Yamhill County

COVID-19 Recovery Framework

Prepared based on Governor Kate Brown’s

Public Health Framework for Reopening Oregon
Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance for individuals and agencies involved in the local process of reopening Oregon (as outlined by Governor Brown/OHA Guidelines), and provide foundational level information that is required to be available in order to address the prerequisites of requesting to move to phase one reopening.

Due to ongoing updates, available data, available resources, and newly released information associated with the COVID-19 response, this document should be considered an adaptive management plan or living document and reflect updates. Plan updates will be completed by Yamhill County Public Health.

As new information becomes available or changes are made in the proposed plan, the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners, Public Health, Emergency Management, local healthcare providers, local municipalities, and the local business community will be engaged in the process to ensure that information, standards, protocols, or changes are made available to all partners in a timely manner.
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SECTION I: Overview

The initial COVID-19 case in Yamhill County was reported on March 6, 2020. As of May 7, 2020, there has been a total of 45 cases reported, with the peak number of cases (7) reported on March 23rd. Since that time, there has been a downward trajectory in the number of cases reported, with 2 cases reported during the first week of May. Additionally, syndromic surveillance in Oregon (Oregon ESSENCE - Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics) provides near real-time data for public health and hospitals to monitor what is happening in emergency departments across the state before, during, and after a public health emergency. Data from Oregon ESSENCE shows a downward trajectory in the number of individuals in Yamhill County evaluated at emergency departments with influenza-like illness or COVID-like illness since the peak in early to mid-March.

While COVID-19 was spreading rapidly early on, the quick and decisive measures taken have slowed that rate. The health and safety of our community is our priority.

SECTION II: Prerequisites for Phase One Reopening

The health and safety of our community remains our priority. The goal of a phased approach to reopening our economy is to keep the COVID-19 positive growth rate curve or line relatively flat. Some requirements are required to be met at a county level while others at a regional level before moving into phase one. Yamhill County is part of Region 2, which includes Marion, Polk, Linn, Benton and Lincoln counties.

Prerequisites to reopen include:

- Declining Prevalence of COVID-19
  a. Percentage of ER Visits for COVID-19 like illnesses (State requirement)
  b. A 14-day decline in COVID-19 hospital admissions (local requirement)
- Minimum Testing
  c. 30 per 10,000 people per week (regional requirement)
  d. Appropriate number of testing sites including for underserved communities (regional requirement)
- Contact Tracing System
  e. Contact Tracing
- Isolation Facilities
  f. Isolation capacity and availability
  g. Counties Narratives – Outbreak Examples

This plan will be continuously monitored and evaluated. Data will be reviewed by Public Health daily and as needed to assure prerequisites are maintained. We must remain in phase one for a minimum of 21 days before requesting to move to phase two.
It is imperative that individuals follow the guidelines and protocols released by the Governor’s Office. It will take all of Yamhill County being vigilant to keep everyone safe and healthy.

**Section III: Prerequisite Check List**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. DECLINING PREVALENCE OF COVID-19</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yamhill County has an official OHA count of 45 COVID-19 cases as of May 7, 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>REQUIRED/DEMONSTRATED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>YES – This is a Statewide requirement. According to ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-Based Epidemics) Oregon’s 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. A 14-day decline in COVID-19 hospital admissions.</td>
<td>YES – This is a local requirement. Yamhill County has had a decline in COVID-19 hospital admissions and on May 7, 2020 there are no current admissions.</td>
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<tr>
<th>2. MINIMUM TESTING REGIMEN</th>
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<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>REQUIRED/DEMONSTRATED</th>
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<tr>
<td>a. Regions able to administer testing at a rate of 30 per 10,000 population per week.</td>
<td>YES – This is a regional requirement. As of 5/7/20, Region 2 has a testing rate of 31 per 10,000 population. Testing is accomplished through the hospital systems, healthcare providers and Public Health. Testing options and capacity continue to expand. Local medical provider discretion is essential for this model to work effectively. Additionally, Virginia Garcia is providing wider community access for testing for those who may not have access through their healthcare providers. Yamhill County Public Health is testing as applicable and part of case investigation and contact tracing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Sufficient testing sites accessible to underserved communities</td>
<td>YES – This is a regional requirement. Yamhill County Public Health is working with our local Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), tribal clinic and other health care providers to ensure easy access to testing for underserved communities by having locations throughout the county including those with limited access. The local FQHC and Public Health staff provide mobile testing at various locations as needed to assure access and availability. This has been done at places of</td>
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employment related to contact tracing as well as long-term care facilities where transportation may be challenging.

