



# COVID-19 UPDATES & GUIDANCE

## Summary (updates highlighted in yellow)

**Date: Friday, April 13, 2020**

**\*\*\*TORNADO WATCH IN EFFECT UNTIL 6 PM\*\*\***

The National Weather Service has issued a Tornado Watch for Bowie and Prince George's County until 6 pm this evening.

As a reminder, a Tornado Watch is issued when weather conditions are favorable for the development of severe thunderstorms that are capable of producing tornadoes. A watch does not mean that the severe weather is actually occurring, only that atmospheric conditions have created a significant risk for it. Please pay attention to rapidly changing conditions and seek shelter if conditions become severe or a tunnel shaped cloud is seen.

**Number of confirmed cases in Prince George's County – 2,205**

20715 - 46

20716 - 46

20720 - 53

20721 - 85

**Number of confirmed cases in Maryland – 8,936 (+711)**

### **Confirmed Case Information Now Available by Zip Code**

On April 12, the State of Maryland released the number of COVID-19 cases by zip code. This was the first time they had provided more than a summary of cases by County. Today's numbers for the four Bowie zip codes are listed above. The total number of cases in the Bowie zip codes represents approximately 10.4% of the confirmed cases in Prince George's County.

The zip code level data does not include deaths, or other demographic information about the patients. Visit the [Prince George's County COVID-19 dashboard](#) to view data for all zip codes in the County.

### **Masks or Face Coverings Required at Stores in Prince George's County Starting April 15**

On Saturday, April 11, Prince George's County Executive Angela Alsobrooks issued an executive order requiring the use of face coverings or masks in County grocery stores, pharmacies and large chain retail establishments. The order applies to customers and employees and goes into effect on Wednesday, April 15.

This order will help to protect employees and shoppers from the spread of COVID-19, particularly by those who are not showing symptoms, but may be infected. Montgomery County issued a similar order on April 9. [Instructions on how to make a mask](#) or face covering can be found on the CDC website. View the [Prince George’s County Executive Order on Face Covering and Masks](#)

**Make Sure Bowie Counts; Complete Your Census!**

The COVID-19 pandemic is distracting from the important task of making sure that everyone is counted in this year’s census. Have you completed your census form yet? Filling out the form takes less than 10 minutes and it is a simple, but very crucial means of ensuring that Bowie and Prince George’s County get their share of federal monies in the future. Also, accurate population numbers are critically important for the allocation of resources during healthcare emergencies, such as the current one. Look for mailings from the Census Bureau on how to complete your census online.

**City Council Begins Budget Deliberations Monday, April 13**

One of the City Council’s most important responsibilities is to review and approve an annual budget. This year’s process will be a little different, but it will continue on schedule so that the government can continue to operate and provide services. Some councilmembers and staff will participate in the meetings remotely to ensure that social distancing is maintained.

While the public cannot attend Council meetings and budget worksessions in person, they can watch them live on the Bowie government channel (*FIOS 10/Comcast 71 & 996*) or on the city website ([www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings](http://www.cityofbowie.org/viewmeetings)). The videos can also be viewed afterwards on Youtube or the city website. Members of the public can submit comments for the Citizen Participation portion of Regular Meetings and can submit testimony for budget public hearings via text or email. Email [cityclerk@cityofbowie.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityofbowie.org) or text 240-335-3282. (Comments are not part accepted for worksessions.)

***FY 2021 Budget Deliberation Schedule:***

Mon., April 13	Budget Introduction, <b>Budget Public Hearing #1</b> , Budget Worksession #1
Mon., April 20	Budget Worksession #2 – Public Works Department, Water and Sewer Fund
Mon. April 27	Budget Worksession #3 – Department of Community Services
Wed., April 29	Budget Worksession #4– City Manager’s Offices, Police Department, Finance Department and Nondepartmental
Mon., May 4	<b>Public Hearing #2</b> on FY 2021 Budget, CIP and Constant Yield Tax Rate
Mon., May 11	<b>Budget Worksession #5</b> – Department of Planning & Community Development, Information Technology, Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Fund, General Fund Summaries, Appendix (including Plan of Compensation), Wrap-up.
Mon., May 18	Adoption FY 2021 Budget and CIP

The proposed budget may be viewed at [www.cityofbowie.org/131/Budget-Documents](http://www.cityofbowie.org/131/Budget-Documents). Comments must be received by 7 p.m. on the day of the City Council meeting. Questions regarding the proposed budget may be directed to the Finance Department at 301-809-3023. All meetings begin at 8 p.m.

## **TRASH & RECYCLING CHANGES**

- Trash must be placed in trash cans or closed bags. No loose trash or large items will be picked up.
- All recycling must be in recycling bins or carts. No loose items will be picked up.
- No special pickups
- Yard waste is being collected