



Harney County

Reopening Plan

COVID-19

May 15, 2020

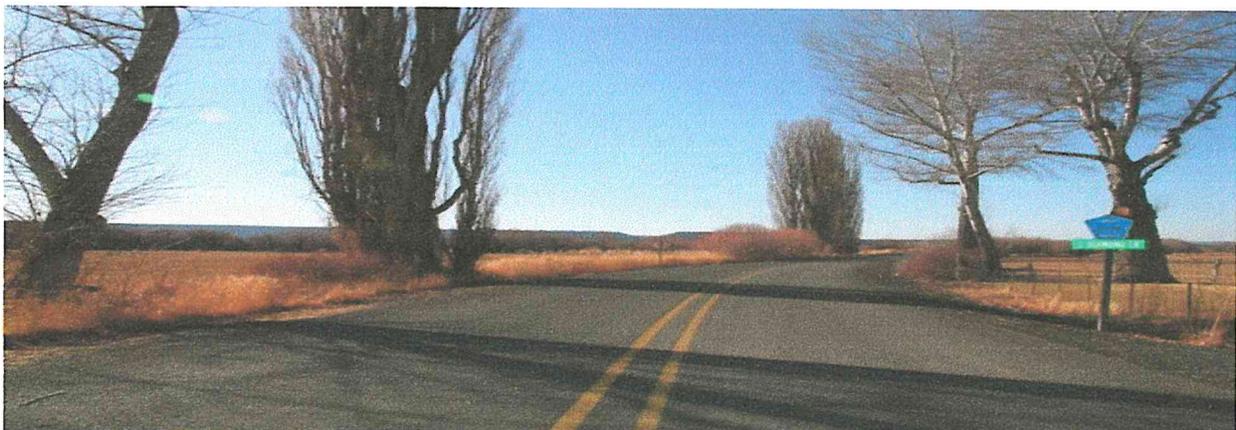
Oregon Governor Kate Brown developed *Reopening Oregon: A Public Health Framework for Restarting Public Life and Business* as a framework to responsibly reopen business in Oregon, in a phased approach with prerequisites, criteria and guidelines, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Within that framework, *Harney County, Oregon hereby submits its plan for a Phase 1 reopening of Harney County effective May 15, 2020.* This plan has been developed by the Harney County Court in collaboration with local public health, hospital, emergency management, business, health region, and others.

Harney County understands the concerns of an increase in COVID-19 cases once restrictions are eased, and that this is important and unfamiliar territory. With our utmost desire to protect the health of our community, we also seek to lead and support responsible business operations to save our economy.

Harney County, with its relatively isolated location, wide open spaces, low population, and hardy community resilience provides a favorable COVID-19 scenario for reopening of business. We are able to do this within the state's public health framework, nimbly adjust the plan as needed, and likely save the few small businesses that have been able to operate in Oregon's most challenged economy while instilling hope, moving forward, and providing lessons learned.

Harney County proposes to move forward in partnership with Health Region 7, Oregon House District (HD 60) counties, the Burns Paiute Tribe, and very importantly – with strong state support.



Harney County Reopening Plan

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Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to reflect the readiness, criteria, planning efforts, and guidance for Harney County to move forward with reopening local businesses and services amid the COVID-19 pandemic environment. This plan has been prepared based on Governor Kate Brown's *Public Health Framework for Reopening Oregon* guidelines.

Adaptive Management Approach

Due to the frequently changing and fluid nature of COVID-19 information and guidelines, from both the federal and state levels, this reopening plan will serve as an adaptive management plan, or living document. This means that as information, standards, protocols or changes emerge or become available, that appropriate discussions will take place - among Harney County government, public health, hospital, health region, emergency management, business community and others - in order to address and reflect updates to reopening planning and implementation. Phases, guidelines, and regional updates will be added as appendices to this plan as a method to stay current with this fluid situation.

Harney County Phase 1 Reopening: Entry Prerequisites Met

Prerequisites for Phased Reopening of Oregon

Harney County meets Oregon's prerequisites to enter Phase 1 of *Reopening Oregon: A Public Health Framework for Restarting Public Life and Business*. Each of these seven prerequisites must be met before a county can enter Phase 1 of Reopening Oregon. Prerequisites for Phased Reopening of Oregon (Appendix A) details these requirements. While many prerequisites are set at the county level, some are set at the health region or state level. Harney County meets these prerequisites, as does Health Region 7. See Appendix B for Health Region 7's prerequisite checklist.

