



KATE BROWN
Governor

June 11, 2020

Polk County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner Craig Pope
850 Main Street
Dallas, OR 97338

Dear Commissioner Pope,

Thank you for the effort you, your hospitals, and your public health experts put into your plans for demonstrating your county's preparedness during the COVID-19 pandemic.

After careful review of your application, as well as a review of statewide data today with the Oregon Health Authority, I have made the decision to pause approval of any county application for a seven day period. We have begun to see concerning signs of outbreaks, increased cases, case positivity, and hospitalizations throughout the state. Because of this, I have decided to wait on lifting restrictions anywhere else in Oregon until we get a better handle on the situation.

Next Wednesday, June 17, the Oregon Health Authority and I will review the data again. You do not need to submit another application.

Your county's application to enter Phase 2 on June 12th has not been approved.

The following items were of concern specifically for your county:

- Your county had a 33% increase in new cases in the last 7 days, above the threshold of 5%.
- The percent of new cases not traced to a known source in the last seven days was 50%, above the recommended threshold of 30%.

We know you are working hard to address the challenges your county faces. I have directed the Oregon Health Authority to provide additional support to your efforts to identify and contain COVID-19 in your county.

Thank you for all of your hard work and vigilance on behalf of Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Governor Kate Brown