



REGIONAL SOLUTIONS OFFICE
GOVERNOR KATE BROWN

AGENDA

South Central Oregon Regional Economic Response/Recovery Team
April 29, 2020
12:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98548446484?pwd=NzRQdGUzQjcvbHdrcmFHbmtkZmNRdz09>

Meeting ID: 985 4844 6484

Password: 000098

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 985 4844 6484

- I. Review/discuss Phase 1 sector protocols (sent via separate emails)
 - a. Retail
 - b. Restaurants
 - c. Childcare

- II. Review/discuss infrastructure priorities; identify process for prioritizing – Betty Riley, SCOEDD

- III. Employment Department Update – Damon Runberg, Employment Department (tentative)

- IV. Roundtable (Time permitting)
 - a. Klamath Tribes – Chair Gentry
 - b. SBDC – Kat Rutledge
 - c. SCOEDD- Betty Riley
 - d. Klamath County
 - e. Lake County

- f. KCEDA – Randy Cox
- g. Discover Klamath – Jim Chadderdon

V. Next steps/wrap up



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Review/discuss Phase 1 sector protocols (sent via separate emails)

Annette started the meeting by explaining that there are five sector protocol documents and she wanted comments and feedback on each. The first discussed was Phase 1 reopening guidance for the general public. Some of the messaging will change as counties enter phase 1, while other recommendations remain the same. The guidance says to continue physical distancing, covering your face when sneezing or coughing, consider using masks in public (especially when social distancing can't be maintained) and avoiding unnecessary travel or travel of more than 50 miles.

The group was asked for feedback, comments or questions about this guidance. Nathan Cherpeski asked who was enforcing this guidance. Nathan said city police aren't the appropriate enforcement mechanism for this. Annette said this is good feedback and that additional clarification is still needed to answer this.

Jarod Johnson asked about timing. Annette explained the series of gating criteria needed for counties to enter phase one, and that this will be regionally decided based on data.

Mayor Carol Westfall asked if there was going to be a public announcement on the guidance. Commissioner Minty Morris said the county is working with many stakeholders on a reopening packet. The county is waiting for additional clarity from the state on the gating criteria, though the county is working on paperwork needed for applying for Phase 1 and could have that ready by next week.

Another question was about cloth masks being used "as appropriate" and who decides when it is appropriate. Comment was that the guidance should simply say "use face coverings" when in public to eliminate confusion about when it is and is not appropriate. Annette said feedback on this has varied, though the comment is appreciated.

General Employer Guidance

Annette explained the guidance. These are general considerations for employers that apply to most businesses, with the exception of restaurants that have their own guidance. Some of the executive orders will no longer apply when counties move into Phase 1, and that needs to still be resolved. Guidance generally was about protecting employees in the workplace, including PPE, face coverings, social distancing, modifying employee schedules to reduce close interaction, reducing employee travel, continuing telework, protecting higher risk employees, keeping records of customer visits for purposes of contact tracing if needed (with an explanation for customers on how the data will be used), etc.

Businesses should also implement safeguards like plexi-glass shields, markings to show six feet of distance, disinfection of equipment and adding hand washing and/or hand sanitizing stations.

Businesses should increase air ventilation when possible, add touchless payment methods, limit gathering of employees and stagger the use of conference meeting centers and break rooms. Businesses should develop an action plan if an employee develops symptoms in the workplace. Businesses should determine whether alternatives to layoffs are possible, including furloughing of workers. Sector specific guidance will cover other sectors with more precise guidance appropriate for those businesses.

Annette asked for feedback. Joseph Quiroli said bright lines are helpful to reduce liability, making it easier for businesses to demonstrate compliance. Randy added that there are guidelines around masks, and that sometimes masks are hazardous to some employees, so making it voluntary is appropriate. Kat Rutledge said requiring employees to wear some safety gear triggers OSHA and other workforce regulations, so encouraging it without requiring it might be the best option. The local SBDC can help with legal issues around this issue if necessary. Karen Chase added that there is a distinction between cloth masks and respirators, with cloth masks more of a courtesy to protect others, rather than being protective to the person wearing it.

Restaurants

Annette described the guidance for restaurants. The main criterion is ensuring tables are spaced six feet apart (including when customers leave tables) and restaurants are required to configure space to meet this. Restaurants must limit the number of customers on premises to a max of 50 percent of maximum capacity. Damon Runberg asked about the definition of people congregating together, and Annette said these are people who choose to dine together and do not need to be in the same family.

Businesses should minimize bare hands touching of utensils, have employees wear gloves for some activities but should use latex gloves and eliminate cross contamination. Regarding operations, businesses need to end alcoholic and food service by 10 p.m., eliminate some self-service options, eliminate salad bars, provide condiments in single serve packets or a single serve container. If not possible, condiments should not be set on the table and must be disinfected between uses. Restaurants should not preset silverware on tables and should prohibit counter and bar service in most cases.

Customers must be six feet apart at all times, even while ordering, with signs posted to this effect. Restaurants should utilize single-use menus or white board menus to avoid multiple contacts and prohibit bowling and karaoke. Businesses should appoint a greeter to monitor flow and assign a single server for all interactions. They should strongly encourage cloth based coverings, except while seated at the table. Businesses should consult with legal counsel on any requirement for employees to wear masks. Consider hand washing facilities in and around the business and post signage listing COVID symptoms.

