

## **8.14.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:**

### COVID-19 Update:

- 85k tests yesterday
- 727 tested positive
- .85% positive percentage = "fantastic"
- 7th straight day of below 1% positivity rate
- 554 hospitalizations
- 4 deaths yesterday
- 59 intubated / 127 in the ICU
- SLA found 12 violations yesterday

### Power Outage:

- Utilities have made progress, "too little, too late".

### Testing:

- Ag and Markets to work w/ DOH to deploy mobile testing sites

### Education:

- Infection rate gives ability to schools to open. "Doesn't mean they must"
- Reiterates that districts must consult parents and teachers
- Gov says district conference calls state that the districts aren't allowing teachers and parents to talk
- If "school districts want to stonewall conversation" it'll show on the first day of school; people won't show up

### Bowling Allies:

- will be allowed to open on Monday: 50% occupancy. Must have a mask.
- Every other lane closed. Cleaning and disinfection protocols must be in place
- Food / alcohol only by wait service at lane location

### Museums / Aquariums (low-risk cultural activities):

- Can re-open in NYC on Monday, 8/24. 25% occupancy
- Staggered entries, controlled traffic flow, mandatory masks

### Gyms:

- Protocols will be released on Monday

### Wastewater:

- DOH working on that, will start a pilot project looking into removing COVID from wastewater

### Federal Funds / Elections:

- "I don't know what to tell you, they're playing politics"
- Pres EOs "make absolutely no sense"
- Gov says COVID will be a lead issue in November elections
- GAO findings: Wolfe / Cuccinelli wrongfully appointed

### Q&A:

- Asked about Dem convention remarks / reaction to 2024 poll
- Gov doesn't divulge info on remarks, "then you may not watch on Monday"
- On the poll, "the poll was shocking to me, frankly." All the other people in the poll ran for president, Cuomo notes. Describes it as an endorsement of what NYers did.
  
- Asked about Pres EOs, and new guidance
- Gov states that it would require a law. "He will be sued, and the [EO] will fail"
- References administrative delays and issues associated with last round, states that delay would happen again under structure in EO.
- Also references other states that received "more money than they needed"

in the last round, and they're looking for flexibility in how to spend the money.

- Pres & Mnuchin says that people are leaving NY, Cuomo calls both claims a lie. "State income tax rates are down, that's a fact."

- The NYPost, and Fox and Trump are "in league" according to the Gov

- Gov adds that crime in NYC is a problem and that tension between NYPD and the community is also a problem

- "I think Trump has some liability for the increase in crime", Gov referring to comments after G. Floyd death and Charlottesville protests.

- Asked about Dem convention

- Gov not traveling

- Asked about utilities and frustrated customers, references PSC \$10M fine and continues asked how current statements from Gov will avoid from becoming "hollow threats"

- Gov frustrated with PSC and utilities. Doesn't think the PSC has been tough enough on utilities

- Revoking a franchise will be disruptive, and Gov says he's as serious as a heart attack about it. Frustrated with ConEd

- We are going to be taking "dramatic action" with both the PSC and ConEd

- Asked about concerns over voting in November and locations

- Gov stated he will sign mail-in ballot bill.

- Gov suggests that drop-in boxes could be utilized

- Gov adds that there is a disconnect between parents, teachers and their school districts. Gov continues on the school thread, referencing flu season additional complications. Flu season is busy for the labs, and the complications of adding COVID testing