



MEMORANDUM

TO: Select Board

FROM: John C. Curran, Town Manager

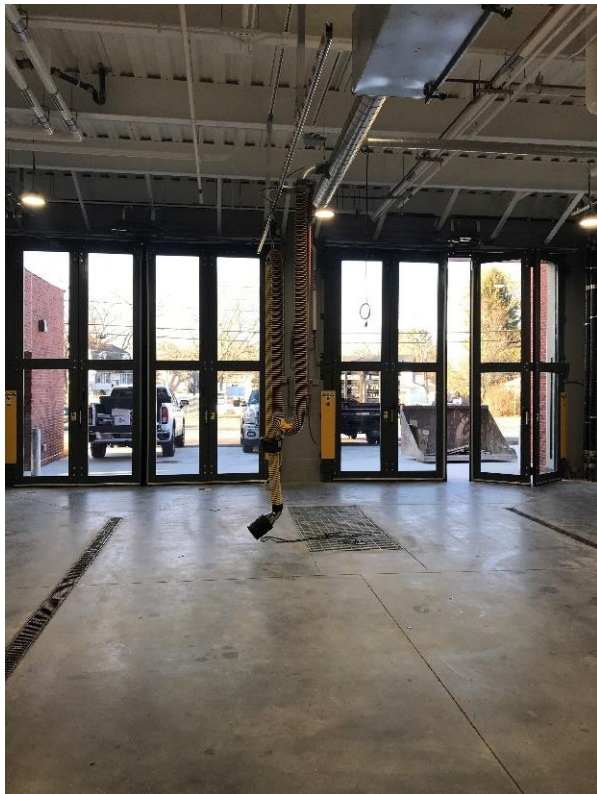
CC: Clancy Main, Assistant Town Manager
Andrew Levine, Director of Administrative Services

SUBJECT: Town Manager's Report, December 20, 2021

DATE: December 17, 2021

Pinehurst Fire Station

The new Pinehurst Fire Station reached a major milestone December 15th as the Fire Department moved in. The majority of the construction activities including the owner vendor works and Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) have been completed. Some of the Owner trainings have been completed and the others have been scheduled for the next two weeks.



The project is substantially complete, and the substantial completion certificate was executed by the project team and the Town. The design consultants prepared the punch list for all trades (mechanical, civil, structural, plumbing, fire protection, electrical, architectural). The punch list items will be followed up by the project team and closed out in the next 60 days depending on the lead times. Weather dependent items such as exterior cladding painting and landscaping will be completed by Spring 2022.



Howe School (Pictures)



Howe School

In the last two weeks, the crew completed the underpinning of the east exterior wall, the structural concrete foundation and slab on grade works, and the stormwater infiltration system at the north side of the building. The parking lot area is backfilled and paved with asphalt. BC Construction is working on the HVAC duct installation and the light gage metal framing and gypsum board partition works. The structural steel erection at the addition will start in January. Meanwhile, the masonry contractor has been working on brick repointing.

PHR

A pre-bid conference was held with the contractors on site, and bids were due on December 20. The project team will review the bid results with the Town and the Town will award the contract to the low bidder. The bid documents for the vertical construction contract (concession building) will be prepared in the next two weeks. The filed-sub and general bids for the concession building will be received in late January and early February.

Ditson and Vining Projects

Both projects are completed. The Parks and Trees Department reviewed the landscaping on the Ditson site and took over the maintenance of the site. The fencing will be removed this week. Landscaping on the Vining site will be reviewed again in spring 2022 and the project will be closed out in spring or summer 2022.

Town Hall Chiller Project

The project team, including engineering firm NV5, reviewed the chiller options and did some recommendations for the chiller type. The team picked the chiller type and the design team continues working on the schematic design. This is being funded through ARPA Money.

Library Roof Top Unit Replacement Project

The proposals for the design services were received on December 17, 2021. The OPM and the Town will review the proposals and award the design services contract to the most advantageous design firm. This is being funded through ARPA Money.