1. Declining prevalence of COVID-19 -

Metric: This metric is measured at the county level and only applies to counties with more than 5 hospitalized cases in the last 28 days.

Met: Harney County has less than 5 cases total; this metric is met/not applicable.

2. Minimum Testing Regimen –

Metric: This metric is measured at the Health Region, not county, level.

Met: Health Region 7 meets this prerequisite.

3. Contact Tracing System

Metric: This metric is measured at the county level.

Description: Counties must have a minimum of 15 contact tracers for every 100,000 people. Every county must be prepared to contact trace 95% of all new cases within 24 hours, with OHA certifying a county's readiness. The contact tracing workforce must be reflective of the region and be able to conduct tracing activities in a culturally appropriate way and in multiple languages as appropriate for the population.

Met: Harney County meets this metric for its contact tracing system.

Harney County has a population of approximately 7,200, which requires a 1.05 FTE level of contact tracers. Harney County has 1.8 FTE already trained and providing these services, is able to contact trace 95% of all new cases within 24 hours, and has additional support available from the Eastern Oregon Modernization Collaborative and from the state level. Harney County contact tracing workforce is reflective of the region. Within Harney County, the majority of the population is English speaking; however, there is a Spanish language interpreter on staff at Harney County Public Health and coordination has been made with Burns Paiute health staff to be available to meet culturally appropriate requirements for the Burns Paiute Tribe, which meets this requirement.

4. Isolation Facilities

Metric: This metric is measured at the county level.

Description: Counties must have hotel rooms or other shelter locations available for people who cannot self-quarantine if required, or who test positive for COVID-19 and cannot self-isolate. The Department of Public Health at the Oregon Health Authority will provide support to local public health to identify needs and help with resources.

Met: Harney County meets this metric for isolation facilities. Harney County has contracted with the Sundowner Motel in Hines, Oregon to provide temporary housing for people who test positive for COVID-19. This is available to support homeless, long term care facility (LTCF), and other people who otherwise cannot self-quarantine or self-isolate. While this is considered adequate for this immediate juncture, Harney County is in the early stages of discussion, planning, and negotiation to arrange for two additional alternate care and/or isolation shelters or facilities.

5. Finalized Statewide Sector Guidelines

Metric: Each sector must adhere to OHA statewide guidelines to protect employees and consumers, make the physical work space safer and implement processes that lower risk of infection in business. .

Met: Harney County will follow Oregon's finalized statewide sector guidelines for reopening.

6. Sufficient Health Care Capacity

Metrics: This metric is measured at the Health Region, not county, level.

Met: **Health Region 7 meets this prerequisite.**

7. Sufficient PPE Supply

Metrics:

- a. All hospitals in the health region must report PPE supply daily to OHA's Hospital Capacity system. Large hospitals and health systems in the region must attest to a 30-day supply of PPE, and small or rural hospitals must have a 14-day supply. This metric is measured at the Health Region level, not at the county level.

Met: **Health Region 7 meets this prerequisite.**

- b. Metric: Counties must attest to sufficient PPE supply for first responders in the county.

Met: **Harney County Emergency Manager attests to sufficient PPE for first responders in the county at this time. Additional supply is on order.**

Core Preparedness Topics

Harney County's planning on core preparedness will continue to evolve throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery. General comments at this time:

- Harney County's PPE is sufficient at this immediate juncture, and ongoing work toward obtaining greater quantities is moving forward.
- Harney Distric Hospital's ICU surge plan is in place, and has been regionalized within Health Region 7.
- Local contact tracing capacity is sufficient at this time; contingency plans have been planned for and are described in this document.
- Mass transit – Harney County has only one provider, with excellent health precaution protocols and appropriate, reduced service levels.
- Congregate care planning – Isolation and recovery protocols are in place. When isolation and recovery in-place is not sufficient, residents from congregate LTCFs will either be isolated or transferred, with nursing needs met, in accordance with company plans and policies. If needed, these residents may be referred for temporary lodging within the county, with a contracted local motel and arrangements for food and laundry services.
- Homeless members of the community who require assistance to quarantine, isolate or recover from COVID-19 will be referred for temporary lodging within the county with a contracted local motel and arrangements for food and laundry services.
- Coordination and Management - Harney County will monitor conditions through its Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Harney County Phase 1 Reopening: Protocols and Implementation