3. CONTACT TRACING

   Reference: “Oregon’s Plan to Stop the Spread of COVID-19”
   “Oregon COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing Strategy”
   “Interim Investigative Guidelines”

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Counties must have a minimum of 15 contact tracers for every 100,000 people.</td>
<td>YES – This is a local requirement Yamhill County Public Health will continue case investigations and contact tracing pursuant to Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 Investigative Guidelines provided by OHA. Based on the 15/100,000 ratio, Yamhill County needs 16 contact tracers for the population. There are currently 13 trained contact tracers and anticipate having an additional 3 trained by May 13, 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEFINITION: Contact Tracing: is a process used to stop the spread of many different infections in the community. It involves finding and informing the people that an infected the person has been in contact with so they can be tested or followed for additional cases.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Counties contact tracing workforce is reflective of the county and able to work in needed languages.</td>
<td>YES - This is a local requirement The Yamhill County Population is 76.8% white and 16.2% Hispanic or Latino (US Census 2019). The current contact tracing team includes three bilingual (English/Spanish) staff. An additional 2 bilingual staff are completing Contact Investigation Training. If languages other than English or Spanish are needed, there is a contract with ‘Language Line’ and cell phones could be used in the field if needed. If additional support is needed, the department will reach out to the Oregon Health Authority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Counties are prepared to trace 95% of all new cases within 24 hours.</td>
<td>YES - This is a local requirement The Nursing Supervisor will monitor ORPHEUS for 95% of all new cases traced, documented, and report this out daily. To date, Yamhill County has met this requirement.</td>
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4. ISOLATION FACILITIES

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>YES – This is a local requirement Should an individual or family test positive for COVID-19 and be unable to</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Counties must have shelter available for people who test positive for COVID-19 and who cannot self-isolate. self-isolate, Yamhill County has identified two hotels that are able to house them. Approval for hotel isolation or quarantine is done through the Public Health Management Team. Public Health staff will monitor their needs for necessities of daily living, food, laundry, and medications while in isolation. In some cases, Yamhill County will partner with Yamhill Community Action Partnership (YCAP) to support case management needs of individuals and families.

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<tr>
<th>b. Narratives describing three different outbreak situations in the county.</th>
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| **Long Term Care Facility:** Yamhill County Public Health (YCPH) collaborates closely with the long-term care facilities (LTCF) Executive Directors, Director of Nursing and other staff on prevention measures and in outbreak situations. YCPH hosts weekly coordination calls with all local LTCF, assisted living, senior living and foster homes to provide technical assistance and guidance on prevention measures and assure knowledge on what to do if someone begins experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. If someone in a LTCF experiences COVID-19 symptoms, YCPH will work with OHA for an outbreak number and additional resources if needed. YCPH will provide testing supplies, facilitate and conduct testing as needed through the Oregon State Public Health Lab for symptomatic residents and staff of the LTCF. Additional testing of asymptomatic residents and staff may occur depending on circumstances. Mobile testing will be available as needed.

YCPH will work with the LTCF to ensure that all infection prevention control measures are in place to help mitigate further transmission in the facility based on OHA LTCF COVID-19 Tool Kit guidelines.

**Yamhill County Jail:** Yamhill County Sheriff’s Office has adopted internal guidance on limiting and addressing the potential spread of COVID-19 within the facility. Additionally, Yamhill County will be utilizing the guidance document developed by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association (OSSA), Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) that serve as guidance specific for correctional facilities and detention centers during the outbreak of COVID-19, to
ensure continuation of essential public services and protection of the health and safety of incarcerated and detained persons, staff, and visitors.

The goal is to:

- Protect the health and safety of all Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs), members, inmates and the public.
- To reduce the transmission and spread of COVID-19 and/or influenza by maintaining a sanitary facility.
- To ensure the justice system continues to operate without unnecessary delay.

The Sheriff’s Office will utilize jail medical staff to collect a test if someone within the jail setting becomes symptomatic with COVID-19 like symptoms and YCPH to send the OSPHL for prioritized testing. Yamhill County Public Health communicable disease staff will coordinate efforts in the jail to prevent further spread. The team will use the OHA/DOC/OSSA guidance for addressing a case in the jail.

Large Nursery
In the event there is a case or outbreak in one of our large nurseries, Yamhill County Public Health will work closely with the organizations leadership to quickly implement containment strategies. Thorough contact tracing will happen with the identified case and with the organizations leadership and/or human resources department as necessary and where available. Guidance will be provided on preventing the spread of illness, isolation and quarantine measures and return to work safety strategies. Mobile testing will be offered through Public Health staff or in partnership with our local Federally Qualified Health Center.

5. FINALIZED STATEWIDE SECTOR GUIDELINES – Appendix A - G

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<tr>
<td>a. Each sector must adhere to Oregon Health Authority statewide guidelines to protect employees and consumers, make the physical</td>
<td>YES – Yamhill County Public Health (YCPH) hosts weekly coordination calls with the business community including business owners, chambers of commerce and downtown associations to share</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
workplace safer and implement processes that lower risk of infection in the business. information, answer questions and provide technical assistance. YCPH staff will provide guidance, support and education so business can operate safely and within the parameters set for by guidance from the Governor’s Office and Oregon Health Authority. Written guidance will be provided via email as well as made available on our website.

