

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Edwin J. Day
Rockland County Executive

April 2, 2020,

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Due to the dire situation that we face here in Rockland County, illustrated by the 3,751 Reported Positive COVID-19 Test Results and the 42 confirmed COVID-19 related deaths, I am requesting that New York State establish a containment zone within the Town of Ramapo and that a temporary hospital be set up within the County.

The attached COVID-19 Hot Spot Grid Map is based on cases that have been confirmed and verified by the Rockland County Department of Health. Based on this map, I am asking that the boundaries of the proposed containment zone be set at Route 45 in the east, Grandview Road in the north, College/Forshay Road in the west and the New York State Thruway in the south.

The areas highlighted by this map as having the most cases, have each breached a dangerous threshold. More than 1% of the total population of the corresponding zip codes (see attached Zip Code Map) has tested positive for COVID-19. This is recognized as a dangerous tipping point by members of the White House Coronavirus Task Force, further reinforcing the point that action must be taken.

The Rockland Community College Fieldhouse is listed in our local emergency plans as a possible site for medical services to be provided, I ask that you consider this option or any additional site that will bring us the necessary supplies, space and personnel to avoid seeing our local hospitals overwhelmed.

I kindly request a response to this inquiry by the close of business tomorrow, Friday, April 3, 2020, so that appropriate action can be taken to protect the health, safety and lives of our residents. Governor, you have taken unprecedented action in the face of this outbreak and I am asking that you do so again to protect Rockland County.

As you well know, strict compliance with social distancing measures will reduce the number of people who get sick, reduce the number of people who die and prevent our hospital system from being overwhelmed.

Unfortunately, despite repeated pleas from elected officials, health experts and community and religious leaders, we are not seeing the levels of compliance needed to flatten the curve to a manageable level locally. In fact, the numbers tell us quite the opposite is happening.

Additionally, I ask that you please update your Executive Orders to specifically allow law enforcement here in Rockland and across New York State take action to enforce the common-sense rules that you have put into place.

On behalf of the people of Rockland County, I ask for your quick and affirmative response to these requests.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edwin J. Day". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent loop at the end.

Edwin J. Day
Rockland County Executive