Sector Reopening Guidelines

Phase 1 reopen guidelines for Oregon businesses, employers, and the public are posted under *OHA Guidelines and Rules* on the *Oregon Health Authority COVID-19 Update* web site, at <https://govstatus.egov.com/OR-OHA-COVID-19> . Harney County businesses will be responsible at all times for ensuring they are following the most current guidelines, which can be expected to change over time. The Harney County Chamber of Commerce will connect with local businesses and provide technical assistance. Business sectors opening during Phase 1 include: Employers, Outdoor Recreation Organizations, Personal Services Providers, Restaurants/Bars/Breweries/ Wineries/Tasting Rooms and Distilleries, and Retail Stores.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Health Region 7 is responsible for obtaining sufficient PPE for the medical providers, support staff, and patients throughout the region. Harney County Emergency Management is responsible for providing PPE for county first responders (other than medical and hospital personnel).

Due to world-wide, nation-wide, and state-wide shortages in the supply chain, PPE ordering and management is challenging. Despite having sufficient PPE for Harney County's Phase 1 reopening, continual, sustained efforts to increase local supply of PPE will remain a priority.

Communicable Disease (CD) Contact Tracing Capacity

Harney County Public Health continues to refine its planning for robust CD contact tracing. The current local capacity (one full time lead professional and two assistants) will be augmented by both regional and state support. The Eastern Oregon Modernization Collaborative (EOMC) will provide one CD contact tracer to Harney County if and when needed, other HD 60 counties stand by to augment each other if a flare up of COVID-19 cases occurs in an area, there is a state commitment of one additional CD-trained person planned for Harney County, and a ramp up of accessible training is underway.

Hospital Surge Capacity

Hospital surge capacity and congregate care planning will include a regional approach. Harney District Hospital (HDH) is part of Health Region 7 and has a close working relationship with Deschutes County's St Charles Hospital and Grant County's Blue Mountain Hospital. Under Health Region 7 agreements, HDH will cooperate with, and aid and assist, other regional hospitals, especially for hospital surge planning and PPE/ventilator supply challenges.

Congregate Care

Congregate care isolation and recovery protocols are in place. The high risk, congregate facilities in Harney County include three long term care facilities (LTCF) - nursing/assisted living homes (Ashley Manor, The Aspens, and Elizabeth Country Manor), two group mental health homes (Independence Place and Liberty House), one state youth correctional facility – Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), and the county jail. Harney County has no food processing plants or warehouses.

Each facility has protocols and plans for COVID-19 isolation and care for those testing positive for COVID-19. When isolation, recovery in-place, and/or each organization’s infectious disease response plans are not sufficient to meet needs, residents may be referred for temporary lodging within the county. Information is provided under the *Isolation Facilities* section, below.

Isolation Facilities

Harney County is planning its response for up to three different outbreak situations in the county. Harney County has already contracted with a local motel, the Sundowner in Hines, and will assist with contracting for food and laundry services. While this is considered adequate for this immediate juncture, Harney County is in the early stages of discussion, planning, and negotiation to arrange for two additional alternate care and/or isolation facilities. Harney County Emergency Management will work locally and regionally for mutual aid agreements for congregate care scenarios.

Mass Transit

Harney County Dial-A-Ride is Harney County’s sole public transportation provider. Since Oregon’s COVID-19 “Stay Home, Save a Life” approach, Dial-A-Ride services have been reduced more than 80%. It is managed through the Harney County Senior and Community Center, where there is close and on-going contact with OHA, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), and the Harney County Court. All OHA and ODOT protocols and advice are adhered to.

Service levels will increase only when OHA and the Harney County Court give the clearance to do so. Robust sanitation measures and physical distancing practices will continue, and the number of transit vehicles authorized to return to service will be limited to the number needed to maintain those practices and provide public transportation in a safe manner.

