

Personnel Committee Report-12.14.21

The Personnel Committee, consisting of Mayor Preiner, Elizabeth Mursko and Janet Hegland, met on December 13, 2021.

Public Communications Coordinator Position-Update-No Action Required

We last reported that Ms. Jessica Hughes, Columbus' Public Communications Coordinator since September 2016, applied for, interviewed and the Council approved her hire to the Assistant to City Administrator position, creating a vacancy in the Public Communications Coordinator position. This vacated position was posted, and we received 12 applications, 3 were incomplete; 9 were evaluated and scored, and four of those were selected for the first round of interview with staff. Prior to the interview date, 3 candidates withdrew their application because they had accepted other offers. One candidate was interviewed but was not referred on to the Personnel Committee for a second interview. We will be reposting the position in hopes of generating additional interest. The goal is to get it posted and interviews scheduled before year's end.

Public Works Maintenance Worker I Position

The Public Works Maintenance Worker I position was posted and we received 64 applications, 44 were incomplete. Twenty applications were evaluated and scored, and 7 candidates were selected for the first round of interview with staff. Two of the seven were forwarded to the Personnel Committee for second interviews on December 13th.

Both candidates interviewed well and had unique qualifications that would make them excellent candidates for hire. The first candidate, Mr. Dylan Erickson, completed a year and half at Chippewa Valley Technical College, with four months of training in HVA. He has work experience as a machine operator, in the Parks Department in the City of West St. Paul and as a landscaper at a nursery. The second candidate, Mr. Brady Baker, is currently employed with MN Dot as a Transportation Generalist and has a CDL Class A license and a certificate in small engine repair from Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College. He has experience operating heavy equipment, maintaining roads, snowplowing and snow removal (Highway/Freeway) and traffic control for lane closures and road closures. He has also worked as a laborer/driver on a road construction crew, in a seasonal position at a County Recycling center and as a boat mechanic.

Requested Action

The Personnel Committee is seeking direction from the Council to extend an offer of employment to the second candidate interviewed, Mr. Brady Baker, for the full-time position (at 40 hours/week) of Public Works Maintenance Worker I. The pay scale for this position will be shared with the Council in a separate document; the step this candidate would be started at is step 3 at \$25.30/hr. This is within the budget approved by the Council. Starting date would be negotiated but preferred by the beginning of the new year.

Respectfully,

Janet Hegland
Columbus City Council and
Personnel Committee Member



COVID-19

Workplaces and Businesses

Plan, Prepare, and Respond

Updated Oct. 18, 2021

Workplace Prevention Strategies

To prevent and reduce transmission and maintain healthy business operations in non-healthcare workplaces

CDC has archived several workplace-related guidance documents, factsheets, and toolkits. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) provides resources to prevent COVID-19 exposure and infection in the workplace. For the most current requirements, guidance, and tools, see [OSHA COVID-19 Resources](#).

Vaccination

[Workplace Vaccination Program](#) >

[Post-vaccination Considerations for Workplaces](#) >

[Vaccines for COVID-19](#) >

Health and Safety Practices

[Types of Masks and Respirators](#) >

[Ventilation in Buildings](#) >

[Cleaning and Disinfecting](#) >

Testing and Contact Tracing

[COVID-19 Testing](#) >

[Consent Elements and Disclosures for Workplace Testing](#) >

[Contact Tracing](#) >

For Specific Industries and Occupations

Health and safety steps for specific occupations, including first responders, transportation, personal services and hospitality

[Specific Industries](#)

Protect yourself and your community by getting your [COVID-19 vaccine](#) and wearing a mask indoors in public if you are in an [area of substantial or high transmission](#), even if you are [fully vaccinated](#).

Bring Me The News.

HOME > MN NEWS > MN CORONAVIRUS

22 HOURS AGO

Minnesota's COVID-19 update for Monday, December 13

Closing in on 10,000 deaths during the pandemic in Minnesota.