Masonic Hall Renovation Project

The proposals for the design services have been received. Leftfield and the Town are reviewing the design firms and checking their references.

Field Light Poles

The existing conditions survey has been done on the light poles at the Vining fields. Proposals for the Phase 1 electrical scope have been received. This phase includes removing the light fixtures, poles, and making the fields safe by April 15, 2022. Phase 2 (design and construction of the new sports lighting) will be done after the project gains approval, which is expected to take place at the Spring Town Meeting.

Community Services

Community Services Coordinator Bethany Slack has been with us for approximately three months, and is planning a public launch of her programs in early 2022. She has collaborated with area service providers and researched the offerings of other towns to compile a set of processes and best practices that she can offer, especially in the area of mental health. She will set up an online presence, including Facebook and Nextdoor, to make her work known, and will collaborate with other mental health aligned departments including Substance Abuse Prevention and the Police Frontline Initiative.

Veterans Services

Our new Veterans Agent, Luis Santiago, started in the office last week and hit the ground running, bringing his experience and knowledge of Veterans Services work from his time in Haverhill. He participated in the Wreaths Across America event on Saturday, December 18th at Fox Hill Cemetery, which honored Billerica's veterans with a ceremony and graveside wreath laying. In the coming weeks, he plans to help veterans recertify for Chapter 115 Benefits for the year 2022 and will send an introduction letter to the Chapter 115 recipients as the new Director of Veteran Services. He will also be inquiring to make sure veterans have enough food for the holidays and that all veteran issues with fuel and heat assistance are resolved.

COVID-19 Update

The Town will run a pre-holiday PCR testing clinic on Tuesday, December 21st from 3:30 to 6:30pm, open to all Billerica community members. The Town continues to run vaccine clinics for 5-11 year olds, and will host a follow up clinic with our partners at Cataldo Ambulance on January 8th. While we continue to wait for additional booster shot availability from the state, we referred 175 residents looking for Moderna boosters to a local medical office that had greater availability. We will continue to look for opportunities to distribute rapid tests and expect to hear about an available state procurement contract in the coming weeks.

