



April 15, 2020

The Honorable Kate Brown
Governor, State of Oregon
900 Court Street NE, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Cc: Senator Tim Knopp
Representative Cheri Helt
Representative Jack Zika

Dear Governor Brown,

The Bend Chamber of Commerce and its 1,700 members urge you to issue specific metrics for COVID-19 testing, workplace and public space protocols in preparation for re-opening businesses. The transition through social distancing measures in Executive Order 20-12 can only progress if we have a plan with specific metrics and timelines.

While we appreciate the information shared in your press conference yesterday on the criteria that is being formulated to monitor and stave off the spread of the virus, it is time for a plan that can bring some level of predictability to businesses and their employees who are struggling. Central Oregon businesses are ready to understand what is expected of us as we monitor the number of new cases of COVID-19 and react accordingly. We know that adhering to protocols is how we will eventually eradicate the virus and that doing so will also start to enable us to begin the transition of re-opening our businesses. The Bend Chamber, its members and the greater business community are ready to innovate and implement a phased approach that will be expected of us.

The business community is eager to offer support and participate in the formulation of these protocols both regionally and by industry sector, including development of testing protocol, monitoring and protection in the workplace. The Bend Chamber is ready to assist in any way that is helpful to speeding up this process and communicating directions to businesses in our region. We are all eager for information and look forward to partnering with your administration as we move forward.

We would be remiss if we didn't thank Oregon State employees, healthcare and emergency responders who put themselves at risk for our benefit. As we proceed, we want to honor them and recognize their efforts.

On behalf of our members, we thank you for your administration's efforts thus far during this unprecedented crisis. We are ready to work together to form a path forward for the successful re-opening of our economy and an eventual return to normal ways of working and living.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katy Brooks", is positioned to the left of a vertical line.

Katy Brooks
CEO
Bend Chamber of Commerce