Moving Forward

DOUGLAS COUNTY'S PLAN FOR COVID-19 RECOVERY

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DOUGLAS COUNTY
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Introduction

Douglas County, like the rest of Nevada, has been in a State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic for over a year now. State directives to address the emergency have affected our business, our schools, and our residents. The economic and social impacts are secondary to the loss of 35 Douglas County residents lost to COVID-19 as of this date. We must always remember the human toll of this global pandemic as we move forward.

The Governor's Roadmap to Recovery established a plan to transition the management of COVID-19 related recovery action to each county effective May 1, 2021. On April 13, 2021, the Governor made an announcement removing all State imposed social distancing requirements effective May 1, 2021, with the stated goal that every Nevada County be 100 percent open no later than June 1, 2021. In response, Douglas County has developed our plan, Moving Forward – Douglas County's Plan for COVID-19 Recovery, to safely open Douglas County so that our businesses and residents can begin to resume normal life and we can end the current State of Emergency.

Our plan represents the collaboration with our pandemic response partners Carson City, Lyon County, and Storey County. Since the beginning of this public health emergency, the Quad County partners have worked together with the guidance and leadership of Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS) and our Public Health Officer. We will continue to do so under this plan.

This Douglas County plan will be executed in collaboration with our Chambers of Commerce, Douglas County Business Council, local business, non-profits, and our faith-based community groups. While an attempt has been made to provide a comprehensive plan to address local needs, changes in State directives and CDC guidelines as well as feedback from community partners may necessitate future changes to this plan.

Therefore, as it is imperative that Douglas County and its elected Board of Commissioners take those actions that follow and honor those freedoms bestowed upon all Americans by the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights and that best protect the overall health of those who work, live, or visit here, we propose our plan – Moving Forward – Douglas County's Plan for COVID-19 Recover to safety open Douglas County.

Constraints

Douglas County understands the State will continue to impose the following constraints after the May 1, 2021:

- Directive 024 – Masks
- State OSHA, the Gaming Control Board, and State occupational boards will continue to set standards and engage in enforcement activities over applicable businesses

Douglas County encourages businesses to continue to follow applicable State directives, CDC guidelines, and any applicable industry specific standards.

This plan does not apply to the Douglas County School District, which is responsible for developing their own plan according to the State.

Monitoring

Douglas County's test positivity rate is currently 5.6%. Our number of known active cases continues to drop and currently is less than 100. Douglas County will continue to monitor the State's County Tracker to assess the County's metrics.

Testing and contact tracing will continue to be provided by CCHHS. In coordination with CCHHS and our Public Health Officer, Douglas County will:

- Monitor hospital capacity at Carson Valley Medical Center
- Ensure Long-term facilities and group homes are performing their own testing
- Monitor the Douglas County Jail and our juvenile detention facilities
- Assist our most challenged populations and individuals who may need to quarantine or are otherwise impacted by COVID-19
- Continue to work with the Douglas County School District and private schools regarding positive cases and will provide assistance as needed

Douglas County and the East Fork Fire Protection District has procured a surplus of PPE and sanitation supplies for both public and private use as necessary.

Douglas County will coordinate with the Nevada Division of Emergency Management to obtain additional supplies from their surplus. When received, the County will use American Rescue Plan funding to continue purchasing PPE and sanitation supplies for distribution as needed.

Mitigation

Immediately upon the May 1, 2021 transition, Douglas County will re-open to 100 percent of occupancy limits for all Douglas County business that are not subject to differing requirements imposed by a separate governing authority (i.e. gaming businesses).

All businesses and events will be required by the State to follow applicable directives issued by the Governor and are encouraged to follow guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Additionally, those industries governed by State Agencies must operate in accordance with the requirements of the appropriate Board and/or authority.

Vaccination efforts will continue to be a community priority. As vaccine allocations increase, Douglas County will continue to work closely with CCHHS and various other partners to administer vaccine to the public as quickly as possible.

Douglas County will not impose limitations on the size of public gatherings and events after authority reverts to local control.

Douglas County has and will continue to enforce State directives within local government operations to ensure the wellbeing of our employees and the public they serve. Public meetings may continue to be held virtually, if necessary, and will only occur in person in compliance with applicable State directives.

Enforcement

Douglas County has multiple agencies engaged in enforcement, including the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, the Douglas County Board of Health, and the Douglas County Community Development-Code Enforcement Program. Douglas County will maintain the level of enforcement that has been in place since March 16, 2020. Douglas County is a local political subdivision of the State of Nevada and is granted authority via Nevada Revised Statutes.

Douglas County will continue to provide information and education to the public and businesses via media, social media, web sites, Chambers of Commerce and the Douglas County Business Council.

Public Messaging

Douglas County continues to disseminate public information with the assistance of Carson City Health and Human Services. The Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS) Public Information Officer (PIO) will continue to create community education materials regarding public health measures, testing and vaccines, monitor social media and ensure messaging aligns with the Governor's directives and the needs of the community.

The County Manager's Office will continue to assist in preparing videos and messaging from local officials regarding public health measures and disseminate CCHHS messaging across the County's social media platforms.

Resource Needs

According to the COVID-19 Mitigation Taskforce, the Nevada National Guard, FEMA, and USDA will be available to assist with testing and vaccination events, along with data entry through September 13, 2021. This is a resource that is critical to the County's successful recovery and we appreciate the State's effort to secure these resources. Douglas County Community Health, the Douglas County CERT Team, and volunteers from the East Fork Fire Protection District will continue to provide assistance as necessary.

Carson City Health and Human Services is prepared to administer 7,000 vaccinations per week to the Quad County area. However, CCHHS is currently only receiving approximately 2,000to 2,700 vaccine allocations per week.

According to Becker's Hospital Review's data on March18, 2021

(Accessed March 19, 2021 from https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/public- health/states-ranked-by-percentage-of-covid-19-vaccinesadministered.html), Nevada is ranked 42 for vaccine allocation based on the estimated 2018 population. Therefore, additional vaccine allocations are needed to meet the demand and be able to vaccinate all population groups as intended by the Governor starting on April 5, 2021.