

10.6.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID-19 General:

- Day 220
- 9 fatalities
- 705 hospitalizations
- 158 ICU patients
- 72 intubations
- Hot spot zip codes are at a 5.5% infection rate
- 1.2% statewide infection rate
- Gov emphasizes the importance of local governments enforcing the law
 - Local governments must provide personnel to the state's task force on enforcement

Clusters:

- Gov: "we have a COVID 'cluster' problem"
- Current hotspots:
 - Colleges upstate
 - Binghamton
 - Orange
 - Rockland
 - Queens
 - Nassau
- Gov is launching the Cluster Action Initiative
 - Take action within cluster, then outerlying communities
 - There is mapping software to identify the location of a cluster
- Gov states that activities like worship, school, and dining will be limited within 1-2 miles of a cluster
- Gov is increasing fines for sponsors of mass gatherings to \$15,000
- The state will consult with local governments and maps will go into effect as soon as tomorrow

Q&A:

- Why did we not take precautions with clusters sooner?
- Gov: local governments have not been enforcing laws and the state does not have enough personnel
- DeRosa: this plan is a last resort, and would have been irresponsible to implement at day one

- Why give localities until Friday to enact this plan?
- Gov says notifying businesses of new rules might take a day or two

- Why aren't the Gov and Mayor de Blasio working more cooperatively?
- Gov claims that enforcement would have prevented recent issues, and putting out more rules will not help

- On houses of worship: Gov believes his regulations are constitutional

- On NYPD: Gov states officers must wear masks because it is the law
- Why hasn't the Gov been meeting with police officers more?
- Gov: these rules are primarily enforced by the DOH
- Gov adds that officers shouldn't always be the first choice to respond to issues of mental health and substance abuse