JOE NELSON

Martino Gian, Wikimedia Commons

Monday's COVID-19 update from the Minnesota Department of Health includes 3,655 newly reported cases and 46 newly reported deaths, including someone aged 25-29 from Becker County. The state's COVID-19 death toll is now 9,918.

The figures on Friday relate to the 24-hour reporting period ending 4 a.m. Friday. Data submitted Friday-Sunday will be released in Tuesday's update.

Minnesota's test positivity rate on a 7-day rolling average (through Dec. 13) is 11.5%. Anything over 10% puts Minnesota in the high-risk threshold for community transmission of the coronavirus.

Hospitalizations

Through Dec. 10, the number of people with COVID-19 hospitalized in Minnesota was 1,678 – up from the 1,670 reported on Dec. 9. Of those hospitalized, 348 people are in intensive care (up from 338) and 1,335 are in non-ICU care (down from 1,340).

The most ICU patients during the duration of the pandemic was 399 on Dec. 1, 2020.

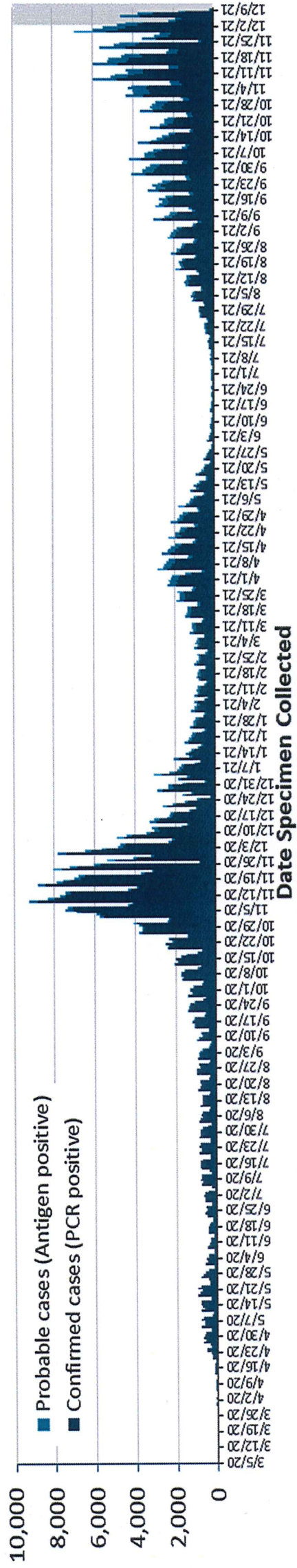
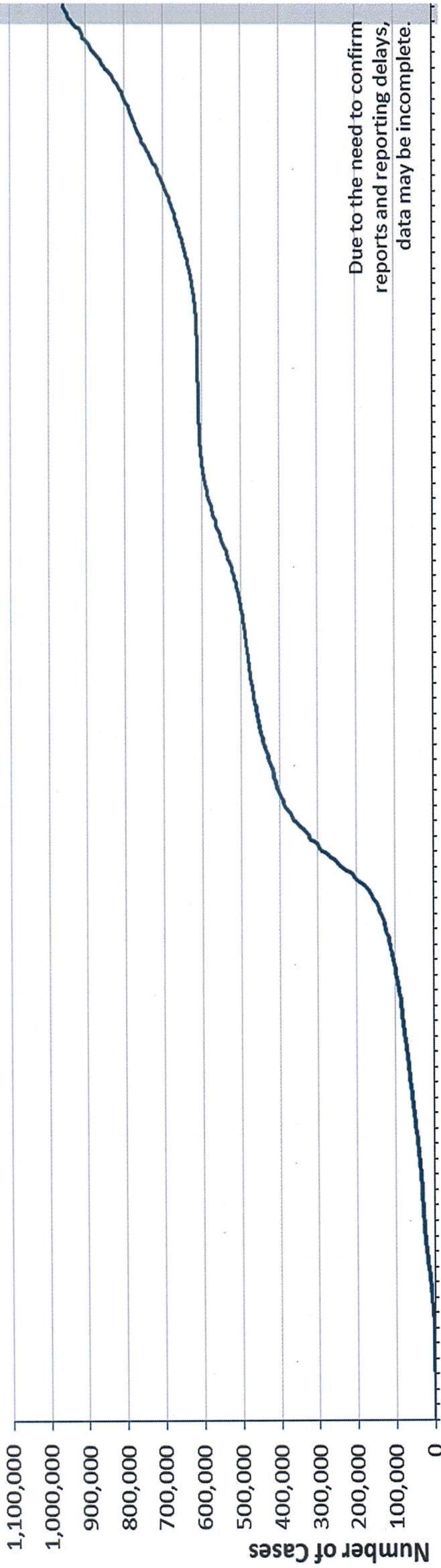
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According to the CDC, which cites data from September 2021, an unvaccinated person was 5.8 times more likely to get COVID-19 and 14 times more likely to die from COVID-19 than someone who is fully vaccinated.

