



**Durham Recovery & Renewal Task Force  
Task Force Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
May 22, 2020, 8:00am - 10:00am**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:00am.

**Task Force Members:**

Katie Galbraith, Task Force Co-Chair, President, Duke Regional Hospital  
Maticia Sims, Task Force Co-Chair, Vice President and Corporate Controller, Blue Cross Blue Shield of NC  
Ibukun Akinboyo, M.D., Assistant Professor, Division of Pediatric Infectious Diseases, Duke Health  
Susan Amey, CEO, Discover Durham  
Ed Boyd, Chief Strategy Office, iNvictus  
Dr. Herbert Reynolds Davis, Senior Pastor, Nehemiah Church  
Lois DeLoatch, Executive Vice President, Self-Help  
Geoff Durham, Durham Chamber of Commerce  
George Habel, Vice President, Capitol Broadcasting Company  
Philip Harewood, CEO, Lincoln Community Health Center  
Rodney Jenkins, Health Director, Durham County Department of Public Health  
Jodi Miller, Deputy County Manager, Durham County Government, representing the Emergency Operations Center  
Pilar Rocha-Goldberg, President and CEO, El Centro Hispano  
Anthony Nelson, Dean, North Carolina Central University School of Business  
Nicole Thompson, CEO, Downtown Durham Inc

**Public Comment**

Public comments and questions: [RRTF@durhamnc.gov](mailto:RRTF@durhamnc.gov)

**Priority Update**

Durham County Commission Chair, Wendy Jacobs provided some introductory remarks; gave insight on the updated "Stay at Home" order for Durham County; and read modeling data by Duke University regarding increased COVID-19 cases.

Mayor Schewel outlined the differences between the Governor's "Safer at Home" order compared to the Durham County "Stay at home Order", which included restaurants, salons, and pools opening on June 1<sup>st</sup> as opposed to May 28<sup>th</sup> as well as self-certification of specific businesses.

## **Discussion**

Chair Sims presented the following questions for discussion.

- What are the important areas of focus for the task force over the next ten days as we prepare to lift restrictions further?
- What needs to happen in order for our community and businesses to be best positioned as more places begin to open?

Regarding this discussion, Mayor Schewel advised that the City Council had voted to provide a total of 1 million dollars to assist small businesses in the community and that it should be dispersed by June.

## **Updates From Additional Roundtables**

Taskforce Member Bryan Fox and Chair Sims gave updates and offered questions around the following:

- Various roundtables on what the City of Durham needed to learn from the issues affecting small businesses in the downtown corridor as well as in other longstanding business areas in the city. He encouraged members to reach out to any small or medium business owners to attend future roundtables so that the taskforce could make note of their concerns and offer recommendations.
- What percentage of people in Durham were testing positive for COVID-19 and why? More testing or more people contracting?
- Self-certification guidelines of not only businesses, but patrons as well.
- PPE needs for businesses
- Reopening places of worship still needed further information
- Securing PPE

## **Other Concerns**

The taskforce had an open discussion regarding progress, limitations, and any other concerns.

- Targeting marginalized communities to relay information to businesses and possible rent relief for affected communities
- Return of team sports
- Limited access to technology
- Reduced bus routes

## **Next Steps**

Chair Sims outlined the next steps for the taskforce.

- List of action items from the first meeting being tracked
- Self-Certification for restaurants process to be finalized by the following Friday (June 1, 2020)
- Taskforce member Jenkins would draft new metrics to be presented at the following meeting

**Adjourn**

The Meeting adjourned at 9:48am.