



Missoula City-County Health Department

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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MEDIA RELEASE

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Local Health Officials Review Governor's Plan, Will Announce Local Approach Friday

Yesterday, Governor Bullock announced his plan to re-open Montana and rescind the "Stay at Home" directive. The directive ends for individuals on April 26 and for some businesses on April 27. The Governor's plan necessitates the need for continued social distancing and personal hygiene and gives local jurisdictions the ability to assess local needs and provide more stringent measures.

The health department received the Governor's plan at the same time as the public and need time for local considerations. Health Officer Ellen Leahy is reviewing the Governor's proposal and assessing what makes sense for Missoula County. The health department will provide updated information for how things will unfold tomorrow.

"There are a lot of things to consider here—our community, our essential workers, our health care hub, and the necessary testing capacity. Additionally, we need to be able to guide businesses about how to protect themselves and their customers," said Cindy Farr, the health department's Incident Commander. "We've all worked so hard and sacrificed to keep cases low in our County, and we want that to matter. We want to take the time to get this right."

Since the Governor's press conference, the health department has received feedback from members of the community, including business owners and their employees. Local business owners have also reached out to assist with guidance.

"We want to thank the community for their patience as we work to provide the best response that we can," said Farr.