### 6. SUFFICIENT HEALTH CARE CAPACITY

**References:**

“Guidance on resumption of non-emergent and procedures at hospitals”

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<tr>
<td>a. Region must be able to accommodate a 20% increase in hospitalizations.</td>
<td><strong>YES</strong> – This is a regional requirement. Hospitals in Hospital Preparedness Region 2 have attested to maintaining 20% of in-patient capacity to accommodate suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases. Yamhill County hospitals attestation letters are included as attachments B and C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 7. SUFFICIENT PPE SUPPLY

**Reference:**

“Guidance on resumptions of non-emergent and elective procedures at hospitals”

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<tr>
<td>a. All hospitals in the health region must report PPE supply daily to OHA’s Hospital Capacity system.</td>
<td><strong>YES</strong> – This is a regional requirement. All hospitals in Region 2 are reporting PPE daily.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Hospitals must have a 30-day supply of PPE.</td>
<td><strong>YES</strong> – This is a regional requirement. PPE supply and the current supply chain is adequate for the needs identified in Region 2 hospital systems. Yamhill County hospitals attestation letters are included as attachments B and C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Counties must attest to sufficient PPE supply for the first responders in the county.</td>
<td><strong>YES</strong> – This is a regional requirement. Yamhill County Public Health Preparedness and Response Coordinator reports that at current requested levels, current burn rates, and current inventory levels there is enough supply on hand to meet current needs. The county will continue to secure PPE from the State of Oregon. Yamhill County PPE attestation letter is included as attachment D.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECTION IV Oregon Health Authority Statewide Individual and Sector Guidelines links

- Phase One Reopening General Guidance for:
  - The Public
  - Employers

- Sector Guidance:
  - Outdoor Recreation
  - Personal Services
  - Restaurants, Bars, Breweries, Brewpubs, Wineries, Tasting Rooms and Distilleries
  - Retail
Appendix A

Regional Testing Rate

Covid-19 testing rate per 10,000 in Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties as of 5/7/20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Positive tests</th>
<th>Negative tests</th>
<th>Total tests</th>
<th>Testing rate/10,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/10/2020 - 2/16/2020</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/24/2020 - 3/1/2020</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/2/2020 - 3/8/2020</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/9/2020 - 3/15/2020</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1178</td>
<td>1253</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/16/2020 - 3/22/2020</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>1523</td>
<td>1649</td>
<td>20.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/30/2020 - 4/5/2020</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>1396</td>
<td>1497</td>
<td>18.4</td>
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<td>4/6/2020 - 4/12/2020</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>1024</td>
<td>1115</td>
<td>13.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/13/2020 - 4/19/2020</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>1461</td>
<td>1567</td>
<td>19.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/20/2020 - 4/26/2020</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>2646</td>
<td>2759</td>
<td>33.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
May 6, 2020

Yamhill County Board of Commissioners
535 NE Fifth Street
McMinnville, OR 97128

Dear Commissioners:

In accordance with Governor Brown’s framework for reopening, Providence Newberg Medical Center 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 Newberg Medical Center activated our Incident Command structure on March 16, 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 Newberg Medical Center 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 Newberg Medical Center 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 Newberg Medical Center will continue to maintain a reliable supply chain for PPE.

PPE Reporting to Oregon Health Authority
Providence Newberg Medical Center 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 Newberg Medical Center is committed to communicating with our community and the state on our preparedness and stands ready to serve the needs of the community.

Sincerely,

Lisa Vance
Chief Executive Officer
Providence Health & Services – Oregon

Steve Freer, M.D.
Chief Medical Officer
Providence Health & Services – Oregon
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 26, 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.

₁. 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):
   [X] The hospital or health system intends to resume non-emergent or elective procedures by (insert date) __________ May 4, 2020 __________

   [X] 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

OHA 2322V (4/30/2020)
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

Signature

04-30-2020
Date
Appendix C

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.

1. ___________ (printed name), on behalf of ___________
(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) ________

- 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 X.

1  OHA 2322V (4/30/2020)
☒ 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-emergency or elective procedures for a specified period of time.

Lori Bergen, CEO
Printed name and title

Signature

4/29/2020
Date

OHA 2322V (4/30/2020)
May 7, 2020

Yamhill County attests to having sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE) available for our first responders. Members of our Ambulance Service Area have communicated that their normal supply chains are beginning to meet their regular recurring needs. Additionally, Yamhill County Public Health still maintains our H1N1 and PPE national stockpile.