Central Coordination, Monitoring and Oversight

Harney County will continue to utilize its Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with its Incident Command (IC) framework. The Harney County EOC will be the focal point for overall monitoring, coordination and implementation of reopening efforts. EOC staffing will include representatives from healthcare, public health, HDH, emergency management, business sector,

public safety, the Burns Paiute Tribe, the County Court, and other agencies. Local healthcare organizations (HDH, Harney County Public Health, etc.) will each adhere to all COVID-19 tracking and reporting requirements to OHA per protocols.

The local Public Information Officers (PIOs) that operate within Harney County's Joint Information Center (JIC) have expanded their communication protocols to include the local business community. PIO operations will include Public Service Announcements (PSAs) across radio, newspaper, websites, social media, and mailings to our remote areas. Messaging will emphasize the need to keep personal and community precautions at a high level, especially during reopening phases.

The Harney County Chamber of Commerce Director will function as the community liaison to assist local businesses. The Harney County Economic Development office and Treasure Valley Community College Small Business Development Center will work closely with the Chamber to assist, as well.

The Harney County Court will stay involved and ensure communication, reporting, and collaboration remain effective and that we work with state agency and county leaders moving forward.

Health Region 7 Partnership

Harney County falls into Oregon Health Region 7 for hospital emergency preparedness. This region includes Harney, Lake, Grant, Deschutes, Jefferson, Crook, Wheeler, and Klamath Counties. Health Region 7 has the responsibility for achieving and maintaining a minimum testing regimen and sufficient health care capacity to meet Oregon's COVID-19 reopening Oregon guidelines.

Regional Partnerships

Regional partnerships with other legislative House District 60 counties exist and are underway. Harney County has developed close working relationships with the local leaders of Lake, Grant, Malheur, and Baker Counties, and will coordinate with Health Region 7 if this additional support is needed. In particular, these counties have agreed to work together as a team on prioritizing and extending the reach of scarce supply lines and addressing supply interruption issues through planning and agreements. These county partnerships will provide additional capacity to local and Health Region 7 efforts and, when called upon, will provide an additional regional approach to share and transport testing, PPE, and CD contact tracing resources as needs arise and change.

All this work is encouraging and ongoing at the local and regional levels. From the state, Harney County will be asking for funding, supplies and expertise to address our particular areas of challenge.

Logistics and Supply

The Harney County EOC will continually monitor the situation and identify, track, and facilitate obtaining both medical and non-medical needed materials and supplies, including those requiring creative or unconventional solutions.

Regionalized courier service plans to provide surge testing and PPE capacity when and where needed will be developed through Health Region 7 and regional county partnerships as needed. Harney County will closely monitor and evaluate its PPE supply, especially as nonessential medical / dental / vision services resume.

CD contact tracing, PPE, and testing capacity will remain challenges over time until sufficient levels nation-wide, state-wide, and locally are fully achieved.

Decision Making

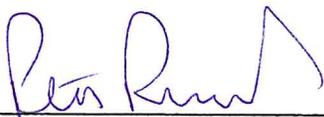
The Harney County Court will ensure Harney County's COVID-19 response and management are within Oregon guidelines and local needs. Harney County's decisions to move forward or place a hold on moving forward with sector reopenings will be in accordance with state guided criteria and based on the advice of OHA and local medical professionals.

Submission

This plan was crafted with involvement from the Harney County Court, the Harney County Health Department, Harney District Hospital, Harney County Emergency Management, Health Region 7, local businesses, and other counties - working together to support a safe reopening for Harney County.

In full accordance with Oregon guidelines, Harney County requests a reopen date for Phase 1 effective May 15, 2020. Harney County is preparing its initial request for release of federal and state funding to support our plan and to cope with COVID-19 financial impacts, such as loss of revenue and increased expenses. Development of additional requests will be ongoing.

Signed this day: May 8, 2020



Pete Runnels
Harney County Judge



Kristen Shelman
Harney County Commissioner



Patty Dorroh
Harney County Commissioner

Appendix A

Prerequisites for Phased Reopening of Oregon

Each of these seven prerequisites must be met before a county or region can enter phase one of Reopening Oregon. While many of these prerequisites are set at the county level, some are set at the Health Region or Statewide level.

