UPDATE:  Gov. Cuomo Details Rules and Procedures for Regional Re-opening of New York Beginning May 15

Gov. Andrew Cuomo today outlined the State’s plan for a regionally-based, phased restart of New York’s economy, beginning May 15. The Governor’s Office has published a “NY Forward Guide to Re-Opening and Building Back Better,” which you can access at this link.

The Governor again outlined seven metrics that must be based on a regional basis. The metrics are:

- A 14-day decline in hospitalizations OR fewer than 15 new hospitalizations and five deaths in a three-day average.
- 14-day decline in hospitalized deaths OR under 5 new over a three-day average.
- New hospitalizations under 2 per 100,000 residents over a three-day average.
- Share of total beds available (threshold of 30%).
- Share of ICU beds available (threshold of 30%).
- 30 per 1,000 residents are tested for COVID-19 monthly.
- 30 “contact tracers” per 100,000 residents.

Regions that meet these metrics for re-opening may begin re-opening May 15. At present, the Mohawk Valley, Finger Lakes and Southern Tier and North Country regions would be included in the first wave of re-openings.
The re-opening will proceed with a sector-specific phasing as follows:

- **Phase 1**: Construction; manufacturing and wholesale supply chain; select retail with curbside pickup
- **Phase 2**: Professional services; finance and insurance; retail; administrative support; real estate, rental leasing
- **Phase 3**: Restaurants, food services; hotels, accommodations
- **Phase 4**: Arts, entertainment, recreation, education

It is not clear how long each of these phases will last; it will seemingly be based on a continuous monitoring of the metrics by “Regional Control Rooms” consisting of key elected officials and leaders in each region.

The State indicated they will also update an [online dashboard of the metrics on a daily basis](https://forward.ny.gov), which can be found at this link.

Furthermore, the Governor announced the May 15 reopening of certain “low-risk businesses and recreational activities,” including:

- Landscaping and gardening
- Outdoor, low-risk recreational activities (i.e., tennis)
- Drive-in movie theaters

Businesses will be required to adopt certain safety precautions, including:

- Adjusted workplace hours and shift design.
- Social distancing.
- Restrictions on non-essential travel.
- Requiring masks if in frequent contact with others.
- Strict cleaning and sanitation standards.

More information on the “NY Forward” plan can be found at [https://forward.ny.gov](https://forward.ny.gov).

AGC NYS has developed its own “reopening plan” for construction which you can view [here](https://forward.ny.gov).

We will continue to track this evolving situation closely and will report to our membership as soon as additional details become available.

--Mike Elmendorf