



For immediate release:



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From: Public Information Officer Lori Beatley

Plumas County Request to State for Flexibility in Governor's Stay Home Order

On March 19, 2020, in order to preserve the public health and safety, and to ensure the healthcare delivery system is capable of serving all persons with COVID-19, Governor of the State of California issued an executive order for all individuals living in the state of California to stay at home. It has been over 40 days since the executive order was issued and Plumas County is requesting some local flexibility in the Governor's Stay Home Order, including a transition away from an essential/non-essential framework to one based on lower risk/higher-risk.

On April 30, 2020, a letter was sent by Dr. Mark Satterfield, Plumas County Public Health Officer to Dr. Sonia Angell, California Department of Public Health Officer and Governor Newsom. Plumas County is requesting a modification to the Governor's order which would allow some non-essential low-risk businesses to safely open. We do not know if or when Plumas County will receive a response from Governor Newsom. We continue to follow the stay-at-home order as we help our community prepare for potential changes.

Phase 2 of the preparedness plan includes the following:

- Identification of businesses and activities that are safe to enjoy
- A strategy to test more residents, starting with healthcare workers, for COVID-19.
- Expanded capacity to quickly identify and contain outbreaks in facilities housing older Plumas County residents, those living with disabilities, those currently incarcerated, and those with co-morbidities.
- Securing safe places for people to recover from COVID-19 if they cannot do so at home, and providing the resources they need during that time.
- Continuing to support our healthcare system so they can adequately address COVID-19 and other critical healthcare needs, and have the proper PPE to do so.

Plumas County has been working with elected officials on a regional approach to re-opening. The goal is to assist local businesses and the community to re-engage in their livelihoods while maintaining social distance and minimizing exposure to COVID-19 to every extent possible.

Plumas County has done an amazing job of slowing the spread of COVID-19 by staying home, practicing social distancing, practicing good hygiene and using face covers while in public. COVID-19 cases are still being identified in areas close to Plumas. Re-opening the county will be a continuous and cautious process. It is also possible that we would have to re-tighten the stay at home order if our local situation changes. Thank you for your patience as we plan for a safe transition towards opening some lower-risk businesses.