

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)
 Tuesday, January 12, 2021 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7082128355>
 Meeting ID: 708 212 8355
 Phone: (253) 215-8782
www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac.cfm



Public Health
 Prevent. Promote. Protect.



AGENDA ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOMES	LEAD	TIME
Welcome	Welcome, introductions, review agenda, approve minutes from September meeting	Alex Coleman	5:30
COVID-19 Vaccine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHAC members receive an update on COVID-19 vaccine planning 	Carrie Beck and Adrienne Donner	5:50
Feedback on COVID Vaccines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHAC members are invited to provide feedback on the concerns/fears they have heard from their communities or the communities they serve related to COVID vaccines 	Kathleen Johnson	6:25
COVID-19 Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHAC members receive an update on the current situation in Washington County 	Tricia Mortell	6:45
Legislation and Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PHAC members receive an update on budget planning process and legislative session 	Tricia Mortell	7:00
Housekeeping Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss vacancies and appointments Elections for Chair and Vice-Chair will be held in February 	Alex Coleman	7:10
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members can ask questions or provide comment during this time 	Tricia Mortell and Alex Coleman	7:15
Closing		Alex Coleman	7:25

Next Meeting: February 9, 2021

Future PHAC Meetings:

- March 9, 2021
- April 13, 2021

Future Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Subcommittee Meetings

If you are interested in attending any of these meetings, please email vivianna_lindley@co.washington.or.us

Suicide Prevention Council • Friday, January 15th • 3:00 – 5:00 pm
 ZOOM Meeting
 Email Jenna Oh (jenna_oh@co.washington.or.us) for meeting login information

Electronic information: www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac-meetings.cfm

For assistance on the evening of the meeting contact:

Alex Coleman (971) 724-0089 or alex_coleman@co.washington.or.us

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2021



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ATTENDING: Tom Engle, David Eppelsheimer, Pam Treece, Leticia Vitela, Andrea Lara Silva, Larysa Thomas, Nicole Bowles, Jennifer McElravey, Robin Bousquet, Sonja Ackman, Hemi Pariyani,

ABSENT: Larry Boxman, Shabba Woodley, Karen Reynolds, Ann Marie Paulsen, Eileen Derr, Dick Stenson

STAFF: Tricia Mortell, Alex Coleman, Vivianna Lindley

Community Members: Teresa Goodell, Julie Scotland

GUEST PRESENTERS: Carrie Beck, Adrienne Donner, Kathleen Johnson

Welcome

Alex started the meeting with introductions and an ice breaker.

Approve November's Meeting Minutes

November's minutes were reviewed. Jennifer McElravey motioned to approve the minutes. David Eppelsheimer seconded. All in favor and none opposed. The motion was passed.

Housekeeping Items

- Karen Reynolds and Larry Boxman are leaving PHAC at the end of the month
- Julie Scotland is a new member of the PHAC
- We have three other vacancies we are recruiting for. Alex will send out the recruitment email, so please share it with anyone you think would be interested.
- Need a new chair and vice chair. Voting for that will take place next month, so please email Alex if you are interested in either role.

COVID-19 Vaccine

PHAC members received an update on COVID-19 vaccine planning from Adrienne Donner and Carrie Beck of the Washington County COVID Response Team. See PowerPoint for more details.

- Moderna is the primary vaccine used at the County level because it is easier to store (doesn't require ultra-cold storage), but both vaccines were rigorously tested and are both effective.
- V-Safe is a website where people can report any vaccine side effects after receiving it.
- Individuals 18+ can receive either vaccine right now, vaccines for children 12+ are in trials now.
- The Pfizer vaccine requires ultra-cold storage, so it is limited to large health care systems with that storage capability.
- Individuals who use an EpiPen for allergies should receive the vaccine in a medical setting as they are known to have more severe side effects.
- Partners are working to distribute the vaccine to the 1a group more swiftly.
- Expecting a report in February on vaccine sequencing for phases 1b, 1c and 2. Teachers were noted as a priority for phase 1b.

- Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue volunteered to be a direct vaccinator for Washington County. They received shipments of vaccine and will begin administration after their staff are trained.
- If an employer has more than 100 employees, they can apply to be a direct provider to their employees but must be able to properly store the vaccine and receive training to distribute it.
- Washington County will be vaccinating its staff who are working with the public.
- Statewide data on vaccines is available here: <https://covidvaccine.oregon.gov/>
- Vaccine distribution is still very limited. We are trying to match how much vaccine we have to the level of distribution we are perusing.
- Right now, the warning for vaccine shipments arriving is very short notice. It does not leave enough time to plan a large vaccination event.
- We have over 600 volunteers in a medical reserve corps to assist with distribution
- The vaccine is free, but there is an option for providers to bill insurance for administration of the vaccine. Anyone without insurance or who's insurance does not cover administration cannot be personally billed.

