



# POLK COUNTY

POLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE ★ DALLAS, OREGON 97338  
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## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners

**CRAIG A. POPE**

**MIKE AINSWORTH**

**LYLE R. MORDHORST**

**GREGORY P. HANSEN**

Administrative Officer

May 15, 2020

Dear Polk County Citizens;

The County Board of Commissioners would like to thank you for your support and understanding during these troubled times. Polk County is making every effort to moving our County forward into the Phase I re-opening stage.

In an effort to clarify any misunderstandings that are circulating out there, the following is the timeline involving the County's re-opening plan:

- On Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> (at approximately 2:30 pm) Polk County submitted its application for re-opening to the State of Oregon requesting a May 15<sup>th</sup> opening.
- Later that afternoon (approximately 4:00 pm) the State accepted our application as complete.
- On Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup> (in the morning) we were notified by the State that Polk County was not approved for re-opening along with Marion County.
- Later that morning, the County received a letter from the Governor's Office notifying Polk County that the basis of our denial was the County's failure to meet pre-requisite #1 standard for a decrease in hospitalizations over a 14 day period. The letter also stated that the County did not need to submit another application.

So what does this all mean for the future? Polk County will be re-evaluated again on Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> to determine if the hospitalization data meets the criteria set forth by the Governor and Oregon Health Authority to re-open for Phase I on Friday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Once this criteria is met, it is the County's assumption that the State will approve us for re-opening.

Again, thank you for your support.