

### **3.24.21**

#### Notes from Governor Cuomo's Briefing:

##### COVID:

- Statewide positivity rate 3.51%
- Test Results Reported 207,496
- Hospitalizations 4,641 (-40)
- ICU patients 918 (-7)
- Statewide Intubations 596

##### Hospitalizations by Region:

- Mid Hudson: 551 (0.02%)
- Long Island: 814 (0.03%)
- NYC: 2,689 (0.03%)
- Western NY: 163 (0.01%)
- Capital Region: 110 (0.01%)
- Finger Lakes: 128 (0.01%)
- Mohawk Valley: 53 (0.01%)
- North Country: 17 (0.00%)
- Central NY: 43 (0.01%)
- Southern Tier: 43 (0.01%)

##### Positivity Rate by Region:

- Mid Hudson: 4.76%
- Long Island: 4.38%
- NYC: 4.14%
- Western NY: 2.51%
- Capital Region: 2.13 %
- Finger Lakes: 1.87%
- Mohawk Valley: 1.84%
- North Country: 1.44%
- Central NY: 0.93%
- Southern Tier: 0.64%
  
- Queens: 4.81%
- Bronx: 4.51%
- Staten Island: 4.75%
- Brooklyn: 4.33%
- Manhattan: 2.60%

##### Vaccines:

- 8 million total doses administered
- White house is working hard to acquire more vaccine doses
- Gov. said there is still a supply issue with vaccines
- There are currently 15 million eligible New Yorkers
- Main focus for April, May and June is to vaccinate New Yorkers
- Also focusing on equity in vaccinations
- Gov. said vaccination rate among minority communities is lagging

##### Rebuilding New York:

- Gov. said rebuilding NY will require physical, economic, and social recovery
- Gov. said we have to stimulate the economy as we recover
- Gov. said priorities now are to reopen, recover, reimagine, rebuild, reunite, and rethink post-COVID society and economy

#### Learn and Grow From COVID-19 Disaster:

- Gov. said there will be a "next time" pandemic and we have to be prepared and respond as the state did after Superstorm Sandy and 9/11 disasters
- Gov. said the state needs a public health emergency management system that is much more robust going forward:
- This will require additional emergency Medical staff, PPE capacity, testing capacity, quarantine facilities, laboratory capacity, border management, and individual awareness
- Launching today: Citizen Public Health Training Program offered by Cornell University
- Upon completion of Citizen Public Health Training Program participants will earn a certificate from NYS to be a Citizen Public Health Leader
- Citizen Public Health Training Program will be free
- Gov. thanked Cornell university for their support in developing this training program and encouraged everyone in the state to take the course

#### Hudson River Park:

- Hudson river was industrial and has been converted into waterfront park
- Gov. said Pier 76 was left out of the Hudson River Park redevelopment
- Gov. said legislature set a firm deadline for NYC to vacate Pier 76 by December 2020 and it will now be converted to a public park location
- Construction is beginning now and will be opened as a public park as early as June 1st and will involve a long term redevelopment plan as well

#### Budget:

- Budget is due April 1st
- Gov. said COVID has complicated the budget process
- Gov. said he has competing goals of an on time budget and management of public health concerns

#### Executive top budget priorities:

- Legalize Cannabis: Gov. said legalization is close to an agreement
- Public Safety: Gov. said deadline for localities to come up with public safety plan is coming up on April 1st
- Rebuild New York: Gov. said the Green Rebuilding Program needs funding
- Universal broadband: Gov. said broadband needs to be accessible and affordable
- Rent relief
- Nursing Home reforms: Gov. said he is concerned with ensuring for-profit nursing homes invest in their services and care
- Funding Gap: Gov. said he asked the federal government for \$15 billion for COVID-19 recovery and received about \$12.4 billion so a funding gap exists

#### Q&A:

On the Governor's thoughts on people claiming he can not continue to fully do his job during ongoing investigations and impeachment inquiries:

- Gov. said that this is just wrong and that he is continuing to do his work to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and reopen the economy

On whether raising taxes is necessary in the upcoming budget and whether the Governor will try to convince the legislature to reconsider:

- Gov. said that his outlined executive budget priorities are most important to him.
- Gov. said the budget dynamic has not changed this year between the executive and the legislature and they will continue to work towards a compromise

On when New York will open its vaccine eligibility to all adults:

- Gov. said he will increase eligibility as the state receives more weekly allocation and does not want to expand eligibility without being positive that they have enough doses available

On whether the Governor would consider changing the 11:00 restaurant and bar curfew for the upcoming Syracuse Basketball Game:

- Gov. said that they are actively looking at changing the curfew

On how women still employed by the Governor's office who have accused the Governor of sexual harassment are being protected:

- Gov. said there are protections in place for people who bring forward complaints.

- Every individual who brings forward a complaint is protected from retaliation and the office is taking steps to ensure this is the case for these women

On when the nursing home data turned over by the state to the Department of Justice will be released:

- Gov. said that he has no issue with turning it over but he is unsure of the Department's decision on releasing it and what legal complications may be involved in the release

On why Speaker Heastie's COVID-19 diagnosis may interrupt budget proceedings:

- Gov. said that the Speaker's diagnosis itself will not slow down the budget process but that there will be practical complications as a result of the diagnosis because staff who have to be quarantined will not be able to work physically in a room together