Yamhill County Public Health hosts weekly coordination calls with our first responders. These meetings have allowed frequent assessment and assurance of adequate PPE.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lindsey Manfrin
Yamhill County
Health and Human Services Director
Public Health Administrator
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR THE COUNTY OF YAMHILL
SITTING FOR THE TRANSACTION OF COUNTY BUSINESS

In the Matter of Adopting a Reopening Plan for Yamhill County

) Board Order 20-151
) Resolution 20-05-11-1

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF YAMHILL COUNTY, OREGON ("the Board") sat for the transaction of county business in a special session on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 1:30 p.m., Room 32 of the Yamhill County Courthouse, Commissioners Casey Kulla, Mary Starrett and Richard L. "Rick" Olson being present.

WHEREAS, ORS 401.309 provides authority for Yamhill County to, by ordinance or resolution, establish procedures to prepare for and carry out any activity to respond to or recover from and emergency; and

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2020, the Board of Commissioners, the governing body of Yamhill County, pursuant to ORS 401.309, declared a state of emergency in Yamhill County as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in county-wide business closures causing immediate and significant hardship to business owners in Yamhill County; and

WHEREAS, the Yamhill County Board of Commissioners is the Local Public Health Authority pursuant to ORS 431.415; and

WHEREAS, Yamhill County, along with its community partners, has worked diligently to reduce the incidence and spread of Covid-19 in our county; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2020 Governor Brown issued guidance regarding reopening with gating criteria and seven prerequisites, including but not limited to robust testing, contact tracing and sufficient PPE supply, and requested that local governments begin preparing plans for the gradual reopening of their communities based on that criteria; and

WHEREAS, the hospitals in Yamhill County are prepared, ready and committed to meet a surge in cases and have reserved the 20% bed capacity as well as the amount of personal protective equipment supplies required by Governor Brown; and

WHEREAS, as of May 11, 2020, Yamhill County has 13 trained contact tracers and will have 3 additional trained contact tracers no later than May 13, 2020 and Yamhill County will be able to provide the required 16 trained contact tracers sufficient for Yamhill County’s population; and

WHEREAS, Yamhill County has enough data collection and analysis capability to continue tracking and evaluating trends related to positive tests, cases and hospitalizations; and

///
WHEREAS, the Yamhill County Health and Human Services Director and Public Health Administrator has attested to the fact that Yamhill County has acquired enough personal protective equipment (PPE) to distribute to Yamhill County first responders; and

WHEREAS, at the request of Governor Brown, and because of the preparedness of the County for future needs related to COVID-19, Yamhill County, with a careful community coordinated reopening strategy, built on prerequisites identified by both local and state health officials as well as hospital tracking data has developed the “Yamhill County COVID-19 Recovery Framework”, based on Governor Brown’s Public Health Framework for Reopening Oregon (the “Reopening Plan”); NOW THEREFORE

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED BY THE BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Board of Commissioners hereby formally adopts its Reopening Plan, to be submitted to the Governor’s Office, and that Phase 1 of reopening begin in Yamhill County on May 15, 2020 in accordance with the Reopening Plan.

DONE THIS 15th day of May, 2020 at McMinnville, Oregon.

ATTEST

YAMHILL COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

BRIAN VAN BERGEN
County Clerk

Chair

Casey Kulla

By: Carolina Rook
Deputy Carolina Rook

Vice Chair

Mary Starrett

Commissioner

Richard L. Rick Olson

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By

Christian F. Boenisch
Yamhill County Counsel
May 11, 2020

The Honorable Kate Brown
Office of the Governor
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Dear Governor Brown,

Yamhill County has been diligently working to minimize the impact of Covid-19 and is pleased to submit a plan for Phase I re-opening.

Utilizing the public health framework for restarting community activities and businesses, we request your support in moving forward with a target re-opening date of May 15th, 2020.

Hospitals in our county are prepared, ready, and committed to meet any potential surge and have reserved the required 20% bed capacities, along with the adequate supplies of PPE. We have provided the certifying letters from both our hospitals in the reopening plan appendix, as well as the Board of Commissioners’ resolution for reopening the county.

We will continue with strong culturally appropriate education efforts throughout our community encouraging residents to be vigilant with social distancing, hand washing, wearing face coverings, disinfecting surfaces, and staying home if sick or instructed to quarantine.

In addition, we are collaborating with our adjacent counties, including Polk County, with whom we share the City of Willamina. We commit to partnering on the hospital prerequisites in our designated Region 2.

It is critical for our county’s economic stability to open businesses soon. We propose this phased reopening to allow those who’ve experienced significant financial loss an opportunity to return to work.

The following information shows Yamhill County has demonstrated we can safely move forward in a thoughtful, balanced approach to re-opening businesses in our community.

Thank you in advance for reviewing our application and approving the Phase I re-opening of Yamhill County.

Respectfully,

Casey Kulla
Chair

Mary Starrett
Vice-Chair

Richard L. “Rick” Olson
Commissioner