

Justice Court Solutions for Small Towns and Villages Webinar June 18

May 22, 2020

Angie Kimball, Cooperative Tug Hill Council Circuit Rider at the Tug Hill Commission, will deliver a webinar on Thursday, June 18, 10:30 am—Noon on **Justice Court Solutions for Small Towns and Villages**. Please register in advance for this webinar at us02web.zoom.us/join/9tJNMt899tQ.

There are multiple options available to municipalities for shared services in the justice courts, some of which require home rule legislation and action by the State Legislature and some which require no home rule legislation and local action only. This session will provide details on these options and share several real-life Tug Hill examples. The commission's issue paper on the topic is good background material, available at www.tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/09/Justice-Court-Consolidation-Solutions-Final.pdf.

Angie has served as a commission circuit rider since 2012. Prior to her work at the commission, Angie served as a town justice for Redfield for several years. She has presented on the topic at the NYS Department of State Local Government Innovation Conference and at the Rockefeller Institute for Government's annual local government forum.

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COVID-19 FAQs Updated on Commission Website

Commission staff has been working hard to keep up with changing information relevant to local government operations. Updated FAQ's have been uploaded to the commission website at www.tughill.org/covid-19/.

Public Meetings: [Executive Order 202.28](#) has extended the suspension of in-person public meeting until June 6, 2020.

Land Use Applications: Note public hearing MUST be held remotely if they are being held before June 1, 2020.

Courts: [Administrative Order 111](#) of 2020 from the Chief Administrative Judge of New York Lawrence Marks, outlined the next steps in re-opening the courts in the regions of the state that have begun phase 1 of re-opening from the NY Pause order, starting May 18 in Oneida County and May 20 in Jefferson, Lewis and Oswego County.

Elections: The presidential primary is now scheduled for June 23, 2020. More information at www.elections.ny.gov/.

The [Association of Towns of New York State](#) and the [NYS Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials](#) also have guidance for municipalities on their websites.

Small Wireless Facilities and 5G Webinar Materials Available Online

Rebecca Ruscito, Counsel for the New York State Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials, presented **Small Wireless Facilities and 5G** to approximately 175 people via webinar on May 14. The topic was originally scheduled for the March Tug Hill Local Government Conference.

The presentation and several other relevant documents are available from NYCOM at <https://bit.ly/TugHill5G>. A video of this webinar, as well as several other LGC webinars, is available at <https://bit.ly/TugHillPresentations>.

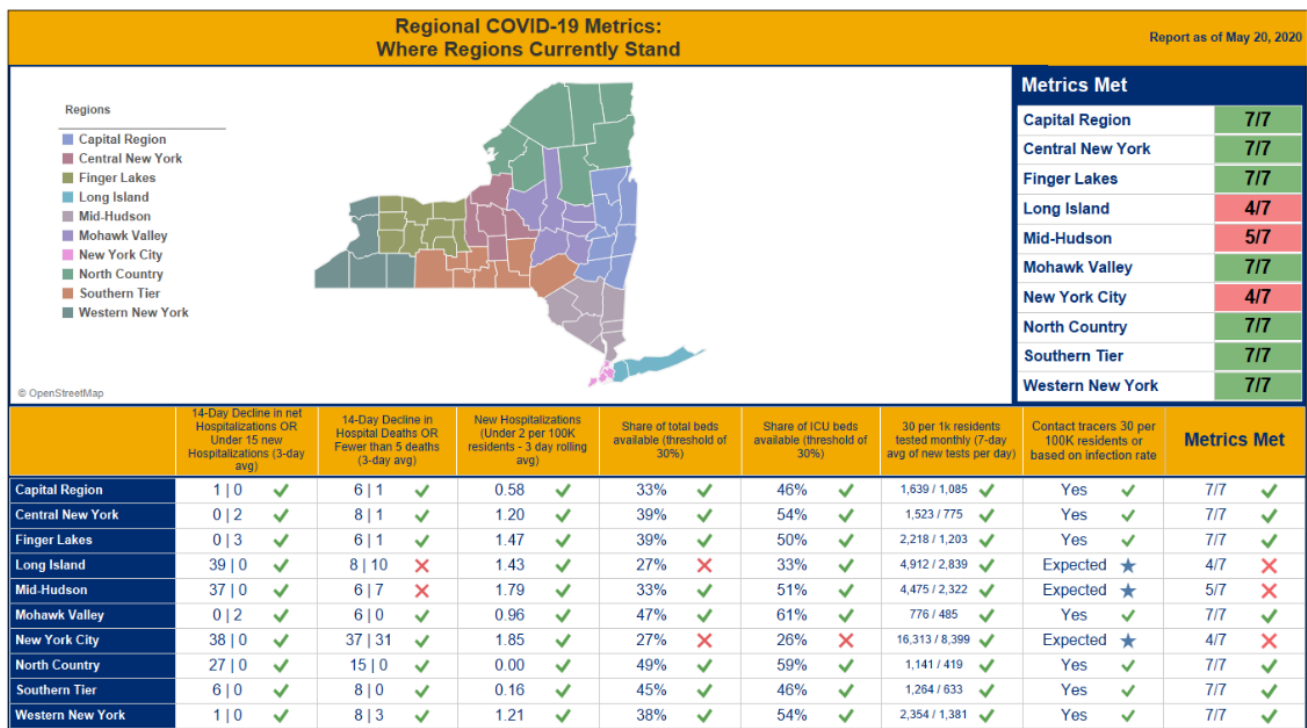
Regions Reopening: Resources For More Information

