

2.22.21

Notes from Governor Cuomo's Briefing:

COVID:

- Day 359
- Statewide Positivity rate: 4.3%
- 142,000 Test results reported
- 89 deaths
- 5,800 Hospitalizations
- 1,100 ICU patients
- 700 Intubations

Positivity by Region:

- Western NY: 3.2%
 - Southern Tier: .79%
 - Mid-Hudson: 3.2%
 - NYC: 4.4%
 - Long Island: 4.3%
 - North Country: 3.7%
 - Finger Lakes: 2.3%
 - Mohawk Valley: 2.03%
 - Capital Region: 1.9%
 - Central NY: 1.2%
 - Southern Tier: 0.79%
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- Manhattan: 2.7%
 - Bronx: 5.7%
 - Queens: 4.9%
 - Staten Island: 4.3%
 - Brooklyn 4.3%

Vaccinations:

- 3.75 million vaccines administered
- 93% doses received allocated
- Gov. said supplies delayed by weather should arrive this week
- Gov. said he was at Medgar Evers College today and that the state is being very aggressive in vaccinations focused on social equity
- Gov. said the state is working on combating vaccine hesitancy and distrust
- Gov. said the site opens on Wednesday and surrounding zip-codes have priority for appointments

Reopenings:

- Movie theaters will reopen at 25% capacity
- Weddings and catered events will reopen at 50% capacity beginning March 15th
- Billiards and pool hall reopenings are upcoming with 50% capacity
- Gov. said it is a national priority to reopen schools
- Gov. is asking localities to report on how many teachers have been vaccinated starting Wednesday to guide reopening plans

Nursing Home Visitation:

- For counties with a positivity rate of less than 5% testing for visitors will be encouraged but not required
- For counties with positivity rate 5%-10% testing for visitors is required within 72 hours
- For counties with positivity rates greater than 10% no visitation is allowed
- No visitation will be allowed if there have been COVID cases in the nursing home within the last 14 days
- Nursing home visitation guidelines go into effect Feb. 26th

Economic:

- Gov. said there has been a decision in the ongoing trial with Seneca Nation that affirmed the need for the Seneca nation to pay the \$435 million it owes to the state
- Gov. said the economy is continuing to rebound and revenue is up \$1.6 billion

Federal:

- Gov. said NYS needs \$15 billion to deal with COVID costs from federal gov
- Gov. said federal package does includes only about \$12 billion
- Gov. urges a national tax increase on the wealthiest Americans to provide the relief necessary to states
- Gov. urged the federal government to undo SALT

Q&A:

On ineffective vaccines at Jones Beach

- 81 people in one day received ineffective vaccines at Jones Beach and have since been contacted to schedule appointments to be re-vaccinated

On when Movie Theaters will open:

- Movies will open statewide March 5th with no testing requirement

On the Governor's message to providers who are not asking for medical paperwork from immunocompromised people signing up for vaccinations

- Discretion is left to local governments to establish paperwork requirements
- The state is monitoring to make sure requirements are being followed

On the rise in hate attacks against the Asian community

- Gov. said these acts are wrong, illegal, and will be prosecuted

On what information the Gov. is hoping to gain from new school data

- Gov. said reopening the schools is a priority
- Gov. said that in order to reopen, need a status update on vaccinations of teachers

On whether recent amusement park guidelines are also guiding the state fair reopening this year

- Gov. said that if there is any way to safely reopen the fair safely the state will

On whether or not members of the Governor's office have been subpoenaed in investigations into the State's response to COVID

- Gov. said there has been an inquiry going on since last August and the office has been complying and continues to comply

On whether movie theater employees are eligible for the vaccine

- At this time they would not qualify for vaccines
- Gov. said there is still a vaccine supply issue