Feedback on COVID Vaccines

PHAC members were invited to provide feedback on the concerns/fears they have heard from their communities or the communities they serve related to COVID vaccines.

- Some healthcare workers (who are in 1a) are having extreme difficulties getting an appointment to receive the vaccine; particularly small/solo practices.
 - This was a huge concern for Washington County. Anyone having this issue can go to our website and be matched to a distributor: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/90cbfb1e95304ff5bb8e783c076f5dac>
- Concerns and Fears
 - Side effects, short and long term
 - Worried there won't be enough vaccine for a second dose
 - Breastfeeding mothers and pregnant women concerned about getting the vaccine since they are unsure if it will have any negative impact on a fetus or nursing child
 - Need better literature to give out; needs to match literacy levels of patients
 - Fear of being turned away for the vaccine if you have tested positive recently
 - Individuals on buprenorphine therapy are worried about potential reactions to the vaccine
 - How will people come back for the second dose and make sure it is the right vaccine/do it at the right time?
 - Worry about the senior population, many of whom are alone. Some may not have access to a computer or have cable television, so we need to make sure they are also receiving information
- What will help convince people to get the vaccine?
 - Communicate the alternative to the public; what if you (and others) don't get the vaccine? How does that affect those around you?

COVID-19 Update

PHAC members received an update on the current situation in Washington County.

- Most of our focus is on the vaccine right now, but that does not mean we are out of the woods for infection
- We saw a bump in cases again after the holidays and our current case rate is 340 per 100,000 which is very high
- Still a large amount of work with Long Term Care Facilities and managing outbreaks

- Working to coordinate staffing for schools as they consider bringing more students back for on-site learning.
 - State limitations for schools are no longer requirements, but recommendations.
- We are still not conducting full contact tracing. We are encouraging cases to inform their own contacts. We are contact tracing for high-risk contacts.

Legislation and Budget

PHAC members received an update on budget planning process and legislative session.

- Biggest focus is COVID funding
- State emergency board has allocated funding for COVID and community resiliency; rent assistance, work relief programs, etc. Waiting for more details on how much of that will come to us
- Federal funding still waiting to be identified for COVID response
- Worked with the County Administrator's Office and the Board of Commissioners to have a plan in place for 2021 regardless of federal funding. We got a lot of support and were able to keep on all our COVID staff
- Working to separate out our COVID budget and regular Public Health budget for 2021-2022
- Looking at the budget to trim it carefully so we can continue our most important work
- The priorities for the legislative session are Public Health Modernization and State Tobacco Retail Licensure
- Many bills out there for families, early learning and children
- Have seen some interest in closing the loop in vaccine exemptions
 - Contrary to some information available, COVID will not be part of that since at this time children cannot be vaccinated
- This will be a long session so there is more time to roll out bills
- Most important thing is to continue to look for federal funding for the COVID response

Public Comment

Q: Does Moderna and Pfizer work against the new COVID variant?

A: Yes. However, there may be other variants which we are keeping a close eye on.

Q: If we are prioritizing school staff/educators etc. to get kids back in school, will school age parents also be prioritized?

A: No, they will not be.

Q: Is Oregon going by the CDC list of high-risk conditions when prioritizing groups for distribution?

A: Yes.

Q: Is there a goal of how much of the Oregon population we are trying to vaccinate?

A: 100% would be ideal, but of course that is not possible. We need to make sure that everyone who can receive the vaccine does so we can achieve herd immunity.

Q: Do you know how Washington County's distribution rate is compared to the rest of the state and nation?

A: It depends on the size of the County. That is not data we track right now.

Q: Does the BOC have a formal document that details the priorities for the Oregon legislators?

A: The Board received an update on the proposed state and legislative agenda at the end of last year (https://www.co.washington.or.us/BOC/Meetings/Agendas/2020/upload/BOC-Work-Session_11-03-2020_AGENDA-PACKET.pdf)

Q: Is there any other Public Health work happening besides COVID right now?

A: We are working a lot on reaccreditation for Public Health and our Suicide Prevention and Community

Health Improvement Plan work has started back up again. We have had to set aside some of our work on climate resiliency.

Q: Do we have an idea of the positive rate of the people with unstable housing?

A: We do not have that data. We have had fewer outbreaks than we expected due to fast response by the County and community partners to mitigate spread in that population.

Q: Is there an app for contact tracing?

A: That is still being worked on. It should be close to completion.

Closing

Next meeting February 9th via Zoom.