

9.10.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID:

- 76,813 tests completed on 9/9
- 757 positive tests
- 0.98% infection rate
- 482 hospitalizations
- 7 lives lost on 9/9

REOPENING:

- SLA enforcement in bars: 900 visits yesterday, 4 violations
- Adding inspectors to task force due to number of restaurants monitored increasing
- Gov. asking New Yorkers to assist in enforcing compliance
- Restaurants will be required to post what their 25% capacity is, will post a phone and text number where patrons can report non-compliance

SCHOOLS:

- Gov. reiterated state's dashboard will assist in keeping parents informed daily
- Gov.: "we will respond to information received as needed"

FEDERAL:

- Gov. discussed state's deficit, calling it "impossible to fulfill" without federal aid
- Gov. said taxes, borrowing, early retirement will be considered, but will still not mitigate deficit
- Gov. stated general election will be "determinative"

MTA:

- Gov. discussed increased traffic in NYC, stating NYC cannot handle increased traffic volume
- Gov. stated due to MTA's "masterful" efforts, trains "have never been cleaner"
- Mask compliance on public transportation is at approximately 90%, but Gov. requested MTA implement enforcement plan so riders feel safer
- Gov. encouraged residents to increase use of public transportation
- Foye added wearing a mask on public transit is mandatory, working towards 100% compliance
- MTA will file rule on emergency basis with Secretary of State for a \$50 fine for failure to wear a mask on LIRR, MetroNorth, buses, subways, effective immediately on Monday, 9/14
- A 60-day public comment period will follow for MTA Board to develop a final rule
- Feinberg added MTA has masks available for those who need them

Q&A

- On school reopenings and mandatory vaccines to attend:
 - Zucker stated DOH is looking at this as a possibility
 - Gov. added state is promoting flu vaccine, recommending residents get flu shot early
- On de Blasio's comments on setting an indoor dining threshold:
 - Gov. said a specific percentage for infection rate is not as flexible, many contributing factors in determining closures
 - DeRosa said these conversations have been had "for weeks on end" with NYC, have determined indoor dining can be allowed safely at this capacity
 - Gov. added it is accurate that de Blasio knew of this decision only hours before, as multiple stakeholders were being consulted and discussions were ongoing
- On whether MTA will issue fines for improper use of masks:
 - Feinberg stated fines are targeted at those refusing to wear masks, majority of riders wear masks correctly
- On how MTA enforcement will operate:

- Feinberg stated MTA Police and NYPD will conduct enforcement
 - Riders will be asked to wear mask, will be provided mask if they do not have one
 - If riders refuse to utilize mask, they will be fined
 - Foye added MTA's communication efforts on mask wearing is "robust"
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- Follow-up on whether this will increase ridership:
 - Foye stated ridership usually increases after Labor Day
 - Goal is 100% mask compliance, believes this will assure other riders of safety