



DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMISSIONER CHRIS BOICE

1036 SE Douglas Ave., Room 217 ➤ Roseburg, Oregon 97470

May 29, 2020

Governor Kate Brown
c/o Jennifer Andrew at Jennifer.j.andrew@Oregon.gov
254 State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301-4047
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To: Jennifer Andrew
From: Commissioner Chris Boice
Subject: Entering Phase 2

Douglas County requests permission to enter Phase 2 of reopening on June 5, 2020 as we believe that we meet the criteria for entering Phase 2.

Since the opening of Phase 1 and as of 6 am this morning, we have only had 2 cases reported, one as part of asymptomatic screening and the other in a mildly symptomatic person who was not part of a larger outbreak. All of these cases have been investigated and contact traced within 24 hours. We have not been able to link the source of these cases, but given the small number and the asymptomatic status, this is as expected.

In addition, we have had several releases from DOC who have required quarantine and isolation at local motels. We have met their many needs and have additional capacity for isolation and quarantine, if required. The process for those being released has been very problematic and your assistance in improving the DOC release process would be greatly appreciated.

We have identified at least 18 people who can provide contact tracing, but with the small number of cases, they have had little contact tracing to do. Most of these individuals are already hired or contracted and some are on loan from other organizations. We have also identified 14 community based and culturally competent organizations and one local tribe who we work with on contact tracing.

In this quiet time, our contact tracing teams are actively training on contact tracing and the various systems and organizing their work. In addition, we have supplied some contact tracers to Marion County to help them with their contact tracing and have helped Curry County to interview cases. We are also providing training for contact tracers in Coos and other counties.

PPE remains a concern, but with the small number of cases, we have been able to meet the needs of our first responders and have been able to slowly re-build our county stockpiles. Our local first responders report

adequate amounts of PPE. We are confident that we can meet the needs of our first responders, even with a moderate surge.

Testing remains vigorous, so that we are now able to test all symptomatic people, asymptomatic people who are in high risk settings (such as seasonal workers), and any asymptomatic person who wants a test. Our overall positive testing rate is less than 1.2%.

We have no hospitalized patients with Covid in our county and our hospitals assure us that they have at least 20% additional capacity, should an outbreak occur. We have verified that they report to HOSCAP on a regular basis.

Overall, Douglas County has had a vigorous response to Covid and has had a low disease burden. We think that we are as ready as any to move to Phase 2. Please contact Commissioner Chris Boice or our public health administrator, Dr. Bob Dannenhoffer if you need further information.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Boice". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and last name "Boice" clearly distinguishable.

Chris Boice

Chair, Douglas County Board of Commissioners

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