Coronavirus in Minnesota by the numbers

- **Total tests:** 15,402,096 (up from 15,369,673)
- **People with at least 1 vaccine shot:** 3,692,432 (up from 3,689,184)
- **People who have completed vaccine series:** 3,441,368 (up from 3,435,045)
- **People who have had a booster/3rd shot:** 1,361,606 (up from 1,344,376)
- **Positive cases:** 960,425 (up from 956,779)
- **Reinfection cases:** 11,379 (up from 11,293)
- **Deaths:** 9,918 – 597 of which are "probable*" (up from 9,872)
- **Patients no longer requiring isolation:** 915,474 (up from 908,526)

** Probable deaths are patients who died after testing positive using the COVID-19 antigen test, which is thought to be less accurate than the more common PCR test.*



Total positive cases, including reinfections (cumulative)

960,425



**CITY OF COLUMBUS
PUBLIC NOTICE
2022 SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS**

The regular meetings of the Columbus City Council are held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month at ~~7:00~~ **6:30** p.m. at the City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota.

2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATES

January 12	January 26
February 9	February 23
March 9	March 23
April 13	April 27
May 11	May 25
June 8	June 22
July 13	July 27
August 10	August 24
September 14	September 28
October 12	October 26
November 9	November 21
December 14	December 28

The City Council Workshops are held the 2nd Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. of every month at the City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota.

2022 CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING DATES

January 11
February 8
March 8
April 12
May 10
June 14
July 12
August 9
September 13
October 11
November 8
December 13

The Annual Meeting of the EDA will be held the 2nd Wednesday of January at ~~6:00~~ **5:30** p.m. and the regular meetings will be held quarterly on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at ~~6:00~~ **5:30** p.m. at the City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota.

**PUBLIC NOTICE - CITY OF COLUMBUS
2022 SCHEDULE OF REGULAR MEETINGS
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2022 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETING DATES

January 12
April 13
July 13
October 12

The regular meetings of the Columbus Planning Commission are held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at ~~7:00~~ 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota. Notice is hereby given that there may be more than two City Council members in attendance at the Planning Commission meetings.

2022 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DATES

January 5	January 19
February 2	February 16
March 2	March 16
April 6	April 20
May 4	May 18
June 1	June 15
No Meeting	July 20
August 3	August 17
September 7	September 21
October 5	October 19
November 2	November 16
December 7	December 21

2022 JOINT PLANNING COMMISSION & CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING DATES

The Joint Planning Commission & City Council Workshops will be held the 1st Wednesday of every month on weeks where no planning application is on the agenda starting at 6:00 pm at the City Hall, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota.

Park Board

Meetings are held quarterly in the Columbus Community Center, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota, on Tuesday, January 11, April 12, July 12, and October 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Public Works Advisory Board

Meetings are held in the Columbus Community Center, 16319 Kettle River Blvd., Columbus, Minnesota on an as needed basis quarterly.

Meetings are subject to change and are not held on legal holidays.

Should there be any questions regarding this schedule, please contact the City Hall for further information.

Lorie A. Spangler

Lorie A. Spangler
Deputy Clerk

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