

COVID TASK FORCE MEETING NOTES
29 OCT 2020

Meeting updates: Meetings will stay at every other week with updates sent weekly and posted to the Protect Your Mountain Playground site, follow the link below and check it out! <http://protectyourmountainplayground.com/> Please remember to reach out to this group if you are needing information or resources and we will do our best to gather and distribute those.

Healthcare Update:

All St. Luke's Sites

Seeing increase in COVID positive cases across all sites. Other St. Luke's sites considered in guarded status for capacity. Significant case load of COVID in the Magic Valley area, they have paused elective surgeries that require overnight stays. Pediatric patients from the Magic Valley area are now being transferred to Boise due to volume. This may affect the status of hospital capacity in Boise. Pandemic in Eastern Idaho is more severe than in Western Idaho.

85 COVID patients (69 two weeks ago) with rule outs and pediatric. 12 COVID patients in ICU vs 6 last week. 12 patients ventilated both COVID and non-COVID. With increasing effects from the virus after testing positive hospitalizations are usually seen in the following 2-3 weeks.

For more information about the St. Luke's health system and COVID information please visit: <https://www.stlukesonline.org/health-services/service-groups/covid-resources/covid-data-and-reporting>

St. Luke's, McCall

Hospital capacity is good and in the green category. There have been 2,662 tests ordered so far. Seeing a spike in COVID Cases with 18 new cases in the past two weeks. As of today, there have been 133 positive cases.

For more information about the McCall, St. Luke's health system and COVID information please visit the website below, scroll to the bottom and click on the updated information under "Additional Links":

<https://www.stlukesonline.org/health-services/service-groups/covid-resources/covid-data-and-reporting>

Cascade Medical Center (CMC)

October has an 11.7% positivity rate for testing. Higher percentage of people being tested are resulting in positive tests. Have extended help to the local VA facility in Boise to take on non-COVID patients to free up bed space for the Boise hospital. Not much flu activity going on currently, but it is flu season.

CMC is now offering a "drive through" flu vaccination option on Thursdays and Saturdays. Follow the link to schedule your appointment and learn more

[http://www.cascademedicalcenter.net/getpage.php?name=2020-2021 Flu Information&sub=Patient%20Info](http://www.cascademedicalcenter.net/getpage.php?name=2020-2021%20Flu%20Information&sub=Patient%20Info)

For more information about the Cascade Medical Center please follow the link below:

<http://www.cascademedicalcenter.net/>

Dr. Greg Irvin with St. Luke's

There have been Influenza positive cases in the state of Idaho. Encouraging influenza vaccinations for everyone. Valley County currently has the lowest 14 day moving average rate in the state of Idaho. Could largely be due to mask mandates as well as citizens following protocols. Good job! Staff in healthcare organizations has been a limiting factor in capacity and care efforts. PPE stocks are in good shape. COVID-19 is a poly systemic disease (it attacks many organs in the body) and may lead to hypercoagulation (blood clots). However, with the advice of a medical doctor, people can take a low-dose baby aspirin once a day. If considering an air purifier, please research the product and be sure it is validated and be aware of scams.

Central District Health (CDH)

Valley County still doing the right things as far as prevention and mask wearing goes. There are concerns in hospital capacity if case counts do continue to rise. Restrictions in Ada county are much more restrictive. Have asked that all category 3 area schools hold off on sporting events, unfortunately this was not adhered to. There have been lots of calls regarding the movement to indoor areas due to the coming winter season. The large question being that if you can physically distance indoors do you need to wear a mask? Yes, masking has proved helpful and they should be worn as often as possible.

Here's a link to the state's vaccine advisory committee info:

<https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/idaho-covid-19-vaccine-advisory-committee/>

This is the current plan on that website: https://coronavirus.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Idaho_COVID-19-Interim-Vaccination-Plan-V2-10-19-2020.pdf

If you are looking for more information on how to stay safe on Halloween or while trick-or-treating follow this link for helpful guidelines:

https://www.cdhd.idaho.gov/pdfs/cd/Coronavirus/CDH-Safer-Halloween-09-25-20_Final.pdf

If you have questions or would like more information, please call the CDH Call Center @ 1-208-321-2222

Schools Update:

McCall-Donnelly School District

Pressure on schools to put air purifiers in classrooms. Schools do have up to date HVAC systems that bring in fresh air when the CO2 gets to so many parts per million. Status quo so far. At beginning of school year K-8 ~19% of students were participating in fully online learning. Now ~under 10% are online fully and others have returned to school. There is a heightened level of concern for physical distancing and safety measures for operations. Will be adding another 5th grade teacher to decrease student numbers in the classroom.

Government Update:

McCall Chamber of Commerce

Foot traffic is slowing down. New magazine is out! Stop by the Chamber of Commerce and pick one up! Remembering to go back to the basics and be thankful for the beautiful sites, friends, family and recreation opportunities that we have here.

Valley County

Overall county is doing great. Improving website for public access and expanding IT network with new laptops. Looking at funding and full support for all health districts. This upcoming election may change the dynamics of these health districts as they may have new

commissioners on them. Trick or Treating at the county, inviting folks inside with a mask and traveling in a straight-line manner to mitigate overcrowding. Trying to operate in a COVID friendly manner.

City of McCall

Council meeting Thursday Nov 5. Public hearing to establish emergency powers authority by ordinance by adding it to the city code. If adopted, it will go into effect the following Thursday when published in paper. Sets framework on how future public health orders are issued by the city council. Does not automatically put a mask ordinance back in place. Moved back to Stage 3 orders for city services, reevaluated staffing model and capacity for buildings. Working with CDH on events to be sure compliance and safety is met. Use of Rite of Way applications for businesses are still available for submission and review.

New Meadows

South West District Health Cases: Broken down by city (totals) - Council 39, Fruitvale 2, Glendale 3, Indian Valley 5, New Meadows 9. Council member would like to have a mask mandate, but it may be countered by the community. A statement was created by the city but remains flexible for businesses and individuals to mandate mask wearing.

Cascade

Still abiding by mask mandate. Still utilizing virtual meetings. Planning Trunk or Treat event with mask wearing and prepackaged goodies at city hall.

Business Update:

Hotel McCall and Rupert's

October has been busy but have recently seen a slowing down. Supportive of mask wearing and the ability for businesses to make their own regulations regarding mask wearing. Will be doing a Thanksgiving lunch and dinner, but all will be to go. The restaurant will not be open to the public on Thanksgiving.

Tamarack

Four new restaurants opening. Trying to organize outdoor seating and open tents with heat lamps. May have to have someone monitor the flow of people indoors especially in nasty weather. Masks are still being worn by employees. Safety and physical distancing modifications to ski areas are being made. This shoulder season has been busy. Events that are more difficult to uphold physical distancing standards will be cancelled.

First American Title Company

Seeing record breaking months compared to the same months in the previous years. Lots of people are interested and are trying to buy. Still very busy. Are only allowing people signing inside with mask wearing and sneeze guards in place.

Marketing Update:

Mask video was filmed successfully last Thursday. Preview should be available soon. The Winter Carnival statement was released today, sculptures, family fun are all included but larger events like the parade, fireworks, main stage and beer garden will not be happening. Will be offering event services through a contracted company for businesses and non-profits who would like to host events. Feedback can be given on how to best host your event in the safest way possible. Have begun to post a weekly update on the Protect Your Mountain Playground website. Check out the website here!

<http://protectyourmountainplayground.com/>

Mountain HollyDays guide will be modified to represent businesses and restaurants that are offering online, to go and delivery availability. All businesses should update their operating status, hours and options for patrons and interested parties.

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