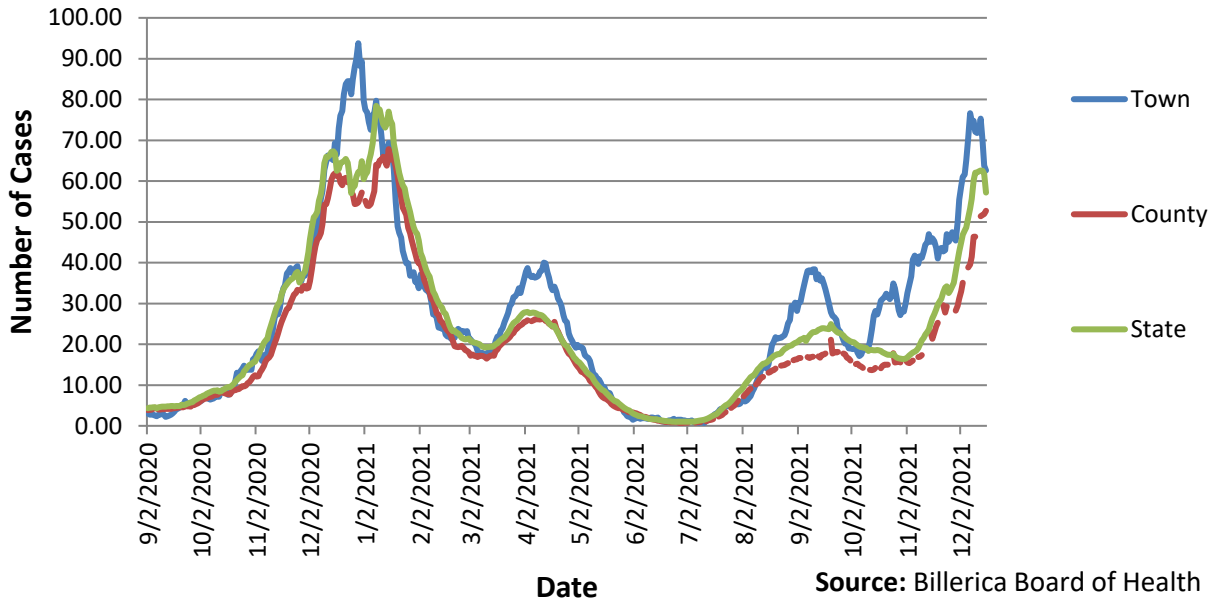


Long Term Care Facilities	136
Middlesex House of Corrections	206
Health Care Workers	136
Apartment Complexes	455
Deaths	37
Active Cases	230
Recovered Cases	5894
Total Cases to Date	6161
Cases per 100,000	62.58
Seven Day Case Average	29.00
Number of Cases last 14 days	369
Positivity Rate	10.26%
Billerica Status	High Transmission
Vaccination Rate (1+ shot)	76%
Vaccination Rate (2+ shots)	68%
Break through % since July	33%
Current Hospitalizations	0
7 Day Cumulative per 100K	361

