



**Wednesday, March 11, 2020**

**Covington, VA, Regional Efforts in the Highlands Regarding COVID-19, Underway**

For those of you concerned about COVID-19, there is nothing that can alleviate all your worries.

What I can say is as your City Manager, regional efforts are underway. The Alleghany Highlands, is proactively working to form and lead the initial planning efforts of The Highlands COVID-19 Task Force. Our first meeting is today, our group is a cross-functional team of community service providers, local government executives and departments, our local VDH, our regional VDH, local major healthcare providers, area law enforcement senior officials as well as City and County school superintendents.

VDH and other state agencies will be providing us guidance and we will be working to develop plans that work in tandem here to ensure we cover our bases as best as possible, this is need so we can promote continued service delivery and put emergency planning into place - should the need arise.

Community meetings will also occur soon through VDH. More to come!

Per CDC, we encourage folks to practice common sense practices of frequent hand washing with soap, cough or sneezing into your arm or tissue and staying home if you are sick. If you feel you have the flu, flu-like symptoms, high fever, cough and/or shortness of breath - contact your primary care physician or a local doctor's office, to determine if you need to be seen and what they recommend.

Please be sure to refer to CDC and VDH websites for the most accurate information on public health.

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