The Central NY, Mohawk Valley, and North Country regions of the state started reopening at Phase 1 on May 15. The new state Regional Monitoring Dashboard, forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard, has detailed information on all seven metrics for each region and is updated daily. These metrics are based on guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, the U.S. Department of State, and other public health experts. For more information, [read the NY Forward Book](#).

Metric #1—Decline in Total Hospitalizations. Must show a sustained decline in the three-day rolling average of total net hospitalizations over the course of a 14-day period. Alternatively, regions can satisfy this metric if the daily net increase in total hospitalizations (measured on a 3-day rolling average basis) does not exceed 15.

Metric #2—Decline in Deaths. Must show a sustained decline in the three-day rolling average of daily hospital deaths over the course of a 14-day period. Alternatively, regions can satisfy this metric if the three-day rolling average of daily new hospital deaths does not exceed 5.

Metric #3—New Hospitalizations. Region must experience fewer than 2 new hospitalizations per 100,000 residents, measured on a three-day rolling average.



Metric #4—Hospital Bed Capacity. Regions must have at least 30% of their hospital beds available.

Metric #5—ICU Bed Capacity. Regions must have at least 30% of their ICU beds available.

Metric #6—Diagnostic Testing Capacity. Average daily diagnostic testing over the past 7 days must be sufficient to conduct 30 tests per 1,000 residents per month.

Metric #7—Contact Tracing Capacity. Number of contact tracers in each region must meet thresholds set by the Department of Health, in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health and Vital Strategies.

New Business Lookup Tool

Businesses in each region are able to re-open in phases, the new tool available at www.busessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward helps determine when and how. Re-opening refers to non-essential businesses and business activities. Essential businesses and business activities that are open, will be able to remain open. The guidelines accessible via this tool apply to both non-essential businesses in regions that are permitted to re-open, and essential businesses throughout the state that were previously permitted to remain open.

Reopening Plan Template

The NY Forward website provides a reopening plan template at www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/NYS_BusinessReopeningSafetyPlanTemplate.pdf. Currently, this plan does not need to be submitted to a state agency for approval but must be retained on the premises of the business and must be made available to the New York State Department of Health (DOH) or local health or safety authorities in the event of an inspection.

It is not clear if local governments are required to have a completed plan on file, but completing one may be a best practice to communicate clearly with employees and the public on what steps your local government has taken and what is expected of employees and visitors.

A printable poster from the NYS Department of Health to post conspicuously can be found at coronavirus.health.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2020/04/13067_coronavirus_protectyourself_poster_042020.pdf.

Testing Site Locator

Enter your address at coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you to find the nearest location offering coronavirus testing.

