

December 4, 2020

Director Jill Hunsaker Ryan
Executive Director
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
Via Email

Director Hunsaker Ryan,

Thank you for taking a moment to review this notification of our development of the infrastructure for a Douglas County local certification program. Our immediate request is to fully operationalize a Douglas County local certification program consistent with our November 25, 2020 correspondence to the Governor.

Douglas County, in collaboration with our municipalities, business community, and Tri-County Health Department, has created the infrastructure to pre-certify eligible businesses who can be members of the local certification program. We stand ready and willing to provide the State with valuable insight and recommendations for how to effectively and quickly implement a Douglas County local certification program.

We are advocating for the needs of our restaurants who have expressed the tenuous circumstances they are experiencing as a result of COVID-19 restrictions and who are also willing to invest in additional COVID-19 safety measures. Many restaurants have expressed concern that a continuation of the current Level Red restrictions may mean permanent business closures. As such we are proposing a solution that allows us to provide a clear path for restaurant sustainability and simultaneous protection of public health.

We thank you and your department for the work you have put into structuring a Douglas County local certification program and we look forward to your continued collaboration with us as we immediately operationalize a pilot of the program.

Sincerely,



Abe Laydon
Commissioner District I



Roger A. Partridge
Commissioner District II



Lora L. Thomas
Commissioner District III

CC:
Governor Jared Polis, Governor of Colorado
Dr. John Douglas, Tri-County Health Department