

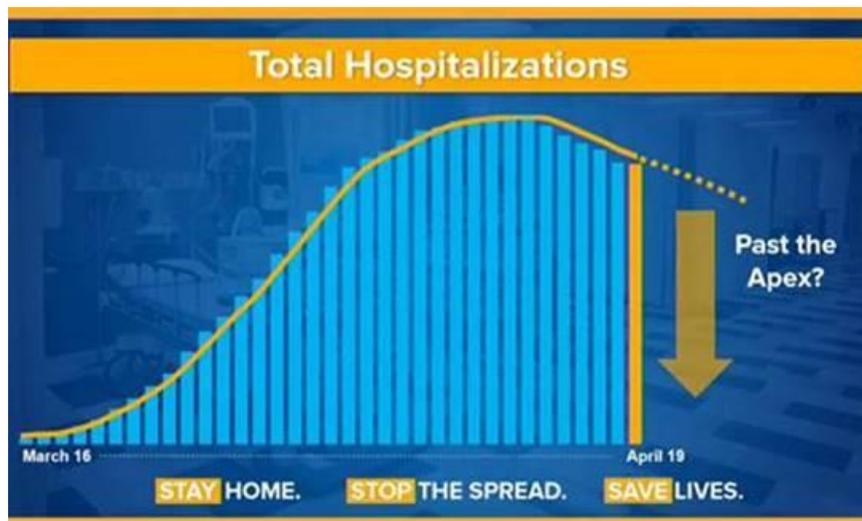
April 20, 2020

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 crisis together, please continue reaching out to us as issues arise for you and for your businesses. We are and will continue to remain in regular contact with key stakeholders at the State Agencies and with the Administration to advocate on your behalf. Below please find updates and new information since our last update.

WHAT'S NEW TODAY

Governor Cuomo Press Briefing

- The curve continues to flatten and the numbers are down for the seventh straight day. The amount of net hospitalizations and number of intubations continues to decrease, but there are still new COVID hospitalizations every day (1,380 yesterday).



- There were a total of 478 COVID-19-related deaths on April 19th. Of this 455 were hospital deaths, and 23 were in nursing homes. This represents a decrease from the previous day – but for the last several days the number was generally flat. A total of 14,347 New Yorkers have passed away from coronavirus.



- The Governor reiterates that the current infection rate is 0.9 - meaning every one person who is infected then infects just less than one other person. This means the outbreak is slowing, but if the infection rate goes up to 1.2 it would mean the virus is increasing at a rate that will overwhelm the healthcare system. We have a very small margin of error moving forward. When activity increases the infection rate spreads -due to contact. As people start to come out and move around more it will inherently increase the virus spread. We need to watch the dial.



- Creation of the Reimagine New York Task Force to focus on building back better. The task force will primarily focus on Downstate, the most affected area. Those on the task force include: Westchester County Executive George Latimer, Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone and New York City Mayor Bill DeBlasio. The State will also bring in experts to focus on housing, transportation, etc. to best plan how we act moving forward and what we have learned.

Reimagine New York

- Better **Public Transportation**
- Better **Housing**
- Better **Public Safety**
- Better **Health System**
- More **Social Equality**
- Better **Use of Technology**

STAY HOME. **STOP** THE SPREAD. **SAVE** LIVES.

- The Governor reiterated his bi-partisan request that the next Federal stimulus bill include \$500 billion for state and local governments. For the first time our State budget is based upon what we receive from the Federal government. Without Federal funds the State financial plan will forecast 20% cuts to schools, local governments and hospitals.

Federal Aid to States



- The federal CARES Act contained zero funding to offset drastic state revenue shortfalls.
- The National Governors Association is renewing our bipartisan call for **\$500 billion** in aid to states.

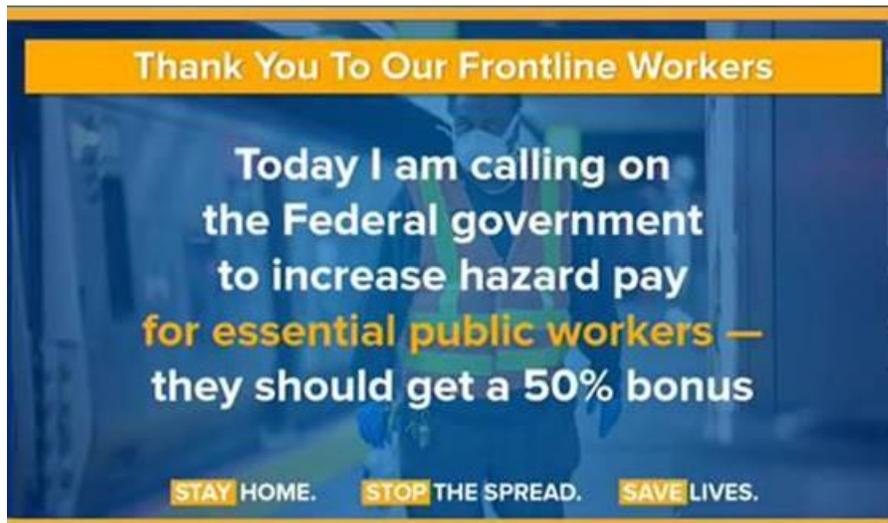
STAY HOME. **STOP** THE SPREAD. **SAVE** LIVES.

