AP-NORC poll: Half of Americans would get a COVID-19 vaccine

Bv Lauran Neergaard and Hannah Fingerhut The Associated Press

Only about half of Americans say they would get a COVID-19 vaccine if the scientists working furiously to create one succeed, a number that's surprisingly low considering the effort going into the global race for a vaccine.

But more people might eventually roll up their sleeves: The new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research found 31% simply weren't sure if they'd get vaccinated. Another 1 in 5 said they'd refuse.

Health experts already worry about the whiplash if vaccine promises like President Donald Trump's goal of a 300 million-dose stockpile by January fail. Only time and science will tell -- and the new poll shows the public is indeed skeptical.

"It's always better to under-promise and overdeliver," said Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease specialist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

"The unexpected looms large and that's why I think for any of these vaccines, we're going to need a large safety database to provide the reassurance," he added.

Among Americans who say they wouldn't get vaccinated, 7 in 10 worry about

"I am not an anti-vaxxer," said Melanie Dries, 56, of Colorado Springs, Colorado. But, "to get a COVID-19 vaccine within a year or two ... causes me to fear that it won't be widely tested as to side effects."

Dr. Francis Collins,



In this May 4 photo from the University of Maryland School of Medicine, the first patient enrolled in Pfizer's COVID-19 coronavirus vaccine clinical trial at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore, receives an injection. [UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE VIA API

who directs the National Institutes of Health, insists safety is the top priority. The NIH is creating a master plan for testing the leading COVID-19 vaccine candidates in tens of thousands of people, to prove if they really work and also if they're safe.

"I would not want people to think that we're cutting corners because that would be a big mistake. I think this is an effort to try to achieve efficiencies, but not to sacrifice rigor," Collins told the AP earlier this month.

"Definitely the worst thing that could happen is if we rush through a vaccine that turns out to have significant side effects," Collins added.

Among those who want a vaccine, the AP-NORC poll found protecting themselves, their family and the community are the top reasons.

"I'm definitely going to get it," said Brandon Grimes, 35, of Austin, Texas. "As a father who takes care of his family, I think ... it's important for me to get vaccinated as soon as it's available to better protect

my family."

And about 7 in 10 of those who would get vaccinated say life won't go back to normal without a vaccine. A site foreman for his family's construction business, Grimes travels from house to house interacting with different crews, and said some of his coworkers also are looking forward to vaccination to minimize on-the-job

The new coronavirus is most dangerous to older adults and people of any age who have chronic health problems such as diabetes or heart disease. The poll found 67% of people 60 and older say they'd get vaccinated, compared with 40% who are younger.

And death counts suggest black and Hispanic Americans are more vulnerable to COVID-19, because of unequal access to health care and other factors. Yet the poll found just 25% of African Americans and 37% of Hispanics would get a vaccine compared to 56% of whites.

Tennessee to halt sharing COVID-19 patient data

By Kimberlee Kruesi The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -

Tennessee will soon stop providing the names and addresses of COVID-19 patients to first responders, after initially arguing that doing so would protect those on the front line.

Gov. Bill Lee's administration decided on the change this week, conceding that the data may have created a false sense of security to those responding to emergency calls. The data sharing will stop at the end of the month.

The announcement follows an Associated Press review that found public officials in at least two-thirds of states are sharing the addresses of people who tested positive with first responders. A small handful of those states, including Tennessee at the time, also shared the patients' names.

Supporters argue that the information is vital to helping them take extra precautions to avoid contracting and spreading the coronavirus. Yet civil liberty and community activists have expressed repeated concerns of potential profiling in African American and Hispanic communities that already have an uneasy relationship with law enforcement.

"Individuals who have COVID-19 but who have not sought testing because they do not have symptoms may unintentionally transmit the virus to your personnel because the need to wear appropriate PPE was not apparent," wrote Todd Skelton, legal counsel for Lee's coronavirus task force, in a Tuesday email. "Therefore, first responders and law enforcement are encouraged to treat all close interactions with individuals with appropriate precautions."

Skelton added that personal protection equipment is now "more readily attainable" for first responders. In his email, Skelton noted that more than 1.4 million PPE items had been shipped to law enforcement and others across the state.

