



# City of Brockton

## Health Department

Robert F. Sullivan  
MAYOR

Dr. Eno Mondesir  
EXECUTIVE HEALTH OFFICER

**CITY OF BROCKTON BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) MEETING NOTICE THURSDAY, April 6, 2023 AT 4:30 PM. This public hearing will be held as a virtual meeting over ZOOM.**

### *Join Zoom Meeting*

*This meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Charlie Baker's signed Open Meeting Law dated March 12, 2020, which relieves a public body from the requirement of Section 20 of Chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.*

Here is the YouTube link that you can post on the website permanently and it will never change:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheBrocktonChannels>

### AGENDA

**I-Welcome/Introduction of Dr. Mary Brophy, Board Chairperson.**

**II-Board's approval of the Minutes for the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting...**

**III-Due to non-compliance, the BOH is obligated to call for a hearing with the Local Store and District Level Managements of Family Dollar Stores. 2 (two) particular Stores, namely**

- **One located at: 725 Center St, Brockton, and**
- **One located at 880 N. Montello St. Brockton.**

**IV- Moving forward with Life science, Bio Ready Community, Adoption of NIH Guidelines for Recombinant DNA (rDNA):** In our recent conversation with Sam Lipson, Senior Director of Environmental Health for the City of Cambridge, one important suggestion for us in Brockton is to consider hiring a consultant on Biosafety or Environmental Health. Dr. Brophy and I had a productive meeting with Sam over a month ago. He further advised that Brockton adopts the existing Life science and Laboratory Biosafety regulations of Sister Cities instead of reinventing the wheel.

**V- SANITARY/HEALTH INSPECTORS:** The Health Inspectors continue to have a presence at City Hall, within the Building Department. As time progresses, they are supposed to fall under the purview of Inspectional Services Department or transition with the Board of Health as it becomes a Health Department.

*"City of Champions"*

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**NOTE:** Vacancies: We have filled one Sanitary Inspector position by promoting another Code Enforcer. We still have 3 vacancies at the BOH: 1 (one) Sanitary Inspector, 1 (one) Administrative Assistant and 1 (one) Code Enforcement officer.

**VI-**The latest Statistical Data on COVID-19 cases for Brockton, and on vaccination updates, the percent of the population being vaccinated.

**VII-**COVID-19 Dashboard (cases): CURRENT (as of 03/30/23): New Positive Cases, N=5, Active Cases, N=35, Cumulative, N=34,431, Deaths=536. **The dominant COVID-19 variant continues to be XBB.1.5, of the new cases.**

Stats at the end of February 2, 2023: New Positive Cases, N=7, Active Cases, N=69, Cumulative, N=34,304, Deaths=531 New Positive.

**VIII-** Dashboard on COVID-19: In Brockton, in the last 7-Days (through 03/31/23), COVID-19 Prevalence was as follows: 2.6 cases per 100,000. Positive rate: 4.9% (ONLY) the PCR/molecular tests was reported to MAVEN (Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Networks). NB: Antigen Home Test results are not included in this report.

**IX- “MONOVALENT & BIVALENT” COVID-19 Vaccine modality:** We have seen an uptake with vaccination demand as Federal and MDPH have authorized “Bivalent” vaccines. FDA & CDC have authorized both Pfizer and Moderna bivalent doses almost for all eligible ages. Public Health Nurses (PHN) continue to offer COVID-19 at the Shaw’s Center as before. Tuesdays, 2:00 to 7:00 PM. Also, BOH continues to vaccinate at the Cape Verdean Association (575 N. Montello St.) every other Thursday, from 2:00 to 4:30 PM.

**DPH/CDC INCENTIVES:** In partnership with DPH & CDC, various amounts of Gift Card Incentives have been provided at our Vaccination clinics. NB: as of 3/29, the \$75.00 Gift cards are No longer available, but the CDC continues to support vaccination clinic with its \$25.00 gift cards.

**VIRAL LOAD (Concentration):** Brockton has access to COVID-19 data from sewer wastewater samples that shows the concentration or the viral load in the City. Last samples collected that we have data for (03/28/23), with the report date: (03/31/23), the Viral load was 181,263 of COVID-19 particles per 1L of sewer.

**X- A- Health Promotion & Public Health Education:** MDPH has provided tremendous support throughout the pandemic. We continue to partner with various stakeholders around the City: BNHC, community organization like Cape Verdean Organization, the School Department, Clergy groups, BAMSI, Brockton Housing Authority, and with different media outlets, etc.

**XI-** Mental Health needs continue to raise concerns among Health Care providers, DMH, Mental Health professionals in the State, including those in Brockton. Part of our goal is the integration of the Mental Health aspect of needs with the Public Health Standards of Care in the City of Brockton. DMH and its allies are exploring innovative interventions in order to help solve the Mental Health challenges. We have ongoing contact with DMH Southeastern Region Office. **With New Administration, Gov. Healey and Lt. Gov. Driscoll at the Corner Office, much remains to be determined. Also, the New National Mental Health Emergency Hotline is in service: 988.**

**XII-Miscellaneous:** Governor Healey has reauthorized the order that was previously signed by former Administration to extend remote meeting (3/31/25).

Brockton Hospital remains closed, due to a fire in its electrical room. The efforts continue by the Signature Healthcare and all the stakeholders to make sure that the required work is done in the hope to reopen the Hospital soon.

Medical Advisory Committee for the Elimination of Tuberculosis (MACET): I am an active member of this Statewide Committee. There has been an update in active TB cases both in the Massachusetts, and nationwide. There seems to be an inverse correlation between COVID-19 incidence rate and positive TB incidence rate. Another factor that seems to contribute to the increase in TB cases is travel.

**XIII- Our Next Board Meeting: Thursday, May 4, 2023**

**(TBD).....**

Respectfully submitted,

Eno Mondesir, Executive Health Officer BOH, City of Brockton

**P.S.: ANYONE WHO WISHES TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING BEYOND JUST WATCHING VIA YOUTUBE, NEEDS TO CALL THE BOARD OF HEALTH IN ADVANCE TO REQUEST THE ZOOM LINK. THEY WILL BE ASKED FOR THEIR NAME BEFORE THEIR REQUEST IS GRANTED (the phone: 508-580-7175).**