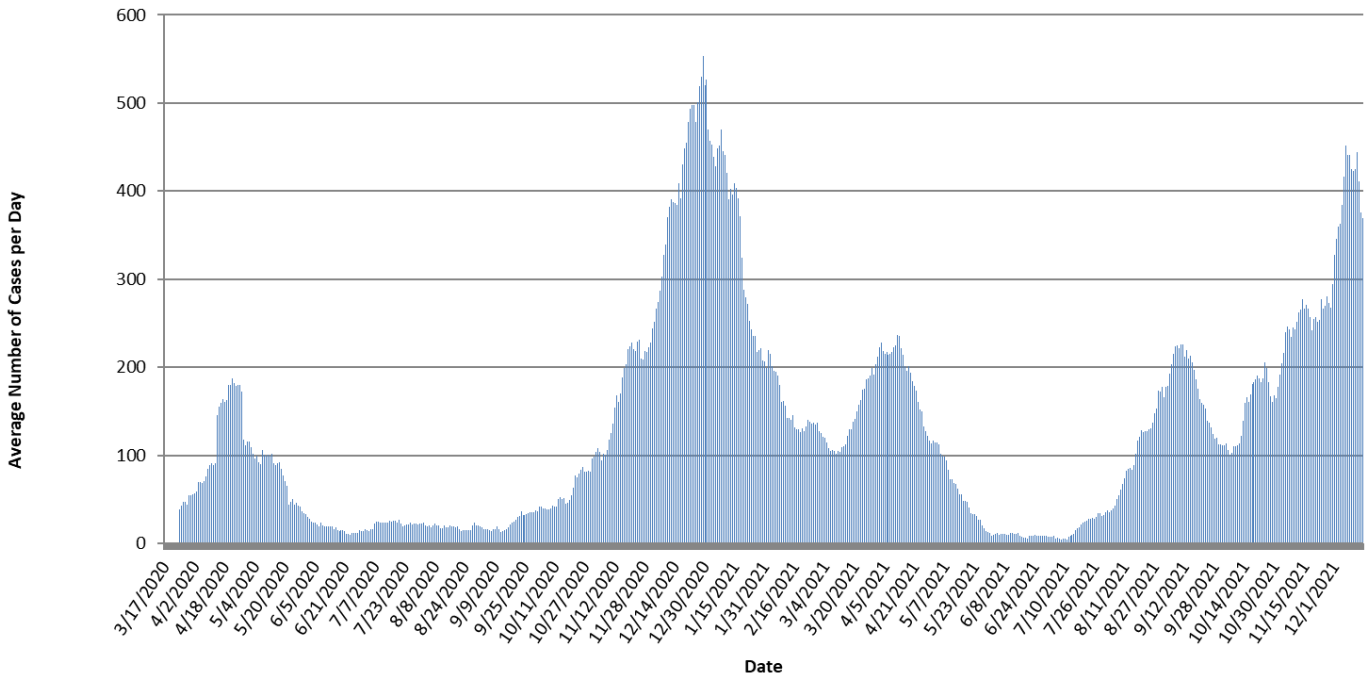
Thursday, December 16, 2021

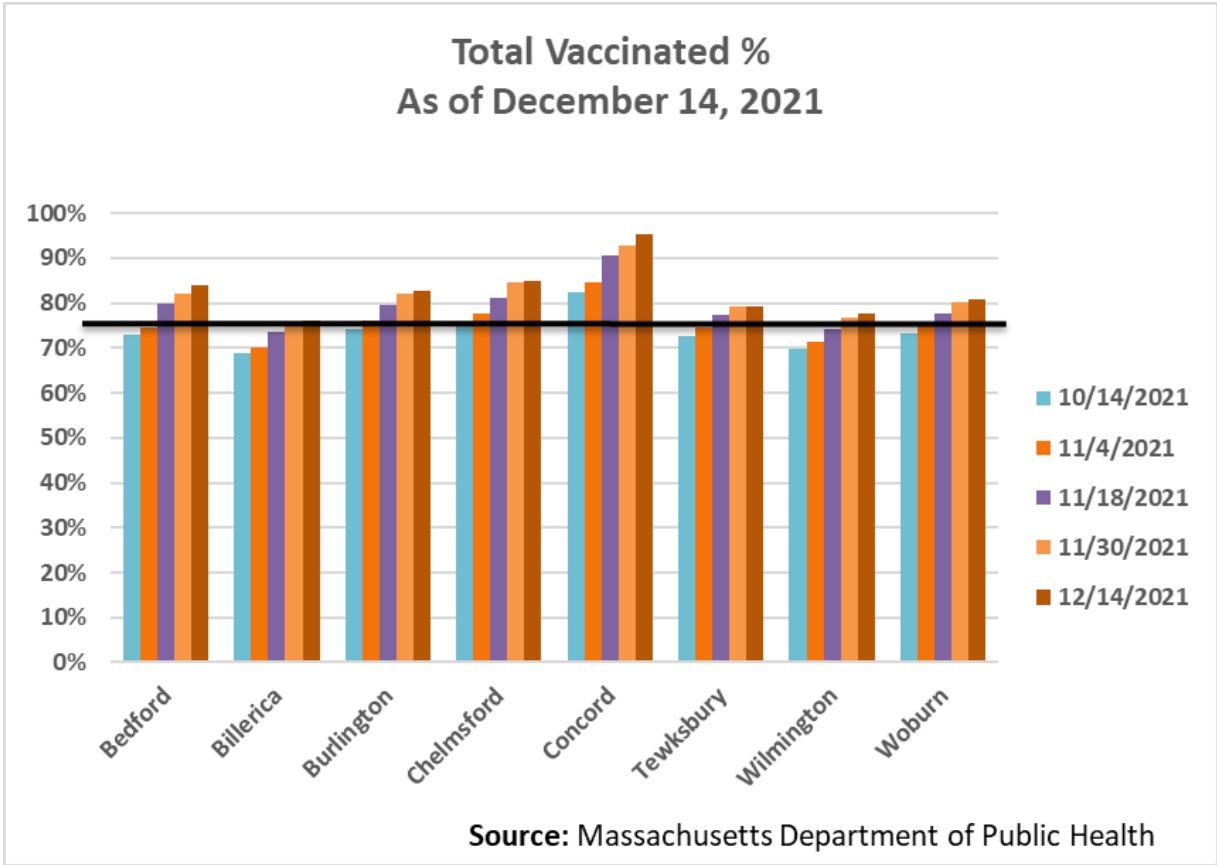