Earlier this year, the Department of Health had originally declined to hand over the COVID-19 patient data, warning that wearing protective equipment only in those cases of confirmed illness is unlikely to guarantee their protection.

That decision was eventually overturned by the governor's office after law enforcement reached out to his office pleading it was needed to stay safe.

Lee later told reporters that the patient data sharing policy would be temporary and could change when more information and protection equipment became available.

Sharing the information does not violate medical privacy laws, according to guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. But it hasn't stopped concerns about how the information was being used.

The American Civil Liberties Union, Tennessee Black Caucus and others had all called for a stop to the sharing of data with law enforcement.

At least eight states are continuing to share patient names with law enforcement: Iowa, Louisiana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Ohio and South Dakota. Wisconsin did so briefly but stopped earlier this

Colorado officials also confirmed on Wednesday that local health departments had stopped sharing names and addresses with law enforcement because the community transmission of COVID-19 had become so widespread.

Colorado has had more than 25,000 positive cases and more than 1,100 deaths linked to the

In Tennessee, law enforcement officials have been instructed to "delete and/or shred" the patient data provided by the state within 30 days, according to Skelton's email.



CITY OF WESTLAKE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Westlake City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the agenda permits. The Meeting will be held as a COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY MEETING (VIRTUAL MEETING). The following Resolution will be considered:

RESOLUTION 2020-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR GREEN LANE, BEING A PORTION OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 41 EAST AND SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 40 EAST, CITY OF WESTLAKE, PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR RECORDATION, PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The City of Westlake Council Meeting will be held as a VIRTUAL MEETING with the elected officials, administration and City staff participating via video conferencing.

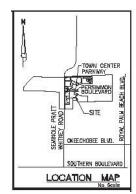
Governor DeSantis' Executive Order Number 20-69 suspended the requirements of Section 112.286, Florida Statutes, and the Florida Sunshine Law, that a quorum to be present in person, and that a local government body meet at a specific public place. The Executive Order also allows local government bodies to utilize communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing for local government body meetings.

Public Comments: members of the public that wish to provide comments will be accepted via an electronic comment card, at least 24 hours prior to the public meeting. Additional methods to speak and procedures for Public Comment are provided on the City website: https://www.westlakegov.com/ cityclerk/page/covid-19-public-meetings

All members of the public are invited to participate in this public hearing. The Resolution, and all documents pertaining to, are on file at the City of Westlake located at 4001 Seminole Pratt Whitney Road, and may be inspected by contacting the City Clerk by telephone (561) 530-5880, or email at zburgess@westlakegov.com.

In accordance with the provisions of F.S. Section 286.0105, if any interested party wishes to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at this public hearing, such interested parties will need a record of the proceedings and may need to ensure that a verbatim record is made, including the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based

The City of Westlake complies with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Individuals with disabilities requiring special accommodations or assistance should call the City of Westlake at (561) 530-5880 of such need no later than three (3) business days in advance.



Zoie Burgess, CMC City Clerk, City of Westlake Publish: May 28, 2020

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RESOLUTION 2020-12

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF WESTLAKE, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT FOR GROVES OF WESTLAKE, BEING IN PART A REPLAT OF OPEN SPACE TRACT #4 AND OPEN SPACE TRACT #5, PERSIMMON BOULEVARD EAST - PLAT 2, PLAT BOOK 128, PAGES 16 THROUGH 19, INCLUSIVE, PUBLIC RECORDS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND BEING A PORTION OF SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 41 EAST AND SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 43 SOUTH, RANGE 40 EAST, CITY OF WESTLAKE, PALM PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The City of Westlake Council Meeting will be held as a VIRTUAL MEETING with the elected officials, administration and City staff participating via video

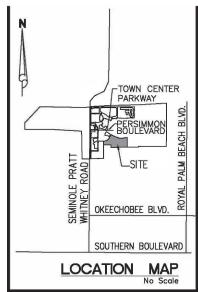
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Zoie Burgess, CMC City Clerk, City of Westlake Publish: May 28, 2020

WP-0000574044-0



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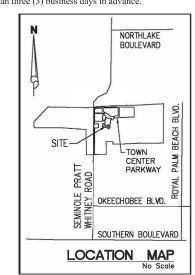
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