Denny's.

>>Thank you. Thank you for that report. Since we talked about the increase at Tomoka, I have got to ask, we are still holding at the Volusia County jail we still have zero cases of covid reported?

>>To my knowledge.

>>Mr Joseph Pozzo?

>>Yes, ma'am. Joseph Pozzo. Public protection. As of this morning, zero cases reported at Volusia County branch Jail.

>>Are you testing at the jail?

>>They are testing those that meet the signs and symptoms that required to be tested.

>>So testing is occurring? It is not like you are ignoring it and saying there are zero cases? So what is interesting in speaking with the director Flowers before we went on here, before we started, and I know that our daily habitation rate is increasing, let's put it that way. He is still doing a great job because if you look at our Relaunch Volusia on page 48, even in the phases, he is still doing a 14 day quarantine for newly booked inmates, correct? So the processing protocols that have been implement our continuing? Again, congratulations to public protection. You are doing a great job. It has been outlined here that what is happening is not happening by accident. It is happening great leadership. I thank you for that. Again, as we are celebrating still zero cases at Volusia County Jail, keep up the great work. Thank you.

>>May I just make a comment to staff? I am getting tons of feedback when Ms. Denys was talking.

>>I got the same. Anyway. I could make it out though. OK. Any other comments? alright. Moving on, George.

>>The health apartment, Mrs Boswell. Go ahead.

>>Good morning, by story, members of the Council and staff. We are focused on our five steps. Social distancing and prevention is based on how easily a virus spreads from a person to person, which varies. This virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading very easily and sustainable between people. The best way to prevent the illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus by maintaining good social distance, about 6 feet, and that is very important if you want to prevent the spread of this.

We use the CDC clinical criteria for considering testing for COVID-19. Updated recommendations were made on May 3 for testing priorities. So beyond testing persons with symptoms, priority testing now includes persons without symptoms prioritized by the health department. In particular, we are focusing on testing vulnerable populations, the elderly and those with underlying medical condition such as high blood pressure, heart problems and diabetes. They are more likely to develop serious illness. It is important to continue offering testing and especially in communities where people live. We have been asked to assist the Florida division of emergency management at the two testing sites. Our staff will call each person with the results of the test.

These two sites are opening where we have a lot of are vulnerable residents living. The data that we collect will help us better understand that landscape of active cases in Volusia County. Testing, identifying cases and contacts to make sure they do not interact with others is critical to protect our communities from any further spread. Thank you. Any questions?

>>Any questions?

>>Mr Johnson.

>>Mr Johnson, recognized.

>>I have a comment to make. This is aimed at the state health department in Tallahassee. All through this thing we have been behind the eight ball. A lot of the reason is because we can't get the answers out of Tallahassee or because when the answers get here we are able to get them. This is a statewide problem, not just here. I have been in politics a long time and I have found that Tallahassee seems to have the idea that they don't have to answer to local governments or local people. It puts us behind the eight ball. The Florida Department of Health in Tallahassee has fallen right into the same scenario where we have been late on getting answers to our people, and it makes thousand the local health department look inept when the answers are there. Part of this falls on state statute when the health department needs to start working on changing this so this information can get out. The majority of information people want to get out is nothing that hurts a neighborhood or put somebody on the spot because they can't say where or when it is. I know there's questions been asked, and I know that the local health departments even had some pretty bad slaps put against them in the local newspaper because they didn't answer the question. It is because when they have a question, my understanding from asking around and looking around is that they have to send the question back to Tallahassee to get the answer they already know and the permission to let it out. That's puts our locals, all of us sitting up here and our local health department and a bad situation. We have to be able to let our local citizens know what is going on and the people who play by the rules and most people can't do anything different because it could mean their job. Some of us sitting in public service, what can I do? Spank us? They can get that information out, but it makes the local people look like they don't have a clue. This is something that has to change. Tallahassee has to turn around and say they can help our citizens and local health departments more. Some of these people have caught a lot of flak that they shouldn't have, and even we gave them flak because we haven't understood some of the issues going on.

Like I said, I talked to people in different places. This is not a Volusia County problem. This is a statewide problem that Tallahassee has to realize they have to give more latitude to local people to put out information that is readily available. Thank you.

>>Thank you, Mr Johnson. That is well said. Anyone else? Alright. He will continue on them.

>>Next up, Ray Manchester about the beach.

>>Good morning. Ray Manchester, beach services director. Last weekend, as you already know, we opened up a lot of the beach to on beach parking. This involved 14 different ramps ranging from Ormond all the way to new Smyrna. As you can see in front of you, we had some vehicle entries, nearly 6000 over the weekend, with 4300 on Saturday alone. Sunday the weather wasn't as good, so a little less on Sunday. To help space these vehicles out we kept them spaced out at 25 feet apart from each other with the installation of these blue utility markers that were installed by the vendor, by one of our vendors, in between the normal habitat conservation poles right there to maintain the 25 foot.