1. **Declining prevalence of COVID-19** (OHA detailed reference document: *"The Three Health Signs We Must See to Re-open Oregon"*)
 - a. 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.
 - b. A 14-day decline in COVID-19 hospital admissions.
 - i. This metric only applies to counties with more than 5 hospitalized cases in the last 28 days.
2. **Minimum Testing Regimen** (OHA detailed reference document: *"COVID-19 Strategic Testing Plan for Oregon"* and *"Oregon COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing Strategy"*)
 - a. Regions must be able to administer COVID-19 testing at a rate of 30 per 10,000 people per week. Regions must implement a testing regimen that prioritizes symptomatic persons and individuals who came into contact with a known COVID-positive person and includes testing of all people in congregate settings when there is a positive test. This includes long-term care facilities and county jails among others. The plan must include frequent tests of frontline and essential workers and industries where workers may not be able to practice optimal physical distancing (e.g., agricultural processing, meat packing).
 - b. Regions must maintain an appropriate number of testing sites to accommodate its population and must fully advertise where and how people can get tested. The region must work with local public health and OHA to use the collected data to track and trace the spread of the virus. Testing must be accessible to low-income and underserved communities.
 - c. This metric is measured at the Health Region level, not at the county level. An individual county cannot move into phase one if regional testing capacity is beneath that level.
3. **Contact Tracing System** (OHA detailed reference document: *"Oregon's Plan to Stop the Spread of COVID-19"*, *"Oregon COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing Strategy"* and *"Interim Investigative Guidelines"*)
 - a. Counties must have a minimum of 15 contact tracers for every 100,000 people. Every county must be prepared to contact trace 95% of all new cases within 24 hours, with OHA certifying a county's readiness. The contract tracing workforce must be reflective of the region and be able to conduct

tracing activities in a culturally appropriate way and in multiple languages as appropriate for the population.

4. Isolation/Quarantine Facilities

- a. Counties must have hotel rooms or other shelter locations available for people who cannot self-quarantine if required, or who test positive for COVID-19 and cannot self-isolate. The Department of Public Health at the Oregon Health Authority will provide support to local public health to identify needs and help with resources.

5. Finalized Statewide Sector Guidelines *(OHA detailed reference documents: sector-specific guidelines by sector)*

- a. Each sector must adhere to Oregon Health Authority statewide guidelines to protect employees and consumers, make the physical work space safer and implement processes that lower risk of infection in the business.

6. Sufficient Health Care Capacity *(OHA detailed reference document: "[Guidance on resumption of non-emergent and elective procedures at hospitals](#)")*

- a. To maintain the phased re-opening plan, each region must be able to accommodate a 20% increase in suspected or confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations compared to the number of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations in the region at the time Executive Order No. 20-22 was issued.
- b. This metric is measured at the Health Region level, not at the county level. An individual county cannot move into phase one if regional hospital capacity is beneath that level.

7. Sufficient PPE Supply *(OHA detailed reference document: "[Guidance on resumption of non-emergent and elective procedures at hospitals](#)")*

- a. All hospitals in the health region must report PPE supply daily to OHA's Hospital Capacity system. Large hospitals and health systems in the region must attest to a 30-day supply of PPE, and small or rural hospitals must have a 14-day supply. This metric is measured at the Health Region level, not at the county level.
- b. Counties must attest to sufficient PPE supply for first responders in the county.

Health Regions Defined:

Health region 1: Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas

Health region 2: Yamhill, Polk, Lincoln, Benton, Marion, Linn

Health regions 3 & 5: Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Jackson, Josephine

Health regions 6 & 9: Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Baker, Malheur

Health region 7: Jefferson, Deschutes, Crook, Wheeler, Grant, Klamath, Lake, Harney

Prerequisites Checklist: Each of these seven prerequisites must be met before a county or region can enter phase one of Reopening Oregon. While many of these prerequisites are set at the county level, some are set at the Health Region or Statewide level.

