



Board of County Commissioners

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www.eaglecounty.us

July 8, 2020

The Honorable Jared Polis
The Governor of Colorado
200 East Colfax Ave
Denver, CO

Jill Hunsaker Ryan
Executive Director, CDPHE
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
Denver, CO 80246

Dear Governor Polis and Director Ryan:

As we all weather the challenges brought on by Covid-19, Eagle County is committed to doing whatever it takes to support a resilient and healthy community. Throughout this fall and winter, we strive to ensure that our schools and businesses have the ability to responsibly serve residents and visitors alike based on our Five Commitments to Containment:

- I will maintain 6 feet of social distance
- I will wash my hands often
- I will cover my face in public
- I will stay home when I am sick
- I will get tested immediately if I have symptoms.

A key component to the Five Commitments is the ability for individuals to get tested when necessary, and to receive their results quickly. In order to guarantee that this can occur, the Eagle County Board of Commissioners strongly believes that an uniform testing strategy is needed at the state-level. The strategy should focus testing based on need, avoiding misuse of the limited supply of testing equipment. Throughout our region, we have seen disparities in testing strategies, with testing being conducted even for the “worried well.” This statewide guidance should hold all counties, hospitals, and healthcare providers to the same standard while giving these entities the tools to responsibly administer tests.

We also believe that strong testing and communication systems should accompany this uniform testing strategy. The State should have a stable supply of testing equipment and reagents, and test results should also be consistently delivered within 48 hours. Recently, local healthcare providers have seen results take up to 8 to 10 days. In addition to a strong testing system, we believe that communications should also be robust and target key populations. Eagle County continues to see high numbers of visitors to our region. Tailoring communications to this group through various channels will prevent visitors from coming to the state unwell, and will help our visitors stay well while visiting. These systems are crucial to keeping our economy and healthcare systems going, and work should be done now to ensure that there is enough capacity across all of Colorado.



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The Eagle County Board of Commissioners strongly encourage that leadership within the Governor's Office and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment lead these efforts to develop not only the uniform strategy for testing across the state, but also build the infrastructure to support a robust testing system. We are ready and willing to assist with developing this strategy. We are grateful for the support already given to Eagle County by the State of Colorado, and wish to ensure that it will continue throughout the duration of this pandemic. .

Sincerely,

Eagle County Board of Commissioners

Kathy Chandler-Henry

Chair

Matt Scherr

Commissioner

Jeanne McQueeney

Commissioner