

PRESS RELEASE

Village of Orland Park
14700 Ravinia Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462



Village of Orland Park Ready to Assist with COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

December 10, 2020 -Today's Food and Drug Administration approval of Pfizer-BioNTech's vaccine marks a milestone in the country's battle against COVID-19. The Village of Orland Park looks forward to the soon-to-be distributed COVID-19 vaccine that will provide our residents with a safeguard against contraction of the virus that has impacted the entire global community since late 2019.

"As a regional, collaborative front, we have been prepared and ready for a vaccine distribution of this kind for years," said Orland Park Mayor Keith Pekau. "We are confident in our ability to assist as needed."

In 2005, a certified distribution plan was developed by the Orland Park Police Department in collaboration with the Orland Hills Police Department, Orland Fire Protection District and the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH) which includes and covers the Orland Park, Orland Hills and portions of unincorporated Cook County communities.

"We are ready to assist with the distribution efforts as requested by the local health authorities," said Pekau. "We will continue to work collectively with State and county government health organizations to convey important information to Orland Park residents."

According to the Illinois Department of Public Health's [COVID Vaccination Plan](#), "*The federal government will determine the amount of COVID-19 vaccine designated for each state. Using this allotment, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) will then manage and approve orders from enrolled providers. During initial allocations when vaccine is scarce, local health departments will determine the allocation for their jurisdiction based on their local mass vaccination plan.*"

As vaccines become available to the general public, the Village of Orland Park will make available a list of facilities and services available to provide the vaccine on the Village's website and social media accounts.

"Should the need arise for the Village of Orland Park to enact an active pharmaceutical site, the Village, in conjunction with the Village of Orland Hills and the Orland Fire Protection District, are prepared to fully staff the site and move forward with the CCDPH-certified plan created for this purpose," explained Orland Park Police Chief Joe Mitchell.

"Having an effective COVID-19 vaccine is a great step towards getting back to a normal way of life in Orland Park," said Pekau. "We will do everything we can, with our resources and efforts, to aid in the success of the vaccination program."

Thank you to the community for continuing to work together as we adjust and move forward with plans to ensure Orland Park residents are prepared and protected.

Contact:
Nabeha Zegar

Public Information Communication Manager
nzegar@orlandpark.org

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