

# Fort Belvoir Facebook Virtual Town Hall Q&A Recap

## June 11, 2020

\*This is not a verbatim transcript. Questions and answers may be edited for clarity.\*

Participants:

- COL Michael Greenberg, Fort Belvoir Garrison Commander
- CAPT Cynthia Judy, Director, Fort Belvoir Community Hospital
- Mr. Bryan Hill, Fairfax County Executive
- Mr. George Dickson, Director, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation
- Mr. Frank Hentschel, Director, Emergency Services
- Mr. Chris Landgraf, Acting Director, Public Works

**Question: When will playgrounds open?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** Starting on Monday, the Garrison's certified playground safety inspectors will be going out to each playground, they will do it in about a two week period to assess every playground. Playgrounds are still not on the list to open up yet. However, once we assess the playground

If there are any life, health, safety concerns with any of our playgrounds, those playgrounds will not open until fixed.

**Question: Is there a testing strategy in place for personnel that will go into effect when we return to work, like the regular measures that are being taken at the door with the temperature scanning or the questions depending on where you're working in what they're doing in those particular places?**

**CAPT Cynthia Judy:** And the answer is not yet. I seen some draft policies that are coming out from DoD where they might test certain percentage of the workforce periodically. But there's nothing like that in place right now. The single greatest thing that you can do is testing. If there's a risk of exposure, the greatest things that you can do are hand washing, social distancing, and wearing face coverings.

**Question: Why are you requiring residents to wear PPE in our homes in order to have routine work orders done? Are you aware that some residents are unable to wear PPE?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** This policy was not enacted to inconvenience our residents. As the Garrison commander, I'm responsible for not only resident safety, but also the safety of the workers. Please keep in mind there are other options out there. You can delay the work orders until you feel comfortable and until HPCON is lowered. You can also have someone else in your household there to greet the contractor while you maintain a safe distance.

**Question: If our child is not going back to their CDC. How do we get our credit back?**

**Mr. George Dickson:** Parents can send a message to the CYS Facebook page, or email the Contact Us email box request a refund if not returning to CYS. Someone will get back with you within 72 business hours to assist you. Due to the large volume of requests, refunds can take 15 days to process.

**Question: Is there a plan in place for parents that may work on Fort Belvoir and due to the pandemic they're unable to obtain daycare due to schools and summer camps being closed. Is there something in place to look at these issues that will directly affect parents coming back to work at some point?**

**Mr. George Dickson:** CYS recognizes the significant impact in hardship COVID-19 operations has caused our CYS families for finding childcare options for CDC displaced children, as parents begin to report back to work. CDC has been directed to remain and limited COVID-19 operational capacities in the coming months and will continue to assess the current capability and operational capacity during this time. Parents will need to seek alternative childcare arrangements, outside of CYS until conditions improve.

**Question: Can we have someone from the Villages be the special guest to speak to their residents?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** I will work with the Villages on scheduling them for one of the Facebook town halls.

**Question: Does housing report positive cases?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** The answer is yes. We tracking positive COVID cases across the installation.

**Question: When do you think we'll be able to make appointments?**

**Capt. Cynthia Judy:** You can call make an appointment today. Appointments are available. I think this week so we're about 61% booked and so there is appointment availability for both virtual and face to face appointments.

**Question: Why do you have everyone coming in and out the same door? There's always a big cluster of people going through screening, is there a better way to do this?**

**Capt. Cynthia Judy:** We actually monitor the number of people coming through the front door, and there's a lot of logistics reasons why we have patients entering the front door. And the main reason is because patient parking in is in the front of the hospital. If you recall that staff coming in through one of the garages and we're doing staff screening. That was early restricted access point control measures that was put into place. Then we took the other parking garage and we turned it into curbside. I can't run a curbside pharmacy safe lane and open the garage and have cars going through that at the same time. When I can open more

doors and have more access for people to come in using other doors. But doing so is going to take away that that drives thru pharmacy and I know that people want to keep that curbside pharmacy.

**Question: With more people heading back to the office, will gate hours and access change?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** Yes, we are looking at Force Protection Condition levels also. We are looking at Kingman Gate as the next gate to open but I don't have a date.

**Question: When will the pools reopen?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** We are we are getting the pools ready to open. Whether they open or not we still need to maintain them. If you look at Fairfax County's phased approach, right now, in Fairfax County pools are not opening. However, if you look at other recovery plans across the country, pools are. The pools right now are not going to open. However, we will continue to access the conditions.

**Question: As a concerned resident of Fort Belvoir, and in light of the recent violence. I'm worried about the access control points, I would hate for someone to get hurt.**

**Mr. Frank Hentschel:** We agree with you. We don't want anyone getting hurt. We've recently discovered some damaged fencing. We're working with public works to make some additional repairs in that area. We will increase our patrol presence also.

**Question: What is the status of our virtual visitor expedited pass system?**

**Mr. Frank Hentschel:** The good news is our virtual expedited visitor fast system is back up and running again. It was down for a couple of days last week, the online system process is growing rapidly, and in popularity.

**Question: The Exchange announced that South Post Express would have two fuel pumps open 24 hours a day. We tried using the two fuel pumps and it said point of sale unavailable.**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** I will share your concern with the Exchange general manager and the Shoppette managers, to make sure that they're testing those fuel pumps.

**Question: How does Fairfax County work with the other counties in the Northern Virginia region?**

**Mr. Bryan Hill:** We work together to discuss the process of moving through the different passes and the impact on each of our jurisdictions based on case counts and other key factors related to the reopening of services. Our goal is to make sure everybody's safe and sound.

**Question: Are parks and playgrounds open in Fairfax County?**

**Mr. Bryan Hill:** The answer to that is yes and no. Trails, parks, or playgrounds are not open yet. We have put together a plan with the schools to open fields.

**Question: When are we going to open screening to the general population, especially those needing to travel to different states requiring tests?**

**CAPT Cynthia Judy:** We can do testing at the COVID-19 clinic. It depends on what that testing is. I don't know that we're testing for vacations, right now, there's been a lot of restriction of movement. I know that a lot of those restrictions are being lifted for people who are PCs and transferring, and some of those sites are requiring quarantine on the other hand. If you have a question about travel upcoming travel especially if it is mission travel, please contact the COVID clinic.

**Question: I'm high risk. Do I have to return to work or what do I need to do.**

**CAPT Cynthia Judy:** The answer is really that that's a relationship between the employee, the employee's supervisor and the occupational health providers. Check in with the supervisor and their health care provider. Take the documentation to the occupational health department so that they can work with you to make sure it doesn't necessarily mean that you won't come back to work. Maybe there's an opportunity to mitigate what makes that that environment high risk for you. There is not a one size fits all answer.

**Question: Why are golf courses have not been discussed recently, how is the golf course not open?**

**COL Michael Greenberg:** Not every Army golf course is open right now. There are a number of factors that we have to consider, social distancing, staff availability, access control are key among them. We are continuing to work on a plan to reopen the golf course, so I appreciate your patience

**Question: Is there a date set for when the RV park opens back up?**

**Mr. George Dickson:** The RV park is currently are operational to existing customers. In July we will start beginning to take reservations for the rest of the year.

**Question: When will the gyms open for active duty?**

**Mr. George Dickson:** The fitness center and the body shop will look nothing like they did when you left 13 weeks ago. We have spent weeks moving equipment around to make more room for social distancing so that you have a comfortable environment to work out. We expect to open sometime in July to active duty first, and then we'll slowly open up to the rest of the community.