In addition to all that, that helps space all the cars out. That help spread out the people a little bit. I think this past weekend with not a lot of calls, emails or text or anything, it seemed like it worked pretty well. In addition to that, some of the additional county right away as were open for parking. Specifically lighthouse point Park answer Mona dunes were open to limited parking. In other words, the proper parking lots were open but we didn't allow them to jam up to and over capacity thing. In addition, the parks, restrooms and showers were all open last week also.

As far as beach safety is concerned, again, echoing over 6000 vehicle entries this past weekend. With the vehicles on the beach allow people to spread out. People had the ability to drive. Even though it wasn't open to driving, it was open to parking, people had the ability to drive and park as long as they parked in one of these posts or blue markers. We kept an eye on it with our drawing, which is one of these pictures here came from the drone. That is down in new Smyrna. Overall, again, it worked pretty well. As you know, in a couple weeks we have Memorial Day Weekend coming up. Which is our opening day for summer, as you will. We are making preparations for that internally with our lifeguards, staffing and whatnot. We are getting ready for it. Any questions?

>>Mr Chair? Thank you, Mr Manchester. A question I just asked about, are you testing our beach patrol for safety?

>>We are doing tests every morning. Yes.

>>Do you feel that they are in jeopardy coming how we put them at risk? Have you had any reported cases throughout all of this?

>>I have had no reported cases. As far as being in jeopardy, no. They have all been issued PPE. They've all been issued a variety of masks. Surgical masks, the USA masks they can wear on and off. We have established some protocol. As far as law enforcement, they have the option of wearing that as they feel that would help protect them. On the EMS side they obviously have PPE and proper protocol for that.

>>And our beach patrol is triple trained, correct? So they are triple trained to prepare for this. If you had somebody who felt that they were not comfortable in this position or exposed, would they have the opportunity to not serve or work in that position?

>>Absolutely.

>>And I am asking that because there is a messaging out there and I just had a couple more yet this morning that we are putting our lifeguards at risk by opening the beach and exposing them for unwarranted exposure. So I am asking you those questions because I think it is clear you are doing a good job, and we have put the same protocols in position for all of our employees no matter where they are. Whether it is here in the building, I have been observing that in my limited capacity through all of this, but those same protocols are in place to protect all of our employees.

>>Absolutely. I will acknowledge the with maintaining social distancing it actually has been busier. But we have bids and means that we can use to make sure that we protect ourselves first. It is all about our employees being protected in taking care of themselves.

>>Great. Thank you.

>>We are. We are using some different techniques a lot more, probably from the mobile PA system that we have. I think the people with this latest rollout have been very good to work with, for the most part. I do know we have given out over 1000 mornings. I saw that number dropped. Obviously there's less people out there to warn. It seems from the reports there was a higher level of cooperation we are getting out.

>>I didn't mention the wordings. It went from thousands to only a couple dozen or a few dozen this past weekend. Knock on wood, it seemed like it was working pretty well.

>>I think what we have done just in this last weekend, and it was a good soft rollout, we got lucky with, I think, the weather, but we reopened up 57% of the length of the drivable beach and what we were doing with the idea of getting people to spread out, use those markers. We continue to install them. I think by the end of this week we will have all the markers installed. We are using that asset. You're using that ability to have 40 miles of beach and encouraging people to spread out. We are using, I think, about a dozen electronic signs and every kind of media we can and continuing the messaging that if you come to the beach you may not get to the spot you normally like. If you are patient and are willing to move up and down the beach we can find a nice spot for you. I would encourage people to keep an eye on the tide, as they always showed, and work with us. If we do that I think we are providing a nice safe outlet.

I will say to our officers, they do a magnificent job and remember their eyes are really to be toward the ocean to help those people. So the more people cooperate, that helps. And also on the swimming side, to take a little bit of personal responsibility there. Don't put our people in a position to have to come get you. They're really good about whistling and getting you back to where you should be. If they pay attention and swim near a lifeguard we can have a good result all the way around where they don't have to go in and pull you out.

>>Right. We always report rescues and victims, but one thing I haven't reported publicly is preventative measures. And that is a number we capture from everyone of our lifeguards every day. That is a number that shows how many times they prevented somebody from potentially getting in trouble. That is a big number. Thank you.

>>Alright. Chair recognizes Mrs Girtman. I think you had a question.

>>Not a question. Just a statement. Just a thank you. I was out at the beach a couple days this week. What I witnessed was professionalism and the courtesy and people enjoying themselves and enjoying having the access. So I just think you for what you and your team are doing to help let people enjoy the beach and the environment. So thanks for all that you do.

