

# City of Wilmington COVID-19 Impact Study and Action Plan

The City of Wilmington, Delaware

DISASTER MANAGEMENT



## PROJECT DETAILS

**DIFFICULTY:** Medium

**COST:** \$44,500

**TIMEFRAME:** Six (6) Months

**DELIVERABLES:** A comprehensive timeline and response study identifying lessons learned throughout the pandemic, emphasizing areas for future improvement

### CORE COMPETENCIES:

- Research and Analysis
- Workshop/Interviews
- Recommendations Development
- Document/Literature Review
- Plan Development

## PROJECT TEAM

Vision Planning and Consulting

### CLIENT CONTACT

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

VPC supported the City of Wilmington in the development of a COVID-19 Impact Study and Action Plan to assess the impact of the pandemic on the City's residents, communities, and government structures. The Impact Study included a Baseline Assessment of COVID-19 and associated economic and sociodemographic metrics, a Summary of Events based on decisions made and actions taken by City departments, an analysis of the City's Level of Preparedness in the face of the pandemic, a review of the City's Response Efforts after the emergence of COVID-19, and a documentation of the City's Reopening Strategy. In doing so, it identified lessons learned throughout the pandemic and emphasized areas for future improvement, making recommendations for the City through the development of an Action Plan that can be referred to in the case of future pandemic events.

## PROJECT SUMMARY

In producing the COVID-19 Impact Study for the City of Wilmington, VPC initially assessed baseline COVID-19 metrics, including positive case and fatality data throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, and broken down by demographic variables. This assessment additionally included reported data on various economic and sociodemographic variables, such as evictions, unemployment and poverty rates, and impacted industries.

Information collected from City departments and archives from the Office of the Governor were compiled to produce a timeline of events throughout the pandemic, based on actions taken and decisions made on a State and City level. Information regarding government continuity and preparedness was also gleaned from the City's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), as well as other provided guidance documents.

VPC conducted two rounds of virtual meetings /one-on-one interviews with City Department representatives to gather information related to each Department's level of preparedness for the Pandemic, response efforts, recovery efforts, and reopening strategies. VPC created a questionnaire for interviewees to review two

weeks ahead of their interview to help them brainstorm and to capture additional information not found during the baseline research or document review.

A critical part of these meetings was to identify lessons learned throughout the COVID-19 pandemic by City departments to better inform VPC's recommendations for future preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. Information garnered from these meetings were collated and incorporated into the COVID-19 Impact Study and Action Plan.