

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION & ORDER NO:
21-08-24-08

IN THE MATTER OF CALLING FOR ALL
INDIVIDUALS, BUSINESSES, PUBLIC VENUES, AND
EMPLOYERS TO TAKE ADDITIONAL IMMEDIATE
ACTIONS AGAINST THE DELTA VARIANT SARS-
CoV-2 and COVID-19

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of Lane County enacted Resolution & Order Number 21-08-10-06 on August 10th, 2021 calling on individuals, businesses, and employers to immediately resume masking and distancing when in shared indoor spaces; and

WHEREAS, Governor Brown subsequently enacted a statewide order requiring indoor masking in public spaces effective August 13, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the seven day average daily case rate has grown from 294.5 cases per 100,000 of population to 356.4 cases per 100,000 population on August 19; and

WHEREAS, the number of individuals being currently tracked as infectious within Lane County has surpassed 1,000 individuals each day over the past 7 days, indicative of the highest disease burden of COVID-19 experienced by Lane County since the onset of the SARS-CoV-2 global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the number of hospitalizations of COVID-19 patients in Lane County hospitals over the past week have exceeded daily census counts observed during the winter surge as transports from other counties continue to critically stress local capacity; and

WHEREAS, definitive epidemiological evidence is mounting from elsewhere in Oregon, the Pacific Northwest, and around the country that transmission is possible within crowded outdoor settings; and

WHEREAS, the people of Lane County have demonstrated their ability to voluntarily follow public health measures with sufficient rigor throughout the COVID-19 pandemic resulting in lower case rates, hospitalizations, and deaths when compared to jurisdictions of similar size and demographics in Oregon and around the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Health of Lane County **RESOLVES** and **ORDERS** as follows:

1. The issuance of an Emergency Public Health Advisory in Lane County calling on all individuals, businesses, public venues, and employers to take immediate protective health measures to protect local hospital capacity against further disease burden in Lane County.
2. The Emergency Public Health Advisory specifically calls for the following:

- a. For individuals, regardless of vaccination status, to:
 - i. Wear masks in indoor spaces with other individuals outside of your immediate household;
 - ii. Wear masks in outdoor spaces when maintaining six feet of distance is not possible from other individuals outside of your immediate household;
 - iii. Carry masks and hand sanitizer with you when leaving home and wash your hands as often as possible;
 - iv. Avoid crowded public spaces, whether indoors or outdoors, regardless of vaccination status;
 - v. Avoid unnecessary business or leisure travel;
 - vi. Respect personal space and maintain at least six feet of distance from others;
 - vii. Limit activities that could lead to injuries requiring hospital care;
 - viii. If you are an unvaccinated adult, stay home and avoid public interactions as much as possible;
 - ix. Get vaccinated as soon as possible for those who haven't yet done so.

- b. For Businesses, to:
 - i. Ensure indoor masking consistent with previous LCPH advisories and Governor Brown's statewide indoor masking order;
 - ii. Ensure outdoor masking for those older than five years of age (two and older if tolerated) - regardless of vaccination status - when in outdoor public spaces in which six feet of distance cannot be consistently maintained;
 - iii. Limit capacity to facilitate social distancing, particularly when customers will be eating and drinking without masks;
 - iv. Prominently post signage to remind customers to observe COVID-19 safe practices;
 - v. Prominently post signage about the vaccination status of your business and staff.

- c. For Public Venue Owners, Operators, and Permitting Authorities, to:
 - i. While peer-reviewed evidence of outdoor transmission risks associated with the Delta Variant of SARS-CoV-2 is incomplete, we believe that the safest strategy is to avoid public events greater than 200 people indoors and outdoors for at least the next two weeks. We strongly recommend postponing events until a later date when transmission risk is reduced;
 - ii. If it is not possible to postpone an event, we recommend taking the following steps to limit transmission risk associated with large events:
 - 1. Require indoor and outdoor masking, regardless of vaccination status;
 - 2. Consider requiring proof of vaccination or a negative laboratory test for entry;

3. Consider capacity limits to facilitate distancing, whether indoors or outdoors;
4. Provide ample sanitation stations for handwashing;
5. Consider entrances, exits, and other areas where people tend to cluster – ensure that attendees have room to queue that facilitates spacing. Use signage and staff to remind people to maintain distance and use masking, indoors and outdoors;
6. Consider touchless vending options, if possible;
7. Prominently post signage to remind customers to observe COVID-19 safe practices; reinforce via public address announcements throughout the event.

d. For Employers:

- i. Ensure that employees follow public health measures outlined above;
- ii. Consider instituting vaccination and/or testing policies for your workplace consistent with state law;
- iii. Encourage remote work for employees where possible and feasible;
- iv. Ensure that workplaces can facilitate distancing where possible and feasible;
- v. Limit unnecessary travel for employees;
- vi. Encourage and provide supports needed for employees to get vaccinated.

3. That the Emergency Public Health Advisory be promulgated by Lane County Public Health with the urgency and speed that this matter requires.

ADOPTED this 24th day of August, 2021.



Joe Berney, Chair
Lane County Board of Health