



M E M O R A N D U M
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
County of Placer

TO: Board of Supervisors

DATE: February 16, 2021

FROM: Robert L. Oldham, MD, MSHA, Director of Health and Human Services

SUBJECT: Letter to Governor on COVID-19 Vaccine Delivery System

ACTION REQUESTED

Authorize the Chair to send a letter to Governor Newsom regarding the State's reported change in the State's COVID-19 vaccine allocation and administration and authorize the Chair to send a letter to Governor Newsom.

BACKGROUND

On January 26, 2021, Governor Newsom's Administration detailed a series of vaccine delivery system changes to focus on each sector of the health care system. One of these changes is addressing the availability of supply by streamlining the vaccination process. As of this writing, there has been talk of two third party administrators, Blue Shield and Kaiser – however, there has been no agreement put in place and Placer County's role has yet to be defined.

Currently, Placer County is one of the leading Counties in the State on getting vaccines into arms. Placer County believes that the State taking over the coordination of the vaccine delivery system will lead to inefficiencies and ultimately a longer time-period to reach herd immunity. As a local government partner, through the attached letter, we are urging the State to (1) prioritize local health jurisdictions for available vaccine, (2) ensure meaningful and ongoing consultation with Placer County, and (3) provide emergency fiscal resources for these local efforts.

FISCAL IMPACT

Potential fiscal impact projections related to COVID-19 were shared during the FY 2019-20 3rd Quarter Fiscal Update before the Board on April 21, 2020.

ATTACHMENT

Letter to Governor Newsom

County of Placer

Board of Supervisors

175 FULWEILER AVENUE
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603
530-889-4010 • FAX: 530-889-4009
PLACER CO. TOLL FREE # 800-488-4308

BONNIE GORE
District 1

ROBERT M. WEYGANDT
District 2

JIM HOLMES
District 3

SUZANNE JONES
District 4

CINDY GUSTAFSON
District 5



February 16, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol Building, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Concerns with Changes to California's Vaccine Distribution System

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Placer County Board of Supervisors, I am writing today to share our urgent concerns and recommendations regarding the plan to abruptly alter the state's vaccine distribution system as announced in late January.

The proposal, for which there is little detail as of this writing, threatens our local public health insights and operations. Currently, Placer County is one of the leading counties in the State in administering shots-in-arms every day.

As your local government partner, I urge you to (1) prioritize local health jurisdictions for available vaccine, (2) ensure meaningful and ongoing consultation with us, and (3) provide emergency fiscal resources for these local efforts. Our local public health department is known and trusted in our community, which goes a long way in ensuring that those who can get a vaccine shot, will get a vaccine shot. If the goal is to vaccinate as many people as possible, as quickly as possible – trust matters, and we share the same goal.

To achieve this, we propose the following:

1. Prioritize local health jurisdiction requests for doses of the vaccine. Ensuring supply for local health jurisdictions will help us continue to build momentum and leverage our months of planning and effort to vaccinate the public. This will also ensure some attention to equity, as local health jurisdictions are the only entity tasked with and experienced at serving everyone in our communities – especially our most vulnerable.

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
February 16, 2021 | Page Two

2. Immediately dedicate funding to counties and local health jurisdictions to support critical vaccine, testing, contact tracing, public health equity, and support for the most vulnerable this year in the current year.

As shown by the vaccine data over the past few weeks, Placer County is getting this herculean job done. The State and local county partnership can and should be utilized to vaccinate our population. With the right resources, we can do this job more effectively, efficiently, and equitably. I urge you to work with us. Should you have any questions, please contact our Health and Human Services Director, Dr. Rob Oldham at (530) 745-3191 or at roldham@placer.ca.gov

Sincerely,

COUNTY OF PLACER

Robert Weygandt, Chair (District 2)

Cc: Tomás J. Aragón, California Department of Public Health Director
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Todd Leopold, Placer County Executive Officer
SYASL Partners
CSAC