>>Thank you.

>>Ms. Wheeler?

>>Thank you. I think I heard you say that they are going to expand this week the amount of the beach that is going to be open for the parking. Did I hear you say that?

>>We're looking at that. We want to make sure all the additional markers are in place first before we entertain that because it looks like it really helps out so far.

>>And what we are looking for, remember from last week, too, is that spread. So where you have potential crowding points, that may be a place we limit parking on the beach or parking in the lot near there. The whole idea is to get a balance, to get a picture similar to what we have here or other areas where, again, the social distancing is easy to achieve. Our goal is to continue as we get more polls and to be able to use more of the beach.

>> Does anyone else have a comment or question? Mr. Johnson your recognized.

>> I want to commend you -- commend you on what you all are doing. I've seen emails about people concerned about hers public safety. We all are. Public safety in all facets is different -- dangerous. Whether it's a fireman going to a burning building whether a policeman stopping a vehicle on a deserted roadway or whether it's our beach patrol working with this. There are inherent dangers you have to take on somewhat with public safety. I watch national media, local media and my emails. By far people want their freedoms back. We are a nation of rights. We can't take and shove everybody in the house. If you do you're going to have uprising which you can't blame the people for doing. I think you all are doing a good job of trying to take into everything in our power to keep people safe but we have to step out a little bit but public safety personnel understand these rights or these duties and so we are going to have some of these. I get the emails that say close the beach are going to kill everybody. And then I get emails that say if you don't open the beach we are going to kill everybody. It's a balance. I think we are doing the best we can and I think you are doing the best you can and we need to understand we are not going to make everybody happy. As for testing, it comes at many different levels. I have listened to many comments at the last few meetings of testing, no testing. There are different levels of testing. You start at the bottom with the symptoms. You start where you are testing people coming into the jail with temperature checks or if they are coughing. You may not have to go through the whole test. It may not show anything. I think you're doing as well as you can. You can have an outbreak tomorrow in that jail that will take it down. Those are one of the things that happens. I think you are doing a good job of doing everything in your power to keep it from happening. You all are commended on that. Sometimes the inevitable does happen but you've all done everything in your power and have done a great job to get this far with keeping it from happening.

>> OK. Anyone else? We will move to the next category.

>> The next up is community services. We will have Donna Butler come up and talk a little bit. There's quite a bit going on in that area.

>> Good morning again. Donna Butler community services. Want to give you a brief update on what we have been working on. We continue with our food bags from various sources of grant funds. Today we have given out 14,418. That is the food bags we have sponsored. There more be distributed throughout the county. Special interest is so food brings hope provided 500 bags. Sodexo order the food, brought in. There were volunteers that came and filled bags and then they distributed them at mainland high school. 340 families and 360 individuals served. They closed the gates early with 500 bags completely gone. This was enough to feed a family of four for a full week. Included cereal and they were able to get fresh fruits and vegetables. Cereal for everyone at breakfast in the morning. They did not always do that before in a normal bag. We determine what that cost is per bag and we are using as a model going forward to figure out what we might be able to distribute countywide. The anticipate trying to provide 800 bags this week.

We are working with the ocean center and their food distributors to see if we can purchase food to that then you as well. That we are hopefully going to start an actual site there were all food can be delivered to one location. Volunteers can come in. We can pay folks if needed to back all the food that would be distributed throughout the county and different nonprofits or churches could come and get the food that they need. Everyone would be getting close to the same package. There would not be the shopping of I will go to this place for the or this place for this kind. Here's a food bank you get for a family of four and if it is a family of six they get an extra bag.

We are doing a lot of surveys. We are trying to survey our nonprofits. Not just those that are essential human service agencies but also those nonprofits in the community that provide the arts environment, all sorts of different things they do within our community outside human services. Some surveys are going out the county government. Some are going through United Way. We are hoping to partner with United Way because we cannot all do it here -- do it all here. They could maybe be an arm that could handle some of the grant working under the auspices of the county with our guidelines approved by you all first. We are asking nonprofit organizations what their needs are. Do they need operating from increased services or decreased revenue. Do they need PPE and other supplies to reopen? Those are the types of questions we are asking and we are interested to hear what they have to say.

Our programs will be developed. Some will be direct and others as I said will be managed by United Way. Community systems. These are the programs going on right now. Our rental application process continues to grow. We had 735 uploads. 261 are ineligible. 474 to be processed and we are close to being 25 being assisted. We have added for caseworkers for this program to make sure we can move it through its comprehensive program.

