



P.O. Box 788 • Heppner, OR 97836  
541-676-5613  
www.co.morrow.or.us

## Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Melissa Lindsay, Chair  
Commissioner Don Russell  
Commissioner Jim Doherty

June 1, 2020

The Honorable Governor Kate Brown  
Governor of Oregon  
900 Court Street N.E., Suite 254  
Salem, OR 97301-4047

RE: Letter of Request to Move into Phase II Reopening

Dear Governor Brown,

Morrow County respectfully requests to enter into Phase II Reopening on June 5, 2020.

As described in, "A Safe and Strong Oregon" Executive Order, Morrow County is prepared to move into Phase II after a successful Phase I for 21 days.

Morrow County meets the criteria outlined in the letter to County Leaders, May 28, 2020, and should be approved to move into Phase II.

We attest, based upon available information, the following:

- Morrow County's first responders have sufficient Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Morrow County currently has 13 known cases of COVID-19 and has successfully traced all contacts for all cases.
- Morrow County currently has nine trained contact tracers, including two who are bilingual, in excess of the OHA recommendation based on the population of Morrow County.
- We have had no substantive changes made to the responses we submitted in the Phase I application regarding meeting the prerequisites.

Morrow County has successfully followed up on 100% of all new cases and contact traced within 24 hours, as reported in the State's ORPHEUS system, over the past seven-day and 14-day time periods.

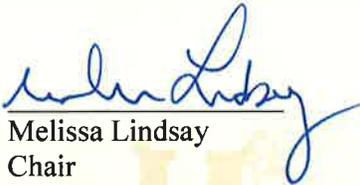
Morrow County has successfully identified, contacted and traced 100% of new COVID-19 positive cases and verified 100% traced to an existing positive case over the past seven-day and 14-day time periods.

Morrow County has been successful in following the protocols and guidance of OHA and the CDC to keep positive cases to a minimum. Even with increased testing, Morrow County has only had one additional case in over 21 days. The most recent Morrow County resident case was acquired out-of-state by exposure on the job. This successfully meets the less than five percent increase threshold. Morrow County has tested 190 individuals to-date, and all persons under monitoring have been discharged as of this date.

Again, we request your approval to move into Phase II Reopening.

Thank you and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns, [mlindsay@co.morrow.or.us](mailto:mlindsay@co.morrow.or.us), or 541-561-0234. We look forward to working closely with the State to continue into Phase II and beyond.

Sincerely,

  
Melissa Lindsay  
Chair

  
Don Russell  
Commissioner

  
Jim Doherty  
Commissioner

Enclosure: Attestation Letter from Morrow County Health District

CC: Nik Blosser, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor  
Jennifer Andrew, Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff  
Commissioner Don Russell  
Commissioner Jim Doherty  
Representative Greg Smith  
Senator Bill Hansell  
Diane Kilkenny, Morrow County Interim Public Health Director  
John Bowles, Morrow County Undersheriff



**MORROW COUNTY  
HEALTH DISTRICT**  
Excellence in Healthcare

PO BOX 9  
Heppner OR 97836  
Tel: 541-676-9133  
Toll Free: 1-800-737-4113  
[www.morrowcountyhealthdistrict.org](http://www.morrowcountyhealthdistrict.org)

6/1/2020

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This letter is Morrow County Health District/Pioneer Memorial Hospital's attestation that currently we have more than a 14 day supply of PPE for all of our clinics, ambulance services as well as our acute care hospital located in Heppner, OR. This is also verified by our weekly reporting on the HOSCAP reports that are submitted to OHA.

As further indicated, we have not reported any new COVID 19 positive cases from our in house testing for the past three plus weeks and we feel confident about moving into Phase II of the Governor's plan to reopen Oregon.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [boh@moco hd.org](mailto:boh@moco hd.org) or 541-676-2915.

Sincerely;

*Bob Houser*

Bob Houser, CEO, FACHE

Morrow County Health District

Heppner, OR 97836

Pioneer Memorial Hospital & Nursing Facility	Pioneer Memorial Home Health & Hospice	Pioneer Memorial Clinic	Irrigon Medical Clinic	Ione Community Clinic	Morrow County Ambulance
P - (541) 676-9133 F - (541) 676-2901 TDD - (541) 676-2908	P - (541) 676-2946 F - (541) 676-9017	P - (541) 676-5504 F - (541) 676-9025	P - (541) 922-5880 F - (541) 922-5881	P - (541) 422-7128 F - (541) 422-7145	P - (541) 676-9133 F - (541) 676-2901