



June 1, 2020

TO: Governor Kate Brown  
FROM: Wheeler County, Oregon  
SUBJ: Request to enter Phase II Reopening

Subsequent to review and approval of its application by the Governor's Office and the Oregon Health Authority, Wheeler County entered into Phase I of the reopening process on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The purpose of this letter is to demonstrate our jurisdiction's capacity to meet applicable public health prerequisites and formally request entry into Phase II beginning on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Wheeler remains one of two counties without a confirmed COVID-19 case but has not become complacent in its preparations to deal with a potential outbreak and remains mindful of our jurisdiction's unique vulnerabilities. Throughout Phase I Wheeler County has continued to work to expand its public health response capabilities.

For example, there are two trained contact tracers available to Wheeler County and additional willing individuals who can be activated and trained if needed. The result is a local contact tracing capacity that is significantly greater than that required to serve a population of 1332 according to OHA guidelines.

Additionally, thanks to effective coordination with state and non-governmental partners Wheeler County's first responders have adequate access to Personal Protective Equipment to ensure continuity of operations for more than 30 days even if current usage rates were to double.

Wheeler County has successfully navigated Phase I without an increase in COVID-19 cases. After careful deliberation county management believes that we are prepared to enter Phase II and hereby attests that applicable criteria have been met by this jurisdiction.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to allow Wheeler County to enter Phase II reopening on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2020.

X   
N. Lynn Morley  
Wheeler County Judge

X   
Mitch Elliott  
Wheeler County Emergency Manager

X   
Dr. Robert Boss  
Wheeler County Public Health Officer 