July 17, 2020

John Kefalas, Chair Pro Tem
Steve Johnson, Chairman
Tom Donnelly,Commissioner
Larimer County Board of County Commissioners
200 W. Oak Street, Suite 2200
Fort Collins, CO 80521

via email

Dear Larimer County Commissioners:

Thank you to Larimer County for your diligence in responding to the COVID-19 event. We are seeing an uptick in cases in Colorado in general and Larimer County in particular and wanted to call it to your attention. Due to these increases, we are now requesting all counties with approved variances that have a 2 week cumulative disease incidence rate in excess of 50 people per 100,000 population to either submit a mitigation plan to CDPHE by Monday, July 20th at 12pm or confirm that you are moving the county entirely to the requirements of the Eighth Amended Public Health Order 20-28 with no variances, allowing only for more stringent restrictions to be imposed by the county.

Please send your plan to countyvariances@state.co.us. We recommend that mitigation plans include increased social distancing in order to be most effective. After receipt of the plan, the county will have two weeks to reverse the trend of increasing disease. We will re-evaluate your case count and percent testing positivity at that time and may modify or remove the county's variance depending on the outcome. COVID-19 is increasing across the state and the State of Colorado may decide to take action on variances before two weeks' time, if the acceleration of cases continues or if the county's mitigation plan is not strong enough to reduce county-level spread.

Suppressing COVID-19 is a difficult task. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is here to support your health department and community. A template for a mitigation plan is attached.

Please email Michelle Child at countyvariances@state.co.us with any questions.

My best,

Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH
Executive Director

CC: Tom Gonzales, Larimer County Public Health