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Health District Press Conferences

(Waco, Texas) February 24, 2021. The weekly press conference with local government leaders and health officials will not take place today, Wednesday, February 24, 2021. As our case numbers have trended downwards and continue to remain low and vaccine efforts progress throughout McLennan County, these press conferences will be held monthly. The next press conference will be announced in March.

Mayor Dillon Meek stated, “Ensuring the public is well informed with the regard to the dangers of COVID-19 will continue to be a top priority, and I will continue to make myself available to the press and to the public to address any issues and questions as they come up. We are committed to continued, robust communication through other platforms as well.” COVID-19 information will continue to be provided by the Waco McLennan County Public Health District via press release updates issued daily Monday through Friday and in daily updates to the COVIDwaco.com website and dashboard. A weekly report will be uploaded to COVIDwaco.com on Fridays and will contain weekly trend analyses, state and nationwide comparisons, and new or emergent information on the COVID-19 pandemic; we look forward to the press having the opportunity to review these reports and follow up with any questions they might have. We will also continue to update the public on COVID-19 related matters through social media and our city cable channel.

A press conference will be called at any time to keep the public informed should there be any new, large spikes in cases, a return over the 15% hospital capacity threshold, or in the event of an important development in the pandemic.

The Waco McLennan County Public Health District, the City of Waco and Mayor Meek are committed to urging the public to continue to adhere to doctor’s recommendations of wearing masks, keeping safe distance and washing hands regularly.

Dr. Jackson Griggs stated, “As viral transmission declines and vaccination efforts targeting the most susceptible advance, transitioning to a monthly schedule seems prudent, with thresholds in place for returning to weekly conferences. Moreover, if new or urgent issues arise between scheduled press conferences, we can reconvene to bring timely, helpful information to the public. This change in schedule should in no way imply that masking, social distancing, widespread testing and equitable distribution of vaccines is less important or that less energy should be invested in dissemination of accurate health information.”

Press questions and requests for information on the COVID-19 pandemic and local response can continue to be made to the Waco McLennan County Public Health District at KellyC@wacotx.gov or 254-750-5429.

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