

9.9.20 Notes from the Governor's Briefing:

COVID-19 General:

- Day 193
- 463 new hospitalizations
- 121 new ICU
- 59 new intubations
- 3 lives lost yesterday
- Infection rate 0.91% yesterday
- WNY positive rates up on Tuesday to 1.5%
- Gov stressed that more testing does not cause more cases
- SLA / State Police report 99.2% compliance from over 36,000 establishments

RESTAURANTS:

- The state will allow indoor dining to resume at 25% capacity, starting Sept. 30th
- Patrons must provide contact information, take temperature checks, and wear masks when not seated
- On compliance: Restaurant Association will run PSA's asking NY to report violations
 - Report compliance issues by calling 833-208-4160 or text 855-904-5036

GENERAL:

- Today, the state will release \$88.6 million in funding for childcare providers
- Gov encouraged people to try public transportation

FEDERAL:

- Current US Senate proposed relief package is insufficient
- Gov warned that without proper aid, the state will have to make budget cuts, raise taxes, and borrow funding

Q&A:

Question on NYPD and SLA Task Force:

- Gov said that he will increase the amount of inspectors on the SLA / State Police task force
- Inspectors do not have to be police; they can be other types of workers with inspection experience

Question on indoor dining capacity:

- Gov said there are a number of factors deciding the allowable capacity
- November 1st is the deadline for reassessing indoor dining guidelines because that is when it starts to get cold and outdoor dining becomes less favorable
 - If the infection rate stays down, you can take more risk

Question on amusement parks and indoor gym guidelines:

- Gov pointed out differences between dining and gym classes
- Exercise classes are "much riskier" because of the constant inhaling and exhaling
- Mujica: Smaller spaces have less potential for social distancing
 - Amusement parks are also difficult to enforce

Questions on higher LI infection rates and tracking data:

- Gov recommended to take holiday numbers with a grain of salt
- Any percentage under 2% isn't a cause for concern
 - Experts cannot explain minor fluctuations in data
- DeRosa: some spikes in infection rates were caused by college students using their home address

Question on community compliance and reporting violations:

- Businesses may be struggling, but Gov believed New Yorkers will do the right thing and think about their health