If the federal government doesn't provide funding, our state financial plan this week will forecast cuts to...

Schools	Local Govts	Hospitals
20%	20%	20%

STAY HOME. **STOP** THE SPREAD. **SAVE** LIVES.

- Proposes the Federal government to provide a 50% bonus hazard pay for front line workers.



- Expansion of healthcare testing in public housing in New York City to allow NYCHA to have onsite health services. Working with Representatives Greg Meeks and Hakeem Jeffries, Attorney General Tish James and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. along with Ready Responders to PILOT this program. Additionally, the State will be delivering more than 500,000 cloth masks (at least one per resident) and 10,000 gallons of hand sanitizer to public housing communities.



- After testing we need to focus on contact tracing. Cuomo believes this should be a State responsibility to coordinate with regions and labs. Contact tracing would require a tremendous amount of people and would be cost intensive. Testing is the first step.
- On elective surgeries in Upstate hospitals, they are looking into potentially bringing them back as Upstate hospitals are facing significant financial burdens and are not facing the capacity issues. It is a question of balance and the rolling curve of the outbreak.
- Secretary to the Governor Melissa DeRosa announced that today the Department of Labor is rolling out a streamlined process to apply for pandemic unemployment insurance. Previously, New Yorkers were required to apply for regular Unemployment Insurance and be rejected before applying for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. With this new application, which aligns with updated federal policy, New Yorkers will be able to simply fill out one form to get the correct benefits. More information on this is in the guidance section below.

Regional Multi-State Council

Governors Cuomo, Murphy, Lamont, Wolf, Carney, Raimondo and Baker have announced their appointees to the regional multi-state council to get people back to work and restore the economy. The appointees include one health expert, one economic development expert and the respective Chief of Staff from each state.

New York

- Melissa DeRosa, Secretary to the Governor
- Robert Mujica, Director of NYS Division of the Budget
- Michael Dowling, President and CEO, Northwell Health

New Jersey

- George Helmy, Chief of Staff to the Governor
- Dr. Richard Besser, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and former Acting Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Jeh Johnson, former United States Secretary of Homeland Security under President Barack Obama

Connecticut

- Paul Mounds, Jr., Chief of Staff in the Office of the Governor
- Indra Nooyi, Co-chair of the nonprofit organization AdvanceCT and former chairman and CEO of PepsiCo
- Dr. Albert Ko, Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine and department chair at the Yale School of Public Health

Pennsylvania

- Michael Brunelle, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor
- Secretary Dr. Rachel Levine, Department of Health
- Secretary Dennis Davin, Department of Community and Economic Development

Delaware

- Sheila Grant, Chief of Staff, Office of Governor
- Dr. Kara Odom Walker, Secretary, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services
- Kurt Foreman, President and CEO, Delaware Prosperity Partnership

Rhode Island

- David Ortiz, Chief of Staff to the Governor
- Nicole Alexander-Scott, MD, MPH, Director of the Rhode Island Department of Health
- Stefan Pryor, Rhode Island Commerce Secretary

Massachusetts

- Kristen Lepore, Chief of Staff
- Michael Kennealy, Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development

- Lauren Peters, Undersecretary at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Executive Order 202.21

Governor Cuomo has issued Executive Order 202.21. The Executive Order clarifies that any officiant, public or private, is able to perform or solemnize such marriage ceremony utilizing audio-video technology, per Executive Order 202.20.

UP-TO-DATE GUIDANCE

- New York State Department of Health:
 - [New York State Medicaid Program Launches Online Medicaid Provider Enrollment During COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)
- New York State Department of Labor:
 - [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Fact Sheet](#)
 - [New Streamlined Application Process for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance without having to first apply for Unemployment Insurance](#)
- Empire State Development: [Guidance for Determining Whether a Business Enterprise is Subject to a Workforce Reduction Under Recent Executive Orders](#)
 - There have been no changes since our last update.
- New York City: [Agency Suspensions and Reductions](#)
 - There have been no changes since our last update.

Attached please find a comprehensive document with guidance from across government agencies. We will be updating this document as information becomes available and including it in our daily updates.

In addition to our regular email updates, Ostroff Associates has established two dedicated webpages that will be updated in real time with any new information from government sources relating to COVID-19. Please use these websites as a resource and share with others who would benefit.

Update Page: <https://www.ostroffassociates.com/covid-19-updates/>

News Page: <https://www.ostroffassociates.com/category/covid-19/>

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Ostroff Associates | 150 State Street, Suite 301 | Albany, New York 12207 | (518) 436-6202 | ostroffassociates.com