As of the NYS Department of Health today, the criteria for when a New Yorker is eligible for diagnostic testing is listed below. This criteria is subject to change based on test availability, testing capacity, and for public health reasons. Diagnostic testing for COVID-19 shall be authorized by a health care provider when:

- An individual is symptomatic or has a history of symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. fever, cough, and/or trouble breathing), particularly if the individual is 70 years of age or older, the individual has a compromised immune system, or the individual has an underlying health condition;
- **OR**, An individual has had close (i.e. within six feet) or proximate contact with a person known to be positive with COVID-19
- **OR**, An individual is subject to a precautionary or mandatory quarantine;
- **OR**, An individual is employed as a health care worker, first responder, or other essential worker who directly interacts with the public while working;
- **OR**, An individual presents with a case where the facts and circumstances – as determined by the treating clinician in consultation with state or local department of health officials – warrant testing;
- **OR**, An individual is included under other criteria set by the NYS Dept. of Health based on an individual's geographic place of residence, occupation, or other factors that the Department may deem relevant for COVID-19 testing purposes;
- **OR**, Any individual who would return to workplace in Phase 1.

Planning Case Law Webinar May 28; Electrical Vehicle Charging Webinar June 4



The Capital District Regional Planning Commission will offer the following webinars:

Planning Case Law Update webinar on Thursday, May 28 at 10:30 am. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE MAY 28TH WEBINAR.](#)

M. Elizabeth Coreno, ESQ, P.S. will provide the latest information on New York courts as they reviewed and issued decisions on a wide variety of land use approvals and denials. If you are looking for insight into how courts thought about and assessed local planning and zoning decisions, this session will provide a close look at the laws and standards that are applied to both approvals and denials issued by your board. The session will highlight teachable cases which aim to provide a framework of land use law that can become usable by a planning or zoning board members.

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure webinar on Thursday, June 4 at 10:00 am. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE JUNE 4TH WEBINAR.](#)

Electric vehicles have gone mainstream and the growing demand for public charging access will significantly impact municipal planning activities. Whether your jurisdiction is considering providing public charging resources for your residents or adding electric vehicles to your fleet this webinar will demonstrate the benefits of developing a robust network of charging resources. Highlighting local municipal and commercial projects, Ron Semp of PlugIn Stations Online will demonstrate the value of EV charging infrastructure in your community as well as an example of associated permitting and code requirements adopted by local governments.

Invasive Species Awareness Week June 7-13

The theme of the NY's seven annual Invasive Species Awareness Week is **2020 Vision: Focus on Invasives**, as announced by the State Departments of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and Agriculture and Markets.

The New York Invasive Species Awareness Week is an annual education campaign that aims to promote knowledge and understanding of invasive species and the harm they can cause, by engaging citizens in a wide range of activities and actions that can help stop the spread of invasive species. To learn more about invasive species in NY, visit: www.nyis.info

Due to the COVID 19 public health concerns, many in-person events have gone virtual this year. Webinars will be offered to learn more, and topics include: spotted lanternfly outreach, biocontrol agents for invasive species, urban forest sustainability, trail maintenance, surveying for invasive species on trails, facts about the "murder hornet", and aquatic invasive species survey training. Learn more about these events at: <https://nyisaw.org/events/>.

The St. Lawrence Eastern- Lake Ontario (SLELO) Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) is recruiting volunteers to keep an eye out for and report invasive species threatening the Tug Hill region. They have created an interactive storymap showcasing identifying features of these invasives along with known presence and suggested survey sites. To get involved visit www.sleloinvasives.org/volunteer/vsn/



Common invasive species threats in the Tug Hill region include: Japanese Knotweed, giant hogweed (shown above), wild parsnip, emerald ash borer, hemlock wooly adelgid, rusty crayfish, spotted lanternfly and Eurasian watermilfoil. You can help to stop the spread and impacts of these invasive species by learning how to identify and manage these invaders, and reporting your observations using the iMapInvasives app on your smart phone. To learn more about how to report invasive species observations, visit www.nyimainvasives.org/

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For upcoming trainings, grant deadlines, and meetings, view our [calendar](#).