

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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**O'CONNELL WORKING TO HELP SENIORS ACCESS VACCINE
Announces Upcoming COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic**

Taunton, MA . . . Today Mayor Shaunna O'Connell announced the City will hold a COVID-19 vaccine clinic on Saturday, February 6, 2021 at Taunton High School for seniors ages 75 and older.

“Protecting our seniors is a priority. Our team has been working hard to bring the COVID-19 vaccine to our Taunton residents. I am pleased that we will be able to offer a local vaccination option to our seniors this weekend,” said Mayor O'Connell. “We are partnering with Brewster Ambulance to vaccinate over 500 Taunton seniors this week. As we receive more vaccines, we will offer additional clinics.”

The lack of available vaccines has made it enormously challenging to municipalities in their efforts to provide the vaccine to their communities. Many organizations putting in orders for vaccines are receiving less than what they order. The Mayor's Office is utilizing various sources to increase the number of vaccines brought to Taunton. In the coming days, there will be more options for vaccination for Taunton residents.

Mayor O'Connell is gratified that so many people have worked together to set up this clinic. “There are so many people involved in the process and they are all dedicated to protecting our seniors. It really is impressive to witness the commitment of our city employees, our nursing community, and our local health care organizations. Each group has brought enthusiasm and expertise to tackle the challenge of vaccinating our seniors.”

Phase 2 of the state vaccination plan began this past Monday on February 1, 2021. Individuals 75 years and older are the first priority group. Vaccinating older residents has presented a unique set of challenges due to mobility issues and difficulties in accessing information and appointments online.

“We are working closely with the Taunton Housing Authority and the Council on Aging to be sure no one is overlooked. On Thursday, we will be vaccinating nearly 200 seniors at the Council on Aging's Senior Center. We are considering all of the relevant factors in vaccinating our seniors in a safe, efficient and equitable manner,” said Mayor O'Connell.

The vaccine clinic on Saturday will be held at the Taunton High School Field House from 9:00am-2:00pm. Per state guidelines, only Taunton residents 75 years and older are eligible. Seniors must pre-register by calling 774-406-5277 beginning on Thursday, February 4th at 9:00am. Appointments will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis. It will be crucial that seniors arrive on time for their scheduled appointment on Saturday as each vaccine vial must be used within 6 hours of being opened. Residents must bring ID and insurance cards (if available) to their vaccine appointment.

All residents must be observed for 15 minutes (30 minutes if there are allergy concerns) after being vaccinated. Brewster Ambulance medics, nurses and nursing students will be available to assist in the post-vaccination observation period.

For further updates, please refer to our city website (taunton-ma.gov) and Facebook page. ###