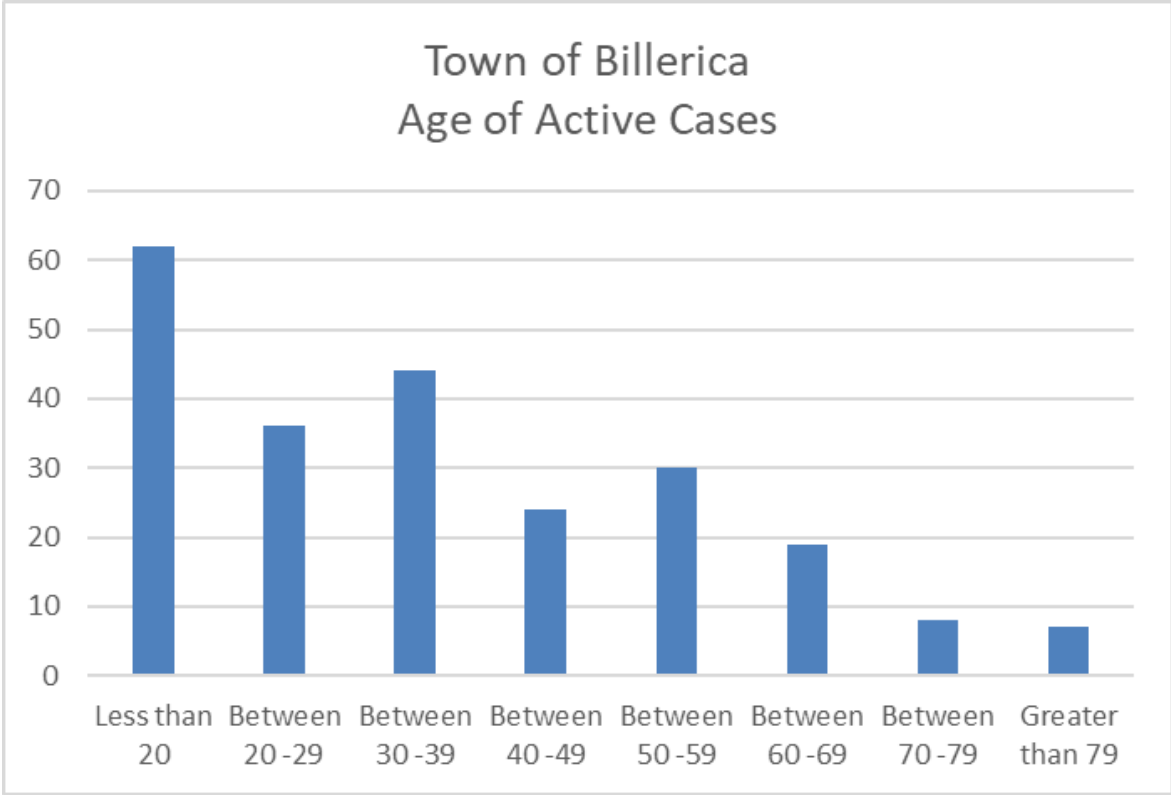
Source: Billerica Board of Health

