4.27.20 Notes from the Governor’s Briefing:

- The overall hospitalization rate is dropping, but hospitalizations were flat yesterday.
- Intubations and new cases are still down.
- 337 new deaths yesterday: 313 in hospitals / 24 in nursing homes.

TESTING:

- The state has tested 7,500 people for antibodies.
- 14.9% of people tested positive for COVID-19 antibodies.
- The survey will be expanded to test:
  - 1,000 FDNY, 1,000 NYPD
  - 3,000 healthcare workers
  - 1,000 transit workers
- Additional drive-thru testing sites will be opened.
  - People must call in advance to schedule an appointment

REOPENING:

- "Know what you are doing before you do it."
- Gov reiterated that the NY PAUSE order is set to expire on May 15, and can be extended if there is a need.
- Guidelines for reopening:
  - Follow CDC guidelines
  - Industries, Phase I, including construction/manufacturing
  - A business plan that includes social distancing/monitoring
  - Healthcare capacity
  - Develop testing and tracing regimens
  - Develop Isolation facilities
  - Follow regional coordination
  - No "attractive nuisances"
    - Any popular points for tourists
    - Places where people will flood
- There are four factors for monitoring:
  - Hospitalization rate
  - Antibody testing
  - Diagnostic testing
  - The rate of transmission

FEDERAL:

- Gov thanked the US Army corps of Engineers
  - There could be a second wave in the Fall that coincides with Flu season.
- Several hospital facilities will remain open in case of a second wave.
- Gov praised Kentucky Governor Beshear for standing up to Mitch McConnell.

FOOD:

- Food banks are seeing an increase in demand.
  - Gov will commit $25 million in emergency funding for food banks.
- Gov wants more philanthropies to help.
- Launching NY Nourish initiative to deal with excess in upstate farms
  - Companies will be cooperating with the state to buy surplus milk

GOV PERSPECTIVE:

- Areas where the state can improve moving forward:
  - Tele-education
  - Tele-medicine
  - Public transportation
- Public health system  
- "The poorest among us always pay the highest price."

Q&A

DATA:

- Every projection model overestimated the amount of infected individuals.  
-Gov said we changed the "reality" of infection

NYC:

- On opening 40 miles of roads, Gov emphasized the importance of social distancing.  
- You need streets open so that people can social distance
- According to antibody test results, 25% of the NYC population has been exposed to the virus.  
- Antibodies do not necessarily mean immunity to COVID-19.  
- Gov says that this will not impact the plan for reopening.

FEDERAL:

- Trump tweeted about bailouts after meeting with the Gov today.  
- Gov: "This is not the time to be talking about dollars and cents."  
- Nobody is bailing out NY: they are paying NY back.
- The last bill that Congress passed for small businesses should have included state and local governments:  
- Police, fire, teachers, and hospital workers.

UNEMPLOYMENT:

- Depending on how many people ask for unemployment, we will need billions from the federal government.  
- DeRosa: There has not been a personal data breach, but there are a few cases of "human error" through mail which are being dealt with.

FACILITIES:

- Gov reiterated that facilities without the ability to care for patients must transfer them or contact the DOH.  
- COVID only facilities are available and they are located downstate.  
- There are concerns that the USNS Comfort can only accept patients from hospitals.  
- Gov said that nursing homes must still refer patients to other facilities and have other options.