



**REGIONAL SOLUTIONS OFFICE**  
**GOVERNOR KATE BROWN**

AGENDA

South Central Oregon Regional Economic Response/Recovery Team

June 2, 2020

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94539248302?pwd=MjkzMEdhamNhcZBuS2ROTGV0eENkZz09>

Meeting ID: 945 3924 8302

Password: 389387

One tap mobile

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- I. Governor's Office update – Annette Liebe, Regional Solutions Coordinator
- II. Oregon Health Authority update – Matt Green, Government Relations, OHA
- III. COVID-19 Administrative Rules and Enforcement – Jeff Rhoades, Senior Policy Advisor, Governor's Office
- IV. Economic Forecast – Josh Lehner, Office of Economic Analysis
- V. Time permitting: Questions/Discussion from partners (it's OK if you don't have any)  
ROUNDTABLE:
  - a. Klamath Tribes
  - b. Lake County
  - c. Klamath County
  - d. SBDC – Kat Rutledge
  - e. SCOEDD- Betty Riley
  - f. Klamath County Chamber

- g. Lake County Chamber
- h. KCEDA – Randy Cox
- i. Discover Klamath – Jim Chadderdon
- j. East Cascades Works
- k. KCC
- l. OIT

VI. Next steps/wrap up

## I. Governor's Office Update

Annette opened the meeting and said the governor is expected to have a press conference tomorrow on Phase 2 reopening. She will share the link when it is available. Klamath and Lake Counties have both applied for Phase 2. She thanked everyone who provided input on the vendor guidelines and guidelines for recreational team sports.

## II. COVID-19 Administrative Rules and Enforcement – Jeff Rhoades, Senior Policy Advisor, Governor's Office

Annette welcomed Jeff Rhoades, Senior Policy Advisor in the Governor's Office; Jeff has been working on enforcement issues in the phased reopening framework. When executive order 20-12 initially came out, he worked with others to develop enforcement framework to respond to some of the difficult situations involved in reopening. The enforcement work is happening in coordination and under the MACC, or the Multi Agency Coordination Center. The group includes Oregon OSHA, OHA, DOJ, OLCC, OHA, BOLI, Oregon State Lottery and numerous licensing boards.

The group first asked how they would look at complaints that came to the state. Initially, complaints went to OSHA and the state received a wave of complaints. The complaints, while still high, have leveled off as Phase 1 was implemented. OSHA triages the complaints and refers them to the appropriate agency for follow-up. Many complaints are also handled by the Oregon State Lottery as social distancing with proximity of some lottery machines proved a challenge in some cases. The OHA and local public health also follows up on a large number of complaints, including in the personal services sector.

The state asked all licensing boards to enact emergency guidelines in response to COVID-19. This incorporates the requirements in various executive orders because typical licensing rules wouldn't necessarily have health precautions applicable to the pandemic.

The state has taken an information-first approach. Many employers want to remain in compliance and have reached out to the state for information and assistance. The emphasis is on education, though there are some cases where more enforcement is required. The enforcement team has worked with local law enforcement to help connect employers with the state to get information on compliance. The team is continuing to put out public messaging related to compliance, with help from the Regional Solutions Team. The enforcement team has stressed consistency in all issues related to compliance. All complaints, whether they come from local authorities or from individuals, can always be emailed to OHA if there is a question on where to send the complaint.

Regarding complaints received on sovereign tribal land, the state only gets involved when the tribe seeks help with enforcement. This is up to the tribal council to decide, though the state remains willing to assist as requested.

Commissioner Kelley Minty Morris asked for examples of what people are risking if they flagrantly violate rules. This could include fines, fees, licensure cancellations and misdemeanor charges, though these cases are relatively rare and only occur after attempts to educate and inform have failed.

## III. Update from Oregon Health Authority

OHA's Matt Green said there have been 4,335 cases of COVID-19 as of today, which is fifth lowest per capita in the country. The cases are not randomly distributed, with several major factors determining whether a person catches the virus or has severe symptoms. Older people are much more likely to suffer severe symptoms than younger people, particularly people over age 80. People with underlying and chronic health problems are also much more likely to experience severe symptoms or to die from the virus.

Race and ethnicity also plays a factor, with non-White people being more likely to contract the disease and experience severe symptoms. The state is focused on where the disease is most likely to occur, which includes long-term care facilities.

All of the guidance and reopening framework is based on minimizing the chances of transmitting the virus while starting to reopen society and the economy. This includes social distancing, hand-washing, face coverings, repeatedly cleaning surfaces, etc. It remains very important for people who experience symptoms to isolate themselves. Older people and those with underlying health conditions should take extra precautions.

In response to a question on vaping and chances of disease contraction, Matt said he would look for information on this and share it with the group.

#### IV. Office of Economic Analysis Update

Josh Lehner with the Office of Economic Analysis said his office released the latest revenue and economic forecast two weeks ago. This is the first forecast that fully accounts for the pandemic on the state's public resources. The state is in one of the deepest recessions on record, with Oregon unemployment in the low 20 percent range. Economic activity will snap back as Phase 1 businesses reopen, which will help the outlook. There is a lot of pent-up demand with forced savings due to restrictions on consumer spending, though incomes will also remain down. Josh said the short term outlook is likely to improve in the weeks and months ahead, but the longer term recovery will take much longer.

Some of the business and employee losses will be permanent, though it's hard to predict how many businesses come back and how quickly. Federal aid has helped, though the amount is insufficient to meet the need. Federal aid is also not guaranteed to continue, so that is something to watch.

Josh explained that his office has looked at economic impacts if there is a resurgence of the virus, which would further suppress revenue and economic activity. The models show that scenario is fairly bleak from a state economic perspective.

#### V. Roundtable

SCOEDD's Betty Riley said the region received recent grant funding, though not as much as requested in the application. SCOEDD will be able to apply those funds to businesses in the next couple of weeks, with an emphasis on underserved small businesses.

Annette invited people to submit agenda items for next Tuesday's meeting.