

County Court

221 S. Oregon St. PO Box 427 Condon, OR 97823
Office: 541.384.6351 Admin: 541.384.3303 Fax: 541.384.3304



May 8, 2020

The Honorable Kate Brown
Governor, State of Oregon
254 State Capitol
Salem OR 97310

Dear Governor Brown,

On behalf of the Gilliam County Court and the communities we represent, I am writing to request your authorization for Gilliam County to enter Phase 1 of the Reopening Oregon Plan.

As you know, Gilliam County remains 1 of only 3 Oregon counties without a confirmed COVID-19 case. In the face of this pandemic, our citizens have demonstrated incredible resiliency, creativity, compassion, and, above all, an unwavering commitment to protecting the health and safety of our neighbors and the most vulnerable among us. I am proud of their response and confident these same ideals will guide Gilliam County safely and successfully through this next phase of recovery.

The attached Gilliam County Reopening Plan was developed in concert with North Central Public Health District and other regional partners and meets all seven of the Prerequisites for Reopening Oregon Guidelines.

The Gilliam County Court believes our communities are ready to safely enter Phase 1 of the Reopening Plan, and I respectfully request authorization to do so effective May 15, 2020.

Please don't hesitate to contact me directly if I can provide you and your team with any additional information. I look forward to your decision and to working with you to help our small businesses and communities recover from this unprecedented public health emergency.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth A. Farrar
Gilliam County Judge

GILLIAM COUNTY REOPENING PLAN

MAY 8, 2020



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
NORTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

About Gilliam County

Gilliam County is in the heart of the Columbia River Plateau's wheat-growing region. The economy is primarily based on agriculture, with wheat, barley and beef as the principle agricultural products. In addition, Gilliam County's blustery weather and consistent sunshine has allowed family farms to diversify and usher in the development of a robust renewable energy industry in more recent years.

The largest employer in the county is Waste Management Inc., who runs two regional waste disposal landfills.

Hunting, fishing and tourism are secondary industries. Transportation also supports a vibrant, local economy. Two major rivers - the John Day and Columbia - cross the area east-to-west, as does Interstate 84. Highway 19 connects the county's major cities – Arlington and Condon - north-to-south and provides access to the John Day Valley.

About North Central Public Health District

North Central Public Health District is Oregon's only multi-county public health agency. Formed under ORS 190, NCPHD serves Gilliam, Sherman and Wasco Counties in North Central Oregon. At this writing, Gilliam County has 0 cases of COVID-19. NCPHD is also the lead agency for the Eastern Oregon Modernization Collaborative (EOMC) serving 13 Counties in Eastern Oregon. This regional approach has served as additional response capacity across Eastern Oregon.

Purpose of this Plan

Gilliam County declared a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic on Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

The purpose of the plan is to provide a shared framework for decision making as Gilliam County seeks to balance protecting community health and wellbeing with increasing economic activity as the community responds to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gating Criteria for Phased Re-Opening

The criteria below were outlined by the State as prerequisites for the Phased Reopening of Oregon. There are designations for gating criteria that must be met at the County level and those that must be met at the regional level. Health Region 6 (Hood River, Wasco, Gilliam and Sherman Counties) has a long history of working together to plan for the emergency response to an event such as a pandemic. Resources and best practices are regularly exchanged between the partner counties. Region 9 (Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Baker and Malheur) consists of 5 member counties of Eastern Oregon Modernization Collaborative (EOMC). Capacity and resource sharing is the norm for the Eastern Oregon communities.

1. Declining prevalence of COVID-19	Metric Level	Met?
The percentage of emergency department visits for COVID-19-like illnesses (CLI) are less than the historic average for flu at the same time of year.	State	Yes
A 14-day decline in COVID-19 hospital admissions if over 5 hospitalized cases.	County	N/A

Oregon Health Authority (OHA) will provide statewide data for the certification of this metric. Gilliam County cases will be reported into the Oregon Public Health Epidemiologist' User System (ORPHEUS) database for accurate reporting at the state and local level. Currently, Gilliam County has had 0 confirmed cases of COVID-19. NCPHD will continue to monitor these levels and work with the Gilliam County Emergency Management Team to address any increases.

2. Minimum Testing Regimen in Place	Metric Level	Met?
Regions able to administer testing at a rate of 30 per 10k per week	Regional	Yes
Sufficient testing sites accessible to underserved communities	Regional	Yes

North Gilliam County Health District in Arlington, and South Gilliam County Health Center in Condon are currently providing testing to community members. NCPHD is prepared to deploy staff to Gilliam County if needed to support outbreak testing or additional testing events. These clinics also work closely with community members to provide testing at low or no cost to the client. In addition, Gilliam County residents have access to testing resources in Wasco County as the site of a regional medical center.