Mortgage assistance. Very excited to announce that, sorry I have new data here fresh this morning. We open the application portal yesterday morning and as of this morning we have 115 applications that are already put in order and ready for review. 20% of those should move quickly through the system. This is in a program with the rental program but it's mortgage and said. If anyone is listening online you can go to Volusia.org/c 19 MA. That is the mortgage assistance portal.

>> Mr. Chair? If I can have some discussion on that before we move on. Donna, so we are talking about the rental assistance and mortgage assistance programs. I know we were using some of our funds for that. That has a very extensive application process and when we finish using those funds up we can move on to COVID funds? How near are we to that, do you have any idea?

>> I don't. I can find out. We are not near yet. We have multiple sources of funding that go into that. We have a ways to go even if we do utilize all of the CDBG we can't use the Corona funds in other locations unless they have used all of their CDBG funds.

>> Or Daytona Beach? Correct. So all of the other areas outside of Daytona and Deltona what I am looking at is I've had quite extensive discussion about streamlining the process a little bit making it a little easier. I know it is a very extensive process that we have and application to get the rental and mortgage assistance and we have people that first started battling this the beginning of February and now we are going – we are coming to the end of May so we have a lot of people that are struggling. So 2 sides to that. What are we doing to streamline this process and application? On the other end of that if we can also talk about we are hitting the people who typically have resources in funds available to them so the poverty level. If we can move up a little bit up into the middle class because what's the saying about the middle class? You to rich to be poor but too poor to be rich. It's that middle-class who are additionally unemployed and having problems right now and it is them especially that normally don't get additional resources that we want to be sure do not fall into the poverty level. So can we start looking at the income level?

>> Let's address the streamlining first. For the rental assistance program that is funded through CDBG, ESG and ship, we are required to ask for the information. So some of the information we are asking for an it seems arduous but there are six months of past bank statements. Was people can access that online because they have online banking. All they have to do is download it and email it to us.

We ask for things like birth certificates and Social Security numbers. We have to have that information. If we don't ask for those things that we could have to repay the money out of her own general fund. We are really working with them to help them understand where they could go to get that information but if we don't have that information we can't process their file. So I get that it's arduous and we try to assist them which is what we have hired so many caseworkers so we have more people getting on the phone with them helping them to understand where they can go to access some of those pieces of information.

>> Let me combine the two then. That specifically relates to poverty level, right?, Or near poverty level. Looking at the income that are provided. I'm wondering is can we create a program that is specifically for higher income. So middle-class residents who desperately need of these kind of funds can we initiate a second rental assistance, mortgage assistance program for them and specifically using the COVID funds?

>> I don't know. I'm not prepared to answer that on the spot. We can definitely look into it. I would be happy to share the income levels that we are currently using. There actually much higher than we normally use. I believe they have raised income guidelines to, I believe 200%. I don't want to say the percentage I could be wrong. It significantly higher than it normally is but it's only taking into account – any normal situation when someone comes and applies for assistance to community assistance whether it's emergency, rent, utility or mortgage we look at everyone's income for the past six months and that is how we determine their eligibility based on income. We do need to know the past six months now but we also take into account because they are also providing some sort of documentation that they have applied for assistance for their unemployment or they have a letter from their employer saying yes you have been terminated or furloughed due to X, Y, Z happening with COVID.

>> These are all of the guidelines we have been using in the past, right?

>> What I'm saying --

>> What I would like to ask of counsel fees at the guidelines we have used in the past due to all the guidelines that come down to the federal government -- that we have had to adhere to for COVID-19 we don't have those guidelines and we are able to use these monies more freely would've liked us councils if we can entertain the idea of having community assistance come back to us with a suggestion of some sort of program that we could provide to a higher level income because what I'm looking at if we have two people who live in the household so no kids. They are active members of the community, they are putting money back into the community. If only one of them loses their job -- if no one is making 50,000 which is a decent income certainly that is a huge hit, right?

They don't have those funds to pay the rent for the mortgage.

>> So currently. In the new program

>> I don't want them to be put down into the lower income.

>> If two people together made $100,000 and one was 40 and one was 60 and the $60,000 person lost their job that is taken into consideration. We want to see that they previously had that income another bank statement which of them not getting paid. That is why we need those bank statements.

>> I'm not asking about those bank statements. I'm asking counsel if we can have you come back looking at a slightly higher income to where we can specifically look at COVID funds, not the CDBG funds, not the poverty level funds but specifically looking at thinking outside the box and coming back with the new program specifically related to our middle-class because again it's those families that we don't want to fall into the poverty level income and right now there are no jobs for them to get.

If we could just have you come back counsel?