	County	Health Region	State
1. Declining prevalence of COVID-19	Not required if <5 cases		
a. 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.	NA	NA	REQUIRED Data to be provided on OHA web site.
b. A 14-day decline in COVID-19 hospital admissions.	REQUIRED if >5 cases	NA	Data to be provided on OHA web site.
2. Minimum Testing Regimen			
Regions able to administer testing at a rate of 30 per 10k per week	NA	REQUIRED	OHA will evaluate and approve at the region level
Sufficient testing sites accessible to underserved communities	NA	REQUIRED	OHA will evaluate and approve at the region level
3. Contact Tracing System			
County has 15 contact tracers per 100k people	REQUIRED		OHA will evaluate and approve at the county or region level
County contact tracing workforce is reflective of the county and able to work in needed languages	REQUIRED		OHA will evaluate and approve at the county or region level
County is prepared to trace 95% of all new cases within 24 hours	REQUIRED		OHA will evaluate and approve at the county or region level
4. Isolation Facilities			
Counties have hotel rooms available for those who cannot self-isolate	REQUIRED		OHA will support, evaluate and approve at the county or region level
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)	REQUIRED		OHA will evaluate and approve. OHA can provide a list.
5. Finalized Statewide Sector Guidelines	NA	NA	REQUIRED OHA will finalize
6. Sufficient Health Care Capacity			
Region must be able to accommodate a 20% increase in hospitalizations	NA	REQUIRED	
7. Sufficient PPE Supply			
Hospitals in region are reporting PPE supply daily through HOSCAP		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.	NA	REQUIRED Hospital leadership must attest in writing.	OHA will confirm receipt of hospital attestation.
Counties must have sufficient PPE for first responders.	REQUIRED		OHA will confirm receipt of county attestation.

Appendix B

Health Region 7 Phase 1 Reopening: Prerequisites Checklist

PREREQUISITES FOR PHASED REOPENING OF OREGON:
Region 7 Healthcare Coalition Prerequisites Checklist

Metric	Metric Met In Region?	Validation Sources	Challenges of Maintaining Compliance
2. Minimum Testing Regimen			
Regions able to administer testing at a rate of 30 per 10k per week	YES	OHA County testing questionnaire completed by counties week of May 4, 2020. ORPHEUS records of testing conducted.	National supply chain issues result in inadequate distribution of testing materials to frontier counties, which constricts them from expanding capacity and creates future uncertainties about ability to maintain capacity. While the capacity to test exceeds minimum requirement, demand for testing has been low within the region.
Sufficient testing sites accessible to underserved communities	YES	Database of testing sites across region (in progress). OHA County testing questionnaire completed by counties week of May 4, 2020.	
Sufficient Health Care Capacity			
Region must be able to accommodate a 20% increase in suspected or confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations	YES	HOSCAP daily reports Existing hospital surge agreements 1135 hospital waivers Hospital reopening attestation forms	None identified
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**PREREQUISITES FOR PHASED REOPENING OF OREGON:
Region 7 Healthcare Coalition Prerequisites Checklist
(Continued)**

Metric	Metric Met In Region?	Validation Sources	Challenges of Maintaining Compliance
7. Sufficient PPE Supply			
Hospitals in region are reporting PPE supply daily through HOSCAP	YES	HOSCAP daily reports	None identified
Hospitals in region must have a 14 or 30 day supply of PPE, depending on their size and whether they are a rural hospital.	YES	Regional health system daily metric reporting. Hospital Reopening Attestation Forms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St. Charles Health System • Harney District Hospital • Blue Mountain Hospital • Lake District Hospital • Sky Lakes Medical Center 	National supply chain is stabilizing but could destabilize with another nationwide surge.

Questions about this Health Region 7 prerequisites chart should be directed to:

Kattaryna Stiles
Oregon Health Authority Liaison to
Oregon Region 7 Healthcare Coalition
Kattaryna.L.Stiles@state.or.us

Harney County, Phase 1 application, Prerequisites Checklist item 2b

In following federal and state guidelines, Harney County provides sufficient testing to all people regardless of ability to pay. Between HDH and Public Health, the county is able to provide sufficient COVID -19 testing sites to its low income and underserved communities, to both patients and the general community. Additionally, Public Health goes to the Burns Paiute Reservation weekly to provide testing and other COVID-related health services. Finally, the county is in the early stage of implementation of a drive up COVID-19 testing option, which will make testing even more accessible and safe for at risk people with compromised health conditions.

Submitted by Patty Dorroh

Harney County Commissioner