Wasco County has two significant sources of testing for the community, Mid-Columbia Medical Center (MCMC) and One Community Health. These institutions have already been providing testing to support both frontline workers as well as those who are symptomatic. Currently, NCPHD believes that the region has sufficient testing capacity and sites to meet the regional need.

NCPHD has developed a community wide testing strategy that includes:

- The flexibility to meet full testing needs in congregate living settings if a case occurs, testing accessibility for low-income residents and vulnerable populations, as well as opportunities for those working in industries where social distancing is challenging are able to get tested. These industries include retail, personal services, agriculture, restaurant, childcare, and health care.
- Testing locations are available in Wasco County that provide access for low-income and vulnerable populations.
 - MCMC and One Community Health are providing testing. In particular, One Community Health is providing screening for frontline workers.
 - MCMC and OCH have also developed a cooperative strategy to share responsibility for migrant camps during cherry harvest with an emphasis on telehealth.
 - MCMC is now providing medical services in Maupin at Deschutes Rim Clinic to enhance access for Wasco County residents living in South County.
 - OCH, at the invitation of community members, will be holding a testing event for Native American community members living along the Big River
- Testing sites are advertising their ability to test patients through their online presence and NCPHD has developed a website focused on sharing information and resources around COVID-19 response at <https://wascoshermangilliamcovid-19.com/> where residents are provided information on what to do if they are experiencing symptoms.

3. Contact Tracing System	Metric Level	Met?
Counties have hotel rooms available for those who cannot self-isolate	County	Yes

Counties provide a narrative of how they will respond to three different outbreak situations in the county (e.g. nursing home, jail, food processing facility, farmworker housing, other group living situation)	County	Yes-Long Term Care Facilities, NORCOR, Farmworkers
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NCPHD has 6 staff currently trained in contact tracing which exceeds the 15 per 100K metric requirement. NCPHD has a very long history of health equity work and meeting the needs of our entire community. Our workforce diversity has long represented our diverse community with many bilingual, bicultural Latinx members. Currently 2 staff members, one of whom is a certified Spanish language interpreter and one of whom is a qualified Spanish language interpreter, have been trained in contact tracing. NCPHD also works closely with the Regional Health Equity Coalition to assess and meet the needs of our communities through messaging and outreach. NCPHD has staff available 24/7 and is prepared to trace 95% of new cases within 24 hours. NCPHD has a long history of meeting or exceeding Communicable Disease quality metrics set by the OHA Public Health Division.

4. Isolation Facilities	Metric Level	Met?
Counties have hotel rooms available for those who cannot self-isolate	County	Yes
Counties provide a narrative of how they will respond to three different outbreak situations in the county (e.g. nursing home, jail, food processing facility, farmworker housing, other group living situation)	County	Yes-Long Term Care Facilities, NORCOR, Farmworkers

Hotel Rooms: Hotel rooms have been identified and are available for people who test positive and cannot self-isolate. Currently, Gilliam County has the commitment of 1 motel in Gilliam County and NCPHD has the commitment of 3 hotels in Wasco County to rent space for isolation and quarantine. NCPHD estimates that this will meet the region's needs.

NCPHD is Oregon’s only multi-county public health agency. As such, three responses to outbreak scenarios within the region are described below. NCPHD has worked closely with Gilliam County’s two largest employers - Waste Management, Inc. and Gilliam County – to plan for an outbreak response at their facilities; including the Gilliam County Courthouse and the Frontier Regional 911 Center in Condon.

Additionally, NCPHD has plans to address outbreaks in the following areas:

- 1. Long Term Care (LTC) Facilities:** NCPHD has already responded to an outbreak in a Long-term care facility with great success in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. LTC Facility staff worked with NCPHD prior to a case being identified. Plans were in place to screen and quickly identify anyone with symptoms of COVID-19. When a patient was identified as symptomatic, the patient was immediately isolated and tested. Staff interactions with the case were limited to a very few staff members. PPE was worn and protocols were followed for sanitation. Staff and other residents were screened daily. OHA was consulted for additional testing guidance. The patient recovered. Two staff members were identified as positive for COVID-19, but no further spread was identified. Gilliam County and NCPHD would deploy a similar response effort to Summit Springs Village Assisted Living Facility in Condon should an outbreak occur there.
- 2. Northern Oregon Regional Correctional Facility (NORCOR):** NCPHD has worked closely with NORCOR, the regional jail located in The Dalles, to prepare for the possibility of COVID-19 cases in the facility. NORCOR is equipped with 4 negative pressure rooms available for inmates either under suspicion of or ill with COVID-19. Inmates are currently being screened on arrival and monitored daily. NORCOR medical staff have worked closely with NCPHD staff to put plans in place for isolation of ill individuals and quarantine of close contacts. NCPHD, working alongside NORCOR medical staff, has the capacity to test inmates and staff as recommended by OHA. Relationships have been established with law enforcement, parole and probation and other community social service agencies to be able to track contacts who may have been released during the period of communicability.
- 3. Agriculture:** NCPHD is working with One Community Health, the local Federally Qualified Health Center, and Mid-Columbia Medical Center to prepare to respond to an outbreak in migrant worker housing or a packing facility. Work has been done with local orchardists to prepare to isolate and quarantine as appropriate. The three entities would deploy clinical staff to test on site as necessary rather than bringing workers into medical facilities. Orchardists and farmers are instructed to record work crew membership and housing cohorts to facilitate contact tracing activities. NCPHD has also worked with community partners to facilitate WIC, childcare and other services for families during harvest.

5. Finalized Business Sector Guidelines.	Metric Level	Met?
OHA has finalized guidance for key sectors.	State	Yes

On May 7, 2020, Oregon released final business sector guidance for Phase 1 Reopening. Industries that have not been able to operate during the “Stay Home, Stay Safe” orders must follow this guidance to reopen.

Gilliam County and NCPHD are working closely with the Mid-Columbia Economic Resilience Team (MCERT) as they move toward hosting a Business Adaptation Training on May 14, 2020 that will share information with the business community about guidelines and how to adapt their business models to meet the finalized sector guidance. As guidance changes moving forward, the MCERT will continue to share information and support businesses as they work to operate safely. Gilliam County and the Condon Chamber of Commerce is actively participating in this group.

6. Sufficient Healthcare Capacity	Metric Level	Met?
Region must be able to accommodate a 20% increase in hospitalizations.	Regional	Yes.

The regional healthcare system must be able to meet potential growth in the number of COVID-19 cases, and potential hospitalizations, as the local community and economy begins its phased reopening. Please see attached letters from Dennis Knox, MCMC CEO, and Jeannie Viera, Providence Hood River CEO, attesting to the ability for local hospitals to accommodate a 20% increase in hospitalizations Appendix A.

7. Sufficient PPE Supplies.	Metric Level	Met?
Hospitals in region are reporting PPE supply daily through HOSCAP	Regional	REQUIRED OHA will certify
Hospitals in region must have a 14 or 30 day supply of PPE depending on their size and whether they are a rural hospital.	Regional	Yes
Counties must have sufficient PPE for first responders.	County.	Yes

Please refer to attached CEO letters attesting to this metric for our hospitals.

First responders must have adequate PPE to meet needs at the County level. Gilliam County's Emergency Management Coordinator communicates with each of the fire, EMS, and law enforcement entities in the County multiple times a week to track PPE supply needs closely. With current allocations, Gilliam County first responders have sufficient PPE supply, and the Gilliam County Sheriff has certified this via letter attached in Appendix B.

Gilliam County Emergency Management will continue to proactively monitor these supplies and PPE utilization to ensure that they can continue to meet the PPE needs of first responders as reopening occurs.

Shifting Between Phases

The State has developed detailed Phase 1 reopening guidelines for the public and local businesses. Gilliam County and NCPHD will continue to support and implement State guidelines for each phase of the reopening framework in partnership with OHA and local partners as Gilliam County becomes eligible, based on public health criteria, to move into further phases of reopening.

APPENDIX A: HOSPITAL ATTESTATIONS

Teri Thalhofer, RN, BSN
Director
North Central Public Health District
419 E. 7th St
The Dalles, OR 97058

Dear Teri,

Mid-Columbia Medical Center is committed to meeting the healthcare needs of the population of the Columbia Gorge region. As we resume non-emergent and elective procedures, we remain vigilant in our capacity and ability to care for a surge in suspected or confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations.

In meeting all the requirements of the Oregon Executive Order 20-22, we wanted to share our ongoing plans in meeting two specific requirements:

Sufficient Health Care Capacity:

Hospital capacity has two dimensions, both bed capacity and healthcare workforce to meet the needs of our patients. Mid-Columbia Medical Center is licensed for 49 beds and is staffed with a workforce able to staff all 49 beds. In meeting the ability to “accommodate a 20% increase in suspected COVID-19 hospitalizations” as it relates to Executive Order: 20-22, we have determined that we will hold census at a rate less than 39 admitted patients. We monitor this census daily and the House Supervisor is mandated to contact the Chief Clinical Officer if the census were to reach 35 admitted patients.