>> Yeah, if I hear from the Council. The other thing to remember we are doing they are serving the community just for these types of things. If it is the will of the Council as well we will take a look at that. There is some stuff we have to look at. I have to get with Ryan a little bit as well. You do have to have some of this data communitywide to establish and need and is part of the process. But I do believe you are correct and we have talked about it. I think there is a gap and that is what we are looking for now as we put these things out are gaps. One of them is exactly as you describe. I have young people I know just starting out, bought a house, get furloughed, and there they are. We want them to succeed so we can help out and this program be viewed in the federal guidelines counsel would like us to be looking at that, I would certainly entertain that.

Like a lot of these and you can talk to Rick and the gang, the devil is down in the detail. We try to make it as simple as possible. There is no doubt, you know, sometimes it's harder -- hard on the applicant but it is taxpayer money and so we do have to really be careful and do the best we can and I think like in this business program we work very hard to stream it down to get something people could get out easily and we will look and see what we can do on any other programs like this.

>> It's the segment of the population – this isn't available to this segment at this point. I would, is counsel an agreement to have staff at least come back so we can have future discussion on it?

>> Let me just ask is there any councilmembers that would oppose that research? Hearing none I would assume that is the direction given to all to look at that. Ms. Girtman?

>> I was just going to support the effort but you may easy.

>> OK.

>> So Mr. Chair, yes recognize counsel is Dennis -- Ms. Denys.

>> To that end we would call that the forgotten middle. That is where we are in this particular classification. They are just above that threshold. They may not fit in that category. But again our parameters are with the federal guidelines. Can we bypass all those requirements like CDBG and ship? Can we jump ahead of that with the COVID dollars?

>> I will do some research. (inaudible) under the rental assistance program we plan to use Corona County dollars for the mortgage program which does give us some flexibility but we have not change the income guidelines. I would like to do some research to find out if other communities are doing it and also if there -- I just would like to do more research. I feel like I'm jumping into a pool and I don't have my lifejacket.

>> It's not even Ryan I'm concerned about legal two. Our attorney down there is probably looking at federal guidelines and trying to defend anything we choose to do arguing the community. I understand. As you should. You had so many opportunities and options don't you to try and serve our constituents and the citizens but I think serving the forgotten middle in this financial position is economic stimulus. We are putting money back into the community and money in motion and will serve that segment of our citizens.

So we can make it work absolutely we will support that.

>> All right anyone else? OK. Continue on Donna please.

>> I have Brad here to tell us what is going on at the fairgrounds.

>> Thank you, Donna. Good afternoon councilmembers. I wanted to give you a quick update at our testing site at the fairgrounds. You know we have contracted with family health service through May 22. At this point time they have not requested an extension of that contract. They do seem to be slowing down a little bit. They had 411 people get tested yesterday. That will add to this total which I presented yesterday. As of right now we have tested 2480 people since they have opened. To answer Ms. Girtman's question I went back and got more information last week on what test they are using. There using serology labs. I also asked about the efficacy of those labs. I triangulated the data they gave me with their emergency authorization approval that they submitted to the FDA and 94 and 95% respectively is the accuracy of the test they are using.

They have done some process improvements as I said. One day last week they tested over 800 people without turning anyone away. Only give a shout out to the true public private partnership. Farm Bureau has been helpful in allowing them to use extra tables. The fair has been accommodating to ice down waters of people waiting in the course for long hours.

I know some of you are getting questions about the farmers market and we have worked with the county attorney team to get an answer this morning that we are going to have the farmers market in an outside capacity, no inside. Move it a little further away from where it is now still on the fairgrounds to ensure we can keep people at a safe distance but we are going to come back on the 20th next Wednesday with the farmers market at the fairgrounds. Is there any questions?

>> All right, continuing on.

>> Library services we are told you last week we would start public access computer use. We started May 4. It was by appointment only in one hour time limit. We had nine locations and 30 computers available. We had 148 computer users. Our staff is there to assist with any kind of government applications they might have to get them moving to processes that might have been difficult without computer access.

VoTran the week of May 3 we were higher in our fixed route ridership. To answer a question from last week for Ms. Girtman, Votran has hand sanitizer on all revenue vehicles at this time. We are working to find facemask dispensers on each bus.

>> George next category.

>> Next up is community information. Kevin is going to talk about what we have been doing and I do have a question.

>> Thank you Mr. Recktenwald. Kevin Captain interim community information director. Since we started the COVID-19 community information efforts March 9 was the first news release, March 13 was the first conference. You can see we have done 82 news releases, 52 conferences, multiple Facebook discussions, a dozen PIO pin calls in over 200,000 reached participants on Facebook. We are definitely trying to get our reach out. This last Friday we had a special guest from Halifax health. He talked a lot about physical and mental wellness and that is still available on the Facebook page.

