



Town of  
**Longmeadow, Massachusetts**  
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**TO:** Chairman Strange and Members of the Select Board  
**FROM:** Lyn N. Simmons, Town Manager  
**DATE:** January 3, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** Town Manager Report

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### **COVID-19 Update**

As of December 30, 2021, there were 145 COVID-19 cases in town, 94% are breakthrough cases. As we all know, we are in a surge at the moment and are seeing cases skyrocket. We are also facing a huge change in isolation timeline and quarantine parameters coming from CDC and DPH. The good news is, the majority of cases in town seem to be mild and symptoms leave the system of the infected as swiftly as they enter. On the flip side of that statement, the virus is traveling at a much higher rate and is **MUCH** more transmittable. The last data pertaining to vaccination responsive rate was about 35% without the booster and 75% with, so until the warmer weather comes in and slows this virus down, please stay as safe and protected as possible.

### **DPW**

We had two notable retirements from the DPW at the end of calendar year 2021 representing a combined 85 years of service! Wayne Buck, served as the DPW Yard Foreman for the past 31 years and prior to that held other positions including General Foreman, Sweeper/Sander and Labor-Medium Equipment Operator. Wayne served the Town of Longmeadow for 42 years. Bruce Covalli, served as the Town's Water Meter Reader for the last 22 years. Prior to that Bruce held other DPW positions including Equipment Station Operator, Sweeper/Sander and Skilled Laborer. Bruce served the Town of Longmeadow for 43 years. We thank them for their dedicated years of service and wish them well in their retirements.

### **Website Refresh**

In early 2020 the idea to refresh the Town's website was discussed. The contract the Town has with CivicPlus includes a free website refresh after five years of use. We became eligible for this refresh in 2018. The work toward this was paused in 2020 and most of 2021 when other time sensitive priorities took over. However, the initial steps toward this project have started with a formal website refresh kicking off in mid-late February. The entire process is expected to take several months with a new refreshed Town website going live in the summer of 2022. A small working group of robust users will work with CivicPlus to make decisions on the layout, color scheme and content cleanup. Many of the changes will be based on the site analytics we are currently reviewing, such as top website searches and most visited pages. One big change that will be made to align the Town's website with other municipal sites is the change in the web address. At tonight's Select Board meeting there is a request to authorize the Town to pursue the URL address of [www.longmeadowma.gov](http://www.longmeadowma.gov), securing this address will allow the newly refreshed site to launch with that domain name and replace the current longmeadow.org address.