Mayor Westfall asked about limiting groups to 10 people at a table and how this works with asymptomatic individuals. Westfall suggested the 10 people limit should instead say that table size is limited to those in the same immediate family. Darin Rutledge disagreed because people are sitting six feet away from each other, which should limit risk. Todd understood the concern but worried how enforcement would work to determine whether a group is in the same family or not. Jessica Bogardus agreed with that comment and said policing would be difficult, but she understood the concern. She said the guidance could encourage only families to dine together without requiring it. Annette asked for public health comments on this issue. Kat Rutledge suggested leaving the language as it is. Jennifer Little

said distinguishing between households is too difficult, so messaging should describe the relative risks instead. She expected this to be a challenge for public health.

Joseph Quiroli said it could be hard for restaurants to be profitable with all the monitoring requirements and that this will be a challenge. Larry Holzgang asked for justification for the 10 p.m. service cutoff on alcohol/food service and whether there was sufficient rationale for including that.

Jessica Bogardus asked whether staff numbers were part of the 50 percent capacity requirement, and this is confusing when talking about occupancy and how to calculate it. Sheri Stuart said many Main Street communities were looking at serving outdoors on closed streets to increase capacity, so the occupancy limit might not be applicable in these situations.

Jessica Little asked whether the guidance already incorporates input from restaurant sector and public health and Annette said it did.

Randy Cox said Klamath County had guidance around minimizing restaurant exposure by changing delivery methods. This guidance says to:

- Consider designated entrances and exits to minimize face-to-face exposure of patrons entering and exiting the restaurant.
- Consider texting guests when tables are ready to avoid large gatherings in the lobby area.
- If possible, limit menu offerings to accommodate preparation and cooking at distances.
- Consider rearranging coolers and freezers before accepting new deliveries to maintain organization and reduce points of contact during deliveries.

Annette talked about video lottery guidelines. Terminals must be placed six feet apart where possible, and some could be turned off in cases where this is not possible. Require individuals to request terminal access to an employee prior to playing so that the terminals could be sanitized. Limit one player to a terminal and the facility cannot turn on terminals until these conditions have been met. Annette clarified that restaurants with video lottery could turn off terminals in one area of the larger site. Larry Holzgang said most lottery terminals are close together and also difficult to move, so maintaining six feet of distance could be difficult.

Childcare

Annette highlighted the childcare guidance. There are three different types of providers and guidelines will vary by type. Generally, limit the number of children in rooms and keep the same cohort of children together as much as possible. Staffing ratios vary by type, though the ratios in the guidelines are generally fewer children per instructor than previously in place. Maintain sanitation, especially around high-touch areas and bathrooms, make sure the “floater staff” wears face cloth covering and sanitize hands. Keep a log for each child, prioritize care for children of essential workers and permit staff to wear cloth coverings.

George Lopez said tribal childhood development centers have their own ratios, and he asked if the tribe could increase staffing to meet these ratios and have the costs covered by the CARES Act. Annette said she would pass along this comment/question. Kat Rutledge asked when the outdoor recreation protocols would be made public, and Annette said it would be soon, with several others also on the way. At that time, the group will have another call to discuss those. Annette also said the state needed to start making decisions on mass gatherings and that the governor knows this is a priority to at least consider. Ginger Casto asked when theater guidance would come, and Annette said theaters are not in Phase 1 and would be considered in the near future.

Barry Imler said he wanted increased coordination between state parks and county recreation. He said state parks need to be in alignment with county decisions on how/when facilities are reopened. Darin Rutledge asked about gyms and yoga studios and those types of operations, and why they are treated differently than restaurants in terms of Phase 1. Annette said the medical advisory panel provides this advice.

Commissioner Minty Morris said she wanted to make very clear that the counties will need to apply to the state for opening under Phase 1 and that the state needs to approve the request. Counties cannot make this decision unilaterally. Jennifer Little asked about how the approval from the state will come, and Annette said this would likely include modifying or withdrawing portions of executive order 20-12 to remove any conflicts.

Review/discuss infrastructure priorities; identify process for prioritizing – Betty Riley, SCOEDD

Betty said she has about 22 projects totaling over \$357 million that are shovel-ready, with most looking currently seeking financing. She said she is looking to create a group to prioritize the projects in case funding becomes available. Annette said she would like to get Lake County more engaged to see if more projects can be identified there.

Employment Department Update – Damon Runberg, Employment Department (tentative)

Damon said there was a lot of anticipation for PUA, or the pandemic unemployment assistance program. It's broad and covers self-employed, 1099-contract workers, Gig economy workers, traditionally non-covered workers and people who would have started a new job but were not able to because of the pandemic. The range is \$200 dollars per week to \$648 per week. These recipients would also get \$600 per week through a related state program and it could be backdated to as early as early February.

Joseph Quiroli asked for an update on the claims process because he is hearing of ongoing problems with the system. Damon said there are many thousands of Oregonians still waiting to get processed, though the department is working through this as quickly as possible. The payment will include backpay for delayed claims.

Jacob Egler with Senator Wyden's staff

Jacob said federal funding was added to fund the PUA. He said the senator is looking for additional funding packages though there is no timeframe on this. Senator Wyden will introduce legislation to provide direct cash relief to businesses, given the challenges recently by small businesses to access the previous relief. Randy Cox asked if there was discussion to expand the Opportunity Zone program. Jacob said there is some discussion around this but it's too early to know what will happen.

George Lopez said the tribe put construction projects on hold and wants to get those started. He asked for guidance around this sector. Annette said construction was not included in the executive order but would check if there was guidance around construction that could be shared.

Next steps/wrap up

Annette thanked everyone for their hard work.