I want to give a shout out to both hospital systems. Advent health and Halifax health. They have consistently assisted us with our briefings, panel discussions and aside from that they've been great resources to us personally and professionally. Doctor Jo Smith from Advent and Doctor Margaret Crossman from Halifax health have been truly wonderful to work with.

Also as we have discussed we are changing the platform of Volusia magazine in Volusia today. This opportunity has allowed us to reinvent ourselves. With the Volusia Today program this morning was Mark Spivy who talked a lot about... The outrage with the medical community has been wonderful. We are proud of that. I also want to bring to your attention Ms. Denys you had a request in the last meeting this mission of good news, positive stories.

Will need that positivity during this pandemic. We are about ready to turn this on. There are a few other formatting issues we are going to do with it and then we are compiling methods of what we are going to do the information in the could be positive stories we put on social, so who knows. The sky is the limit. It is in process. Also to follow up on Ms. Girtman's request on flyers for the vulnerable population. Community information specialists is working on those initiatives available shortly.

>> I just talked to the Chair before the meeting and he did want me to bring up to counsel the idea that, you know, we are out there every day on this Facebook live and we may want to look at next week or the week after starting a scale-back. We are having trouble having interest from guest speakers in such. We will keep you posted on that. I believe we have learned so much in this process and all the work that Kevin and his team have done will move us forward beyond this event as far as getting information and the things we are doing. I think we really raised our game and my intent is to keep it up there.

>> Thank you Mr. Recktenwald. All busy, it has been a great opportunity for us to reinvent ourselves. Thank you.

>> Any input from other councilmembers? We will move on to the next category.

>> Ryan is going to come up and talk a little bit about information technology. It is been the backbone of a lot of what we have been doing and certainly again this is something that is changed us forever and you will be seen that as we go forward and we will probably be talking about it at budget time as well.

>> Good morning vice chair and counsel. In addition to the efforts are reported on from IT the last time about the virtual meeting we are in now and go to meeting across the county, we've got some new things -- additional things to report on. We have now assisted in combination with IT and corrections moving virtual first appearances for inmates using Zoom. A trio of GIS efforts, updating information on shelters and healthcare facilities. Making sure it's in advance of her working season and all information is up-to-date for shelters and also for healthcare facilities. That information is available in the GIS system as well for the emergency manager.

We work with our GIS contractor. They provided us some software licenses that we have forwarded on to the school board for use in their STEM program in home schooling. Lastly, we volunteered staff time to assist, there is a comprehensive map that are GIS provider has for COVID testing centers and IT has been providing updates for the Volusia County part of that so that system can stay whole. I'm going to send that email address out to all of counsel, the web address so you know the system is.

>> Very good. Any questions.

>> Any comments or questions from counsel? All right. All quiet on the Western front. Thank you Ryan. Next category.

>> Next is our relaunch. What we are doing here and of course you got a flavor of it from the various reports. I'm going to turn it over to Suzanne who has worked tirelessly with our department heads to make sure this is a coordinated effort and also we have shared every bit of it with the city's as we have gone in there welcome to use any portion thereof and welcome that coordination. It is really been a great effort.

We continue to talk with them three mornings a week.

>> Thank you, George. Good morning counsel. I'm not going to go over the details I shared with you last week. We did provide you just prior to last week's meeting with the then current draft. This document the draft watermark has been removed. It has been updated since the version that you received a week ago yesterday but not significantly.

I would point out for example starting on page 70 we have narrative about the pandemic. We have been, as many local governments in the national government, have been following the Institute for health metrics and evaluation data and predictions. They changed a week ago the methodology they were using in predicting future needs in terms of hospital resources, ventilators and projected deaths. So we modified our narrative to the new formatting that that IHME had shifted to. I will note they update their statistics on a regular basis and the version in our document this morning was current as of about six days ago. It is not current this morning.

They have actually revised the projections of Florida deaths since this document was published but there is just not going to be a way for us to have a living breathing document. This will serve as our platform and foundation as we operate County services and already we have had some fluid changes as I suggested last week this document does break into three categories or phases series of operations, however, we learned for example on the beaches that we wanted to move some of the phase 2 to phase 1. We reopen the bathrooms and we did introduce partially beach parking last weekend. I believe this document will live on our website and live within the organization as a guide.

It will be adjusted as circumstances warrant as counsel directives changing as the county manager and his team make decisions at the appropriate time. Is Mr. Recktenwald mentioned a couple seconds ago we are coordinating three days a week with the city managers and yesterday morning the discussion was to try to coordinate the reopening of administration buildings, city halls, town halls for us, the Tom C. Kelly administration building in our other offices to the public. It was the general consensus of that group yesterday that June 1 would be a coordinated target for reopening the doors so to speak. Give everyone time to install sneeze guards, the Plexiglas barriers in appropriate places to have four markings for people to spacelike you might see at your grocery stores and other retail environments.