Billerica vs. County and Commonwealth Average Cases per 100,000 people over 14 days

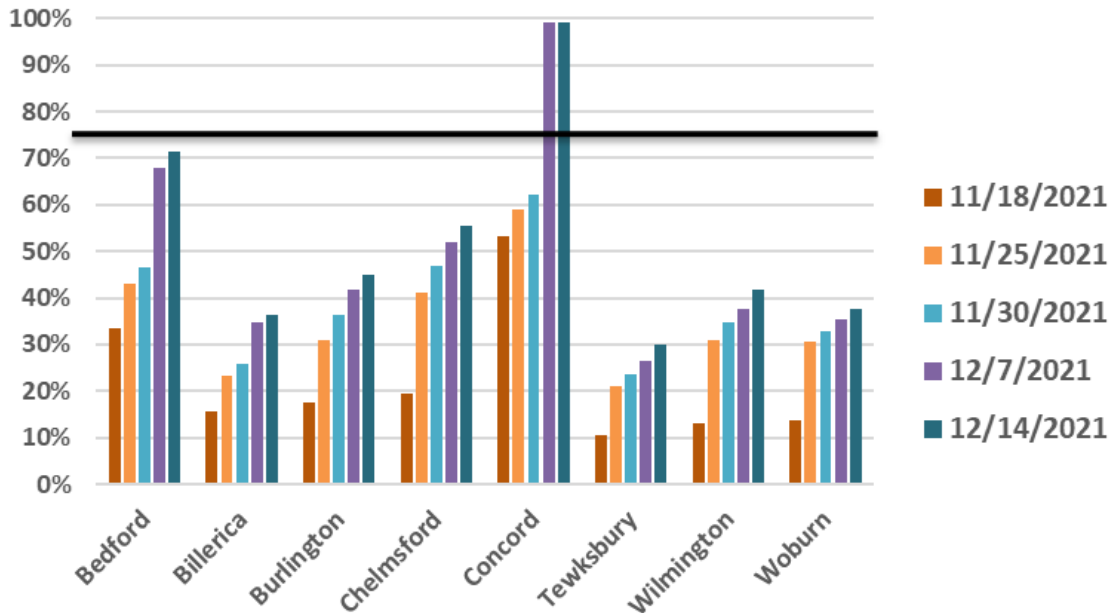


Town of Billerica COVID 19 Cases Active Cases (As of December 16th)

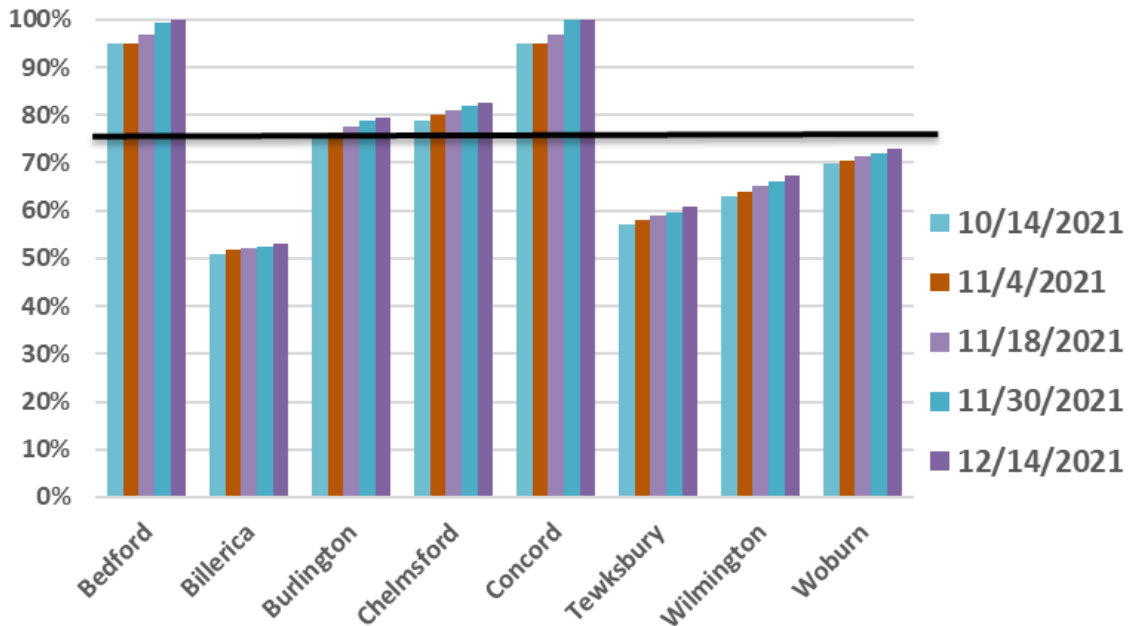




Vaccinated % of 5-11 Year Olds As of December 14, 2021



Vaccinated % of 12-15 Year Olds As of December 14, 2021



Source: Massachusetts Department of Public Health