

CITY OF NEW HAVEN BOARD OF ALDERS

July 6, 2020

Dear President Walker-Myers,

I am writing to request a workshop about the plans of local colleges and universities, which have significant populations of students from outside the Connecticut/New Jersey/New York area, to bring students back to campus this summer/fall. College and graduate students live on and off campus throughout our city. The health and behavior of students arriving from beyond the tri-state area will impact our neighborhoods and our city more broadly.

While it greatly benefits the city's economy - and adds positive energy – to have the students back in New Haven and their campuses activated, the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in many states throughout the country makes it important for the city to learn from the colleges and universities how they plan to ensure students comply with any quarantine rules that may still be in effect at the time they return, and how they plan to inform them of the city/state COVID-19 public health rules more generally. While we do not know what the COVID-19 situation will be like at the time the students return, we must be prepared for a situation where a significant number of students are arriving from locations with high incidents of the virus.

Residents and businesses in New Haven have dramatically changed their behavior since mid-March to slow the spread of COVID-19. We must ensure the colleges and universities have well-though out plans to ensure the health and behavior of their students does not set back our progress in the fight against COVID-19, harming the health of our residents – and of the economy.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Abigail Roth

Ward 7, Alder

Eli Sabin Ward 1, Alder

..TITLE

FROM ALDERS ROTH AND SABIN SUBMITTING AN ORDER CALLING FOR A WORKSHOP ON LOCAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES RETURN TO SCHOOL COVID-19 RELATED PLANNING AND PROTOCOLS.

..BODY

WHEREAS: Our local colleges and universities, which have significant populations of students from outside the Connecticut/New Jersey/New York area, plan to bring students back to campus this summer/fall; and

WHEREAS: College and graduate students live on and off campus throughout our city thus the health and behavior of students arriving from beyond the tri-state area will impact our neighborhoods and our city more broadly; and

WHEREAS: while it greatly benefits the city's economy - and adds positive energy – to have the students back in New Haven and their campuses activated, the recent increase in COVID-19 cases in many states throughout the country makes it important for the city to learn from the colleges and universities how they plan to ensure students comply with any quarantine rules that may still be in effect at the time they return, and how they plan to inform them of the city/state COVID-19 public health rules more generally; and

WHEREAS: while we do not know what the COVID-19 situation will be like at the time the students return, we must be prepared for a situation where a significant number of students are arriving from locations with high incidents of the virus;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED THAT since Residents and businesses in New Haven have dramatically changed their behavior since mid-March to slow the spread of COVID-19 and we must ensure the colleges and universities have well-though out plans to ensure the health and behavior of their students do not set back our progress in the fight against COVID-19, harming the health of our residents – and of the economy that the appropriate committee of the Board of Alders hold a workshop on about the plans of local colleges and universities to deal with COVID-19.