I was watching television this weekend and sell the banner on the screen. It said Bravard open County offices and then it went on to say for appointments only. It served as a reminder for me that Volusia County has been a leader in our area for keeping services open. We continuously serve our public inside the building by appointment even though we did not always have free flowing public access. We are very committed to that. The libraries are looking at opening dates along with our other facilities and I predict that we will be doing weekly updates to counsel or biweekly how often necessary at your meetings and more regularly on our website so people can see the shift in operational plans.

If there is no further comment from counsel this will be the document you will see as part of that front webpage link. We will have the graphic from the front of this document, it will be another resource for the community to understand how we are operating during this event.

>> OK. Thank you very much. Any comment from counsel? Ms. Wheeler?

>> Suzanne I am curious you said there was an update today on the I guess it was the deaths? Was that increase or decrease?

>> It wasn't increase Ms. Wheeler. The current IHME projections for Florida is 5440 cumulative deaths over the course of the event. That is a predictive model. We will know in hindsight how accurate it is. The website indicates they are modifying their projections based on increased mobility within communities, reopening of businesses and government offices.

In fact their peak day for deaths in Florida has moved into our future rather than our past. Just something for us, in my opinion, to be cognizant of. We talked about personal responsibility, wearing masks, social distancing and I think that will help us all remain safe, safer.

>> I still have further question. Suzanne, you said they moved our peak? Correct?

>> For the state of Florida, yes ma'am.

>> One of the things I want to say yesterday I was listening to our televised community awareness event with the doctor and he was talking about the blooms or the bursts and he said you have to understand we are going to have bursts of this coming back and resurrecting but it's how we handle ourselves now and still remaining to wear the masks in all the protected things we need to be doing will expand – will increase our odds for being able to mitigate properly. But we are going to have bursts and so people have to understand we are still in this and into we have a vaccine we are going to have these bursts. I will be anxious after this we can in the amount of tourists that are here in the hotels -- I will be anxious to see if we have climbs in 14 days.

I just keep pushing to everyone as I wanted to restaurants this week. One of them was absolutely fantastic on everything they did from paper menus to masks to gloves to distancing. I felt totally safe and I went to one yesterday with my son and I was ready to walk out. There was no social distancing. The bar area was shoulder to shoulder. The people were jampacked in there. Nobody was wearing a mask. I made up my mind I will not be back there. People, it still here we are going to have bursts that are going to happen because as we open the floodgates it's going to happen.

>> I think it's a good way to handle people when they see stuff like that to make it known, make it known to the manager. Think people should want to eat in a safe place. We are trying to work with businesses the best we can. We can't be everywhere. But I feel the same way. When you see a place that is being safe and doing the right thing, I think they should be rewarded with our business and if they are not then I think people should look at a safe place to go eat.

>> Thanks Ms. Wheeler. Anyone else?

>> Mr. Chair?

>> Yes Ms. Denys.

>> Regarding this relaunch Volusia document, what an amazing work you have accomplished to all the staff because you are doing this in a regular day-to-day basis of everything else you are dealing with. I know you're putting in a lot of hours. My concern is to make sure that you are OK. Is a mixture of Mr. Recktenwald is still laughing at something he is OK. It's kinda like a litmus test for the manager.

>> Or just go over the edge and keep laughing.

>> We can do that too. But everything in here, all the departments, the timeline in the front, the summary, the table of contents, this is up online or will be? So for anyone listening want to take a look at Relaunch Lucia please click on Volusia.org and look at this document. I believe Volusia County we have served our citizens and been ahead of the curve either constricting, restricting or open up at the same time in serve the citizens demands in needs. We have been ahead of it.

>> Thank you Ms. Denys and we have a great staff. And the idea of keeping it out there is driven to what Ms. Wheeler said. We are going to have blooms, things are going to happen. When we have this plan we can go back and forth with the phases if we need to.

Also I welcome the public to take a look as they are looking at maybe what they are doing if they want to be ahead of the curve themselves on various business plans. It is certainly there for everybody to use as well. Again it is very fluid. It will be with us for a while and how we handle these blooms or these outbreaks I think will determine our success going forward.

>> Anyone else? Ms. Denys were you done? I am assuming that as a yes.

>> Yes, sir. Thank you.

>> Let's move on. Thank you. We are two comments then, is that we are at? I believe I have the proper order to go by. This is Council member comments regarding COVID-19 related matters. If you have other matters I would say save those for next Tuesday at a regular Council meeting. Ms. Post you have anything to add?

>> I don't other than very excited about looking into any kind of relief we can do for the middle class segment.

