



Grays Harbor County  
Public Health and Social Services Department

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Grays Harbor County Board of Health  
Vickie L. Raines, Chair  
Wes Cormier, Commissioner  
Randy Ross, Commissioner  
100 W Broadway Avenue, Suite 1  
Montesano, WA 98563

Re: Application for Phase 2 Variance of Stay Home, Stay Healthy Order

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused significant disease worldwide and in Washington State. At this time, fifteen (15) cases have been confirmed in Grays Harbor County, the majority of which occurred prior to April 10, 2020. More recent cases have been sporadic and do not appear to be related to significant community transmission.

As part of the Governor Inslee's latest extension of the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order on May 4, 2020, some counties are able to apply for a variance that would allow them to move from Phase 1 to Phase 2 of the Phased Approach to Reopening Washington Plan. This will allow specific social distancing measures and business closures to be relaxed.

Over the past two weeks Grays Harbor County Public Health has successfully worked to acquire adequate personal protective equipment and supplies to meet the demand for testing for COVID-19 in the County with a plan to surge if necessary. They have developed adequate staff capacity to carry out case investigation and contact tracing quickly when new cases are reported. They have also developed a plan and put the necessary agreements in place to effectively isolate and quarantine known cases and contacts.

Grays Harbor Community Hospital, Summit Pacific Medical Center, and Providence St. Peter Hospital have all indicated that they have adequate PPE and bed capacity to meet the demand for care that an increase in COVID-19 cases would present.

Given these circumstances, I am recommending that Grays Harbor County request a variance that includes all of the Phase 2 modifications in the plan to Reopen Washington.

Sincerely,

JOHN C. BAUSHER, MD, PhD  
Grays Harbor County Health Officer