



October 29, 2020

Roger Partridge, Chair
Abe Laydon, Commissioner
Lora Thomas, Commissioner
Douglas County Board of Commissioners
via email

John Douglas, Director
Tri-County Health Department
via email

RE: Douglas County Safer at Home Dial Level Change

Dear Commissioners and Director Douglas:

On October 2, 2020, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) met with Tri-County Health Department regarding Douglas County's incidence rates and requested a mitigation plan. At that time, the county's incidence rates exceeded the Safer at Home Dial Level 1 status as follows:

- Two-week cumulative incidence rate: 111.80/100,000 people
- Percent positivity: 3.67%
- 2-week COVID-19 case count (new cases): 393

When we met to discuss progress on October 19, 2020, we stipulated that if the county's incidence rates had not significantly decreased, the county would be moved to a more restrictive level or Safer at Home Dial. As of today, the county's incidence rates are as follows:

- Two-week cumulative incidence rate: 235.54/100,000 people
- Percent positivity: 6.23%
- 2-week COVID-19 case count (new cases): 828

While the county's incidence rates are aligned with Safer at Home Dial Level 3, we have decided that a gradual implementation of restrictions is suitable at this time. As such, CDPHE is moving Douglas County to Safer at Home Dial Level 2. CDPHE also reserves the right to move the county to a more restrictive level at any point should circumstances warrant more aggressive sector restrictions.

Douglas County Dial Change - Level 1 to Level 2
October 29, 2020

The change from Level 1 to Level 2 is effective today, October 29, 2020 and the county should work to inform communities and stakeholders and ensure the transition is complete by Wednesday, November 4, 2020. This process will require the county to implement restrictions across all sectors as described in Section II.C of [Public Health Order 20-35](#), as amended.

Should the county restore metrics for Level 1 at any time during the more restrictive phase, the county would need to maintain those metrics for two weeks and complete the request process described [here](#) in order to be moved back to Level 1.

Additionally, when the State transitioned to Safer at Home Dial 20-35 on September 15, 2020, any sector or site-specific variances that exceeded the new dial framework remained intact. This included Douglas County's site-specific variances for Park Meadows Mall, and sector variances for gyms and life rites. However, if a county moves to a more restrictive level in Safer at Home Dial, sector variances are permanently lost. As such, all gyms and life rites in Douglas County are required to operate according to the corresponding allowances and occupancies for Level 2.

While sector variances are permanently lost when a county moves to a more restrictive level in Safer at Home Dial, site-specific variances remain intact. Therefore, Park Meadows Mall can continue to operate according to the allowances and conditions of the original variance approval on May 22, 2020.

I want to assure you that we appreciate the unique challenges facing Douglas County and commend you for your efforts and diligence. Stopping the spread of this persistent virus takes the cooperation of everyone consistently practicing good disease prevention strategies and your partnership has been critical. Thank you.

Lastly, if we can be a resource for you in any capacity, please let us know. We would be happy to consult with you on additional supports and services.

Sincerely,



Ann Hause
Director, Office of Legal and Regulatory Compliance