>> Well said. Ms. Wheeler?

>> I have no comments. I do have one question and it's not on COVID but I kind of need to know this. In September are dates that are on our calendar for Council meetings are the second and fourth instead of the first and third, is that by accident or was there a plan that I have forgotten about?

>> I think it is tax related but I will ask George on that.

>> I will have to check. But the ones in September are set such we can have our budget hearings. I will find out the nice thing is we have plenty of time but I think they are set up around that.

>> I would like to know as soon as possible only because I have a trip that I would like to do somewhere along my life and that happened to fall on that period of time.

>> And there is also the school board we have to work around which I think is a priority. We will work on that and find out.

>> OK. Ms. Denys?

>> I guess you could call this COVID related. I wanted to thank the Senator for funding and purchasing pieces from Giuseppe's it again and delivering them to AdVent health in New Smyrna. I had the honor to be there and help serve staff this past week for nurses week for COVID. It's great being out in the community and everyone who loves our community and supporting all of our first responders. It was a good day.

>> OK. Ms. Girtman?

>> Thank you Vice Chair. Two things. One, I wanted to say a special thanks to our beach safety, public protection and emergency management team for the hard work they have done. I think it really shows through all the efforts. The other is I was contacted during the past week from some of the leadership within the Volusia NAACP units. The East side, the West side and we have been working to get that testing focused on the community. I want to thank Holly Smith and Representative David Santiago will work toward. I know there are other efforts in place. I think we were able to bring more resources to the community then were anticipated. I think it goes back to where we talk about the need for better coordination and I understand it's different state units that approached this so just wish it could be coordinated a little better but again if we get more resources in our community and are able to target the minority population especially because we know when we look nationally like communities have been affected greater and perhaps it's because they are on the front line of many of the jobs and positions. Perhaps it's more the density, whatever those issues are to be able to get in front of them and have us get better data to better understand the impact on that community I think it's going to matter.

I've also heard that some of the symptoms are not the same, the fever the lack of taste and smell may not be the same in this community as it has been a known symptom and others. I think again just trying to wrap our head around the differences within this COVID-19 impact on varying communities I think these tests that will bring into the community will make a difference and I'm grateful we are able to help in any way that we can and thanks for that.

There will be a press release and further information out on Facebook and I'm sure it will also be posted on Volusia.org.

>> Thank you. Mr. Johnson do you have anything for us?

>> No comment.

>> George do you have anything that you need to add to us?

>> Not at this time. I will get the answer, or I think I have it, but I will talk to Ms. Wheeler off-line once I get it confirmed. Again I just want to thank everybody for putting this briefing together. And I do appreciate in addition to all we do we are doing all this as well and if you need to remember we are having ammendment 10 that we need to work fill in meetings on that.

And we do have many other issues that still go on. My hats off to staff that continues to march on right on through this pandemic.

>> OK. Mr. Dyer do you have anything to add?

>> No, sir.

>> I want to make a couple comments and then we will head out. Super congratulations to Doctor Flowers. I continue to be amazed at the work being done there. Also George I think something was communicated to me that we are not going to be doing the daily briefings now. You're going to do them as needed, is that correct?

>> We are going to look at putting that back a little bit. Like I said, I don't want to go too far because I do like the present we now have. We are starting to search for material and we will look at maybe the right number or to a little bit more of an as needed basis. I want to continue certainly some of these health issues that are coming up with the hospital's and remember and business related issues. I'm sure with the grant programs and things we are rolling out there will be a lot of material surrounding those programs. That will become the focus of some of these briefings. A little less on counting the amount.

>> Ms. Wheeler do you have something you want to add?

>> Yeah, I was looking at my calendar and I thought we should announce we do have community discussions this afternoon. George you might want to make mention.

>> That's a great point. It's a little bit off the COVID part that we do have, because of the COVID and not having some of our normal listening sessions we do have sessions going on this afternoon at 1 o'clock over at the historic Courthouse where we will be listening about, excuse me, not echo but the comprehensive plan element changes, conservation and also the overlay. Those items that there was concerned there was not enough public input, we are having a session over there today at the historic Courthouse. Suzanne has something to add to that.

>> And then just I believe it is 1:30 p.m. we will be on the comprehensive plan amendments to the conservation element and 3:30 p.m. on the commercial space industry opportunity overlay. Both of those are being held via go to webinar. If anyone has any questions they should be able to get that on our website or through our planning office. I am looking for a phone number you can call 736-5959 if you would like more information.

>> I want to echo my colleagues comments about the relaunch. When I look at the thoroughness of implement in phases one, two, three. Congratulations and kudos to the staff and the tremendous job they done there. That there is nothing else we will be officially turned at 11:50.

Have a great day.