



MAYOR ALEX B. MORSE

CITY OF HOLYOKE

CORRECTED

November 17, 2017

Dear City of Holyoke Medicare Eligible Retiree,

The annual Open Enrollment for the City of Holyoke group Medicare supplement plan for Medicare eligible retirees began on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 and will continue through Tuesday, December 5, 2017. During this period, you may enroll into a Medicare supplement health insurance plan without evidence of insurability.

The City of Holyoke is pleased to continue to provide group health insurance to our retirees. This year the City will continue to offer the Medex 2 plan from Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS). **However, the Health New England (HNE) Secure Freedom plan is being eliminated as of January 1, 2018.**

BCBS offered a strong single source proposal to the City of Holyoke. Currently 90% of our retirees already participate in the Medex 2 plan. **I'm happy to let you know the City will be increasing it's monthly contribution toward the insurance premium from 52% to 55%. Retirees now on the BCBS Medex 2 will see a decrease in their monthly premium cost.**

By electing BCBS Medex 2, retirees that are on the HNE Secure Freedom plan will see a slight increase in their monthly premium cost but the out-of-pocket expenses will be drastically reduced. The Medex 2 plan does not require co-pays for either office visits or hospital stays. **RX copay rates will remain the same as in 2017!**

An informational chart of the BCBS Medex 2 plan is listed on the reverse side of this notice. Any plan or rate changes from 2017 are highlighted in **RED**.

IMPORTANT:

If you are currently enrolled in the HNE Secure Freedom, that plan will be cancelled effective January 1, 2018. Please attend one of the meetings listed below to enroll into the BCBS Medex 2 or your group medical insurance will be cancelled.

***If you are currently enrolled in BCBS Medex 2,
YOUR PLAN WILL REMAIN IN PLACE & YOU DO NOT NEED TO TAKE ACTION!***

You are invited to meet with representatives from Blue Cross Blue Shield at the following informational meetings that will be held at the **Holyoke Senior Center, 291 Pine Street in Holyoke on:**

Tuesday, November 28th at 8:30-10:30 A.M.

Tuesday, December 5th at 1:30-3:30 P.M.

BRING YOUR MEDICARE CARD!

Each meeting will begin with a presentation from BCBS that will describe the Medex 2 plan. These presentations will begin on time so please do not be late! Additional staff will be available for support and enrollments.

If you still have questions, please contact the Personnel Office at 413-322-5555.

Sincerely,

Holyoke Mayor Alex Morse