

2.10.21

Notes from Governor Cuomo's Briefing:

COVID:

- Day 347
- Statewide Positivity rate 4.02%
- 176,750 Test results reported
- 136 deaths
- 7,593 Hospitalizations, down 282
- 1,423 ICU patients, up 11
- 955 Intubations, down 16

Hospitalizations by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 364 (0.03%)
- Western NY: 338 (0.02%)
- Southern Tier: 206 (0.03%)
- Mid-Hudson: 828 (0.04%)
- Central New York: 173 (0.02%)
- Mohawk Valley: 166 (0.03%)
- Capital Region: 313 (0.03%)
- NYC: 3,797 (0.04%)
- Long Island: 1,327 (0.05%)
- North Country: 81 (0.02%)

Positivity by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 2.82%
- Western NY: 4.04%
- Southern Tier: 1.15%
- Mid-Hudson: 5.28%
- Central New York: 1.85%
- Mohawk Valley: 2.88%
- Capital Region: 3.32%
- NYC: 5.08%
- Long Island: 5.29%
- North Country: 4.45%

- Manhattan: 3.21%
- Bronx: 6.74%
- Queens: 5.14%
- Staten Island: 4.85%
- Brooklyn 5.35%

- Post holiday surge continues to decrease
- Gov. said COVID has done a lot of damage and has exposed many injustices already present
- Gov. said COVID has exposed failures in public health, incompetence in government, failed leadership, and structural racism and discrimination in the United States
- Gov. outlined disparities in COVID experience: COVID killed Black people at 2x the rate of White people and Hispanic people at 1.5X the rate of white people
- Gov. said any "American Rescue Plan" must consider all Americans and consider structural racism and discrimination
- Gov. said there are two obstacles to the vaccine: Hesitancy and access

New Mass Vaccination Sites:

- Gov. announced federal/state partnership to open mass vaccination sites for socially vulnerable communities in NYC and upstate
- New mass vaccination sites in Brooklyn and Queens are set to open the week of Feb 24th and Upstate sites will follow

- These vaccination sites will receive special federal dosage allocations and will be a joint state and federal effort
- Gov. welcomed a statement from Jeff Zients and Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith who outlined the federal vaccination strategy and plan for the Federal Health Equity Task Force
- Representatives from the NYS Health Equity Task Force also made statements about the importance of equity in the vaccine roll-out

COVID Vaccine:

- 2.6 million total doses administered
- 93% of allocated first doses administered
- Vaccine supply is now week-to-week but the White House announced an additional 5% increase in supply and 3 week allocations

Reimagine Rebuild Renew:

- Gov. said the state will be using the Buffalo Bills Game Testing model to reopen large stadiums and arenas
- Starting February 23rd Arena re-openings will start with DOH approval for venues and events
- Events will be at 10% capacity
- Negative PCR tests will be required within 72 hours of the event
- Barclays Center in Brooklyn is approved to reopen on Feb 23rd for Brooklyn Nets game

Q&A

On what needs to happen to increase vaccine access in Queens:

- The mass vaccination site in Jamaica Queens will conduct 3,000 vaccinations a day for Queens residents

On what it will take to get people who are hesitant to take the vaccine:

- Gov. said there are two obstacles in getting people to take the vaccine, access to and trust in the vaccine.
- Gov. said this is a national challenge and the state is working with community leaders and community members to communicate with people on the importance of the vaccine

On whether tax increases are off the table for the governor if the state receives most of or all of the \$15 billion requested from federal state and local aid funding:

- Gov. said the state needs all \$15 billion for COVID relief
- Gov. said NYS was impacted more severely than other states by the pandemic and needs more aid to fund programs

On what happens when arenas reopen for events at locations where there are mass vaccination sites:

- Will work with the sites to ensure that vaccinations continue alongside the arena's schedule

On whether the state will be doing anything else to ensure that members of the black and brown community will be prioritized at new mass vaccination sites:

- Gov. said location alone of the sites will help to prioritize certain target communities
- Gov. said the obstacle at these sites will not be access but will be distrust of the vaccine within the community