Sufficient Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Supply:

We have been reporting, and will continue to report, PPE supply daily through the HOSCAP system. As a 49-bed licensed facility we must monitor and maintain within our organization a 14-day supply of PPE. We currently have in excess of a 30-day supply of each of the following critical PPE items: Disposable Isolation gowns, N-95 masks – 9210, 18605, 9211 with valve, and 1860, simple masks, surgical tie masks, Nitrile gloves in small, medium, large, and extra-large. The MCMC Incident Commander monitors PPE supply on a daily basis and sets an internal goal not to fall below a 30-day supply. An attestation was submitted to the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) on May 4, 2020, and the confirmation of receipt by OHA is attached.

Please reach out if you need any further information.

Sincerely,



Dennis M. Knox, FACHE
President/CEO



Hospital Attestation to Resume Non-Emergent or Elective Procedures

On April 27, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 20-22, that allowed hospitals to resume non-emergent or elective procedures, by May 1, 2020 at the earliest, if a hospital is in compliance with Oregon Health Authority (OHA) guidance. The guidance issued by OHA on April 29, 2020, requires hospitals to have adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) on hand and to attest to OHA prior to resuming non-emergent or elective procedures, that the hospital meets OHA standards.¹

This attestation form must be signed by an individual with legal authority to act on behalf of the hospital or health system.

I, Donald T. Wenzler (printed name), on behalf of Mid-Columbia Medical Center (name of hospital or health system), attest to the following (please check any of the boxes that apply and supply any additional information):

- The hospital or health system intends to resume non-emergent or elective procedures by (insert date) May 4, 2020
- The hospital or hospitals within the health system have adequate medical grade PPE supplies that meet applicable National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations for performing non-emergent or elective procedures.
- As a large hospital (as defined in OHA guidance) the hospital has an adequate 30-day supply of PPE on hand that is appropriate to the number and type of procedures to be performed or an open supply chain, as that is defined in OHA's guidance.
- As a small hospital (as that is defined in OHA guidance), the hospital has an adequate 14-day supply of PPE that is appropriate to the number and type of procedures to be performed on hand or an open supply chain, as that is defined in OHA's guidance.

¹ The guidance can be found at

<https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2322u.pdf>.

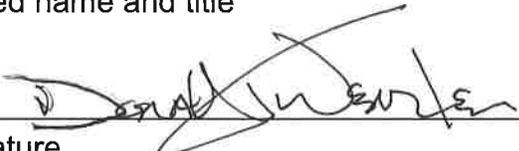
As a health system, PPE supplies on hand were calculated at a health system level and the PPE requirements can be met for each of the hospitals within the health system listed below.

If a health system is submitting this attestation, please list all of the hospitals in the system for which this attestation applies:

I certify that the responses in this attestation are accurate and complete. I understand that if OHA determines that a hospital is not in compliance with the PPE requirements, OHA may require the hospital to cease performing non-emergent or elective procedures for a specified period of time.

Donald T. Wenzler, Chief Clinical Officer
Printed name and title

4/30/20
Date


Signature

Donald Wenzler - << External >> Confirmation - Submit here: Hospital Attestation to Resume Non-emergency or Elective Procedures

From: Smartsheet Forms <forms@smartsheet.com>
To: <donalddw@mcmc.net>
Date: 4/30/2020 2:39 PM
Subject: << External >> Confirmation - Submit here: Hospital Attestation to Resume Non-emergency or Elective Procedures

This message originated from outside MCMC – Treat links & files with care.



This is confirmation that your submission has been received.

Submit here: Hospital Attestation to Resume Non-emergency or Elective Procedures

Organization Name Mid-Columbia Medical Center

Submitter name Donald T. Wenzler

Submitter email donalddw@mcmc.net

Submitter phone [541-296-7396](tel:541-296-7396)

Primary contact for this document - name Donald T. Wenzler

Primary contact for this document - phone [541-296-7396](tel:541-296-7396)

Primary contact for this document - email donalddw@mcmc.net

**Additional
Comments
(optional)**

File Attachments

Hospital Attestation to Resume Non-emergent Elective Procedures.pdf (215k)

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May 6, 2020

Hood River County Board of Commissioners
601 State Street
Hood River, OR 97031

Dear Commissioners:

In accordance with Governor Brown's framework for reopening, Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital provides this update on our bed surge capacity, personal protective equipment supply chain reliability and commitment to daily PPE reporting to the Oregon Health Authority.

Bed Surge Capacity

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital activated our Incident Command structure on March 9, 2020; this was in addition to a Regional Command Center to support all eight Providence hospitals in Oregon. This structure enables Providence to plan and respond to an anticipated surge of COVID-19 patients in an efficient manner. Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital has adequate bed capacity to accommodate an increase in volume if we experience a future surge of COVID-19 patients.

PPE Supply Chain Reliability

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital ensures we have a reliable PPE supply chain to guarantee access to PPE and accommodate the any expected surge. Providence manages supplies across our eight Oregon hospitals, this allows us to shift supplies in the event of a surge. Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital will continue to maintain a reliable supply chain for PPE.

PPE Reporting to Oregon Health Authority

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital reports PPE to the Oregon Health Authority through the HOSCAP system. We have committed to continuing this reporting of PPE to the Oregon Health Authority.

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital is committed to communicating with our community and the state on our preparedness and stands ready to serve the needs of the community.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lisa Vance in black ink.

Lisa Vance
Chief Executive Officer
Providence Health & Services – Oregon

Handwritten signature of Steve Freer in black ink.

Steve Freer, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Providence Health & Services - Oregon



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon
Health
Authority

500 Summer St. NE E20

Salem, OR 97301

Voice: 503-947-2340

Fax: 503-947-2341

Hospital Attestation to Resume Non-Emergent or Elective Procedures

On April 27, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 20-22, that allowed hospitals to resume non-emergent or elective procedures, by May 1, 2020 at the earliest, if a hospital is in compliance with Oregon Health Authority (OHA) guidance. The guidance issued by OHA on April 29, 2020, requires hospitals to have adequate personal protective equipment (PPE) on hand and to attest to OHA prior to resuming non-emergent or elective procedures, that the hospital meets OHA standards.¹

This attestation form must be signed by an individual with legal authority to act on behalf of the hospital or health system.

I, William Olson (printed name), on behalf of Providence Health & Services (name of hospital or health system), attest to the following (please check any of the boxes that apply and supply any additional information):

- The hospital or health system intends to resume non-emergent or elective procedures by (insert date) May 4, 2020
- The hospital or hospitals within the health system have adequate medical grade PPE supplies that meet applicable National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations for performing non-emergent or elective procedures.
- As a large hospital (as defined in OHA guidance) the hospital has an adequate 30-day supply of PPE on hand that is appropriate to the number and type of procedures to be performed or an open supply chain, as that is defined in OHA's guidance.
- As a small hospital (as that is defined in OHA guidance), the hospital has an adequate 14-day supply of PPE that is appropriate to the number and type of procedures to be performed on hand or an open supply chain, as that is defined in OHA's guidance.

¹ The guidance can be found at

<https://sharedsystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le2322u.pdf>.

As a health system, PPE supplies on hand were calculated at a health system level and the PPE requirements can be met for each of the hospitals within the health system listed below.

If a health system is submitting this attestation, please list all of the hospitals in the system for which this attestation applies:

Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, Providence Milwaukie Hospital

Providence Portland Medical Center, Providence Seaside Hospital

Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center; Providence Hood River

Memorial Hospital; Providence Medford Medical Center; Providence

Newberg Medical Center

I certify that the responses in this attestation are accurate and complete. I understand that if OHA determines that a hospital is not in compliance with the PPE requirements, OHA may require the hospital to cease performing non-emergent or elective procedures for a specified period of time.

William Olson COO

Printed name and title

04-30-2020

Date

William Olson

Signature

APPENDIX B: COUNTY PPE ATTESTATION



Gilliam County Sheriff's Office

Gary Bettencourt, Sheriff

PO Box 685, 221 S. Oregon Street, Condon, OR 97823

541-384-2851- Fax: 541-384-2878

May 8, 2020

The Honorable Governor Kate Brown
State of Oregon
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Or 97031

Dear Governor Brown:

Gilliam County is anxious to reopen our community in a safe and strategic manner. With the prerequisites for reopening Oregon, we believe we are prepared to safely enter Phase 1.

As Sheriff and Director of Emergency Operations, I certify that we currently have adequate Personal Protective Equipment to supply our first responders. We have worked to establish supply chains and at this point they are reliable.

Thank you for considering our plan for reopening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gary Bettencourt".

Sheriff Gary Bettencourt