5.2.20 Notes from the Governor’s Briefing:

- Gov says we are in “uncharted waters” and must learn from data available to make decisions.
- Hospitalizations down (10,350). Net change in hospitalizations also down.
- Intubations down.
- Number of new cases daily down to 831. Previously flat at 900 daily.
- Deaths, May 1: 299. 276 in hospitals, 23 in nursing homes. Slightly up from April 30 numbers (289).
- Antibody survey findings for baseline of infection rate:
  - Largest sample of 15,103 people.
  - Found 12.3% tested positive. This is lower than previous survey (~14%).
  - NYC 19.9%
    - Bronx has 27%
    - Brooklyn 19%
    - Manhattan 17%
    - Queens 18%
  - Statewide stats mostly flat between 2-3%.
  - Again have found more Latino/Hispanic individuals testing positive than other races.
  - Found that most new cases come from Manhattan & Kings Cty.
- Gov says we must target where new cases are coming from to lower the infection rate.
- Starting today, hospitals must collect specific demographic information on residence, age, gender, race, ethnicity, work, etc.
- Distributing 7 million masks to communities in nursing homes, public housing (NYC, NYCHA).
- Will be distributing $25 million to foodbanks across the state using NY sourced products.
  - Asked philanthropies to also help, contact Fran Barrett, Director of Nonprofits, at COVIDphilanthropies@exec.ny.gov
- Doing antibody testing of transit workers in NYC (AFL-CIO partnership).
- To ensure sanitary conditions in public transit, MTA will be disinfecting trains every 24 hours. System will be closed from 1:00-5:00 a.m. for these purposes.
- Reiterated importance of protecting essential workers to ensure they continue to help society run.

Q&A:

HOMELESS:

- Gov hopes to take advantage of closing subway stations to engage with homeless individuals and connect them with housing and services. Says services have been funded an unprecedented amount due to COVID-19.
- Local governments are responsible for connecting homeless to resources.

RENT:

- Gov promised no evictions "through June." Once June comes, he will consider next steps.
- Encourages those who can afford to pay their rent to do so.

TRANSIT:

- MTA has been collecting information from essential services on employees to tailor services and accommodate their needs during 1:00-5:00 a.m. shutdown.
- Sarah Feinberg, Interim President of the NYC Transit Authority, says cleaning will be conducted throughout the day when trains reach final destinations. Also mentioned a team of 900 cleaners.
- Pat Foye, MTA Chairman, thanked Mayor de Blasio’s commitment to cleaning trains.

MISC:

- Gov was proud of how New Yorkers managed to lower the curve through distancing, believes protocols should be enforced by police.
- Gov was asked on raising taxes on the wealthy but did not provide an answer.