

Deaths 74 (total 23,638)

COVID-19 Tracker Site: <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov>

Regional Dashboard: <https://forward.ny.gov/regional-monitoring-dashboard>

New York Forward Business Reopening Lookup

Tool: <https://www.businessexpress.ny.gov/app/nyforward>

- Pleasure to be here today
- In DC, spent 8 years here during Clinton administration
- Hospitalizations are dropping
- Intubations are down
- Number of new hospitalizations is down
- Deaths: 74 (48 Hospitals, 26 nursing homes) headed in the right direction, only in a time of crises would 74 deaths be a good sign
- NY curve is down, that is different than other parts of the nation, we are pleased with the progress
- Memorial Day transition
- Starting a new chapter; SMART reopening
- This is based on science, not on politics: 7 metrics
- Reopening in phases, most essential with lowest risk first
- I understand that states are responsible for reopening
- That has been position of states and federal government
- States are responsible for reopening, testing, tracing, healthcare and enforcement
- Washington needs to do its part
- There can be no nation if state and local governments are not funded
- Do you really want to cut healthcare? Education? Police? Fire?
- Remember the states most impacted by COVID-19 represent more than 1/3 of that national GDP
- State and local spending is essential to the health of the national economy
- We have to learn from the past
- Federal reserve chairman said “we have the evidence of the global financial crisis and the years afterward where state and local government layoffs and lack of hiring did weigh on economic growth” Jerome Powell
- This hyper political environment is toxic for the country
- “blue state bailouts” this is an un-American response; we are still the United States of America
- It is also false
- The states that give more money to the feds than they take out? NY, NJ, MA, CT, CA
- The states that take out more than they put in? VA, MD, KY, AL, FL
- This is pure redistribution of wealth, rich states give to the poor states
- 3 years ago, they passed SALT, took the states that were already paying more to the federal government and increased the money they were taking from those states
- There are still facts and numbers and they truth still matters
- Stop abusing the states that took the brunt of the COVID virus, no fault on their own
- Now you want to hold it against us?
- When one state has a problem, other states help

- It was nobody's fault
- There is still a right thing
- Pass a bill that helps all Americans
- And if you want to talk about reopening do it in a productive way
- Economic recovery, there will be corporate layoffs, small businesses will close
- Propose the Americans first legislation, corporations can't get a dime of government bailout unless they hire the same amount of workers
- Not is the time for a public infrastructure program
 - National study: 56,000 structurally deficient bridges
 - One out of 5 miles of highway in poor condition
 - Now is the time to supercharge the reopening, did it after the great depression
- In NY there are big infrastructure projects ready to go
- The only way we will recover is by working together, state, local and federal government
- Can't there be one moment of good government over partisan politics?
- Need to be America tough

Q&A:

You met with the President, talking about stopping the politics, did you speak about gateway project or trusted traveler?

- There are political differences between us, when this started, I told the President to put that aside through this
- Put the political stuff aside
- Get these projects going
- The gateway project is a larger project
- There are two tunnels the trains go through, Amtrak trains
- These tunnels have to be replaced, there is a proposal to do that, NY and NJ will pay for half
- Also, second Ave subway project that needs federal approval
- Also, AirTrain also waiting on federal DOT environmental review
- It was a good conversation
- We have built large projects, if he gives green light, I have a shovel we will start right away
- He said we will talk next week
- Trusted traveler program did not come up
- Believe that was retaliatory, we wouldn't give information to ICE
- During this year's budget we

On issue of state and local governments, house passed bill that did include funding, what is message to senate republicans, also did you talk to the president about this?

- Was in Washington, understand the politics (good, bad and ugly)
- Know what the republican senators are saying but it is a lie, they are lying
- They know they take more money; they have their hand out, takes more than they give
- He made it personal, not me
- Why should my state give a hand out to Senator McConnell and Senator Scott every year, they are against redistribution of wealth, they are against it unless they are taking the money, very convenient
- Houses did pass a bill with state and local funding and SALT repeal
- If Washington doesn't pass a bill, I would say to all of them, don't go home, you will have done a disservice to your office

Were there any other projects anywhere else in the state?

- No, just brought those
- didn't want to be seen as greedy

you said anyone asking about nursing home deaths should talk to president Trump, did you talk to him about that?

- I said to republicans that were making accusation, that they can't make an accusation that is a boomerang that comes back at them
- Out state DOH followed the CDC guidelines, I was thwarting the political attacks
- Both guidance said you can't discriminate against someone who had COVID
- We did better than 33 states per capita on nursing homes
- Nursing homes are ravaged by this disease
- Not blaming anyone
- We were looking to the national experts
- No testing staff twice a week
- Also, context is I was saying that to a Post reporter
- There were columnists at the Post who make these comments and then believe we have to kill all Democrats
- To be pro-Trump you have to be anti-Democrat

There were times you didn't follow CDC guidance-

- When didn't we follow the CDC guidance?
- We have always followed the CDC guidance, and I think it makes sense
- Not discriminating against doesn't mean the nursing homes has to accept the patient, if you can't treat that patient, you cannot accept that person
- Obligation is on the nursing home to say they can't take the person
- That isn't discriminating

Bases on today conversation, is he aligned with McConnel and Scott?

- Think the president is focused on reopening and bringing the economy back, think he understands these projects need to be done
- His is a builder, he is a developer