

#### **4.16.21**

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

- Governor Cuomo discussed findings from Reimagine New York State Commission
- The Commission specifically referenced access to broadband as being a priority
- Gov. said 98% of the state currently has access to broadband
- The Gov. announced an in-depth study will be conducted to identify regions that do not have broadband
- Gov. also announced he will be signing a law today requiring all internet providers in the state to offer high-speed internet at \$15 per month to low-income families
- For those residents that cannot afford \$15 per month, ConnectED New York will fund service for 50,000 students

##### COVID:

- 2.8% statewide positivity rate
- 43 deaths
- 3,884 hospitalizations, down 79
- 868 ICU patients, down 18
- 543 intubations, down 16

##### Positivity Rate by Region:

- Finger Lakes: 3.09%
- Western NY: 4.93%
- Southern Tier: 0.81%
- Mid Hudson: 3.62%
- NYC: 3.27%
- Long Island: 3.46%
- Central NY: 1.43%
- Mohawk Valley: 2.0%
- Capital Region: 2.39%
- North Country: 1.68%

##### Vaccinations:

- Over 5 million residents fully vaccinated
- Over 12 million total doses administered

##### Q&A:

On ConnectED fund for students in need of broadband, and whether the state expects resistance from service providers:

- Gov. said the law sets parameters for what determines a low-income family
- Gov. said he does expect resistance from service providers, but broadband is an essential service and needs to be accessible
- Gov. added that for those that cannot afford \$15/month, ConnectED NY will connect students with remote

learning for one year

On whether Gov. expects more processing plants coming into Marcy:

- Mujica said he does not have any current updates, but will contact ESD

On curfew extension for restaurants, and whether it will be extended in the near future:

- Gov. said any changes will depend on COVID numbers

Follow up on why restaurants are still restricted, but some casinos are allowed to be open until 5 a.m.:

- Gov. said restrictions have been reduced over time, but caution is still needed and depends on COVID and vaccinations
- Gov. added he does not believe the state has been overly restrictive in reopenings

On Erie County Executive's comments on allowing the Bills stadium to full open for the Fall:

- Gov. said that the state has to approve any actions taken, and a decision cannot be made this far in advance
- He added that he thinks it can be done, provided the virus remains contained

Follow-up on whether mass testing can be done as was previously to allow fans:

- Gov. said it is likely a test will still be required prior to allowing fans at the stadium

On how many low-income families will be eligible for \$15/month broadband:

- Gov. said any families that fall within the definition of low-income will be eligible; there is no cap on this

On whether the state will accept public safety reform plans that do not address gun violence:

- Gov. referenced the passage of the SAFE Act
- Gov. added that the crime rate in NYC does continue to be a problem, said he will address this further next week
- NYC passed a reform plan, but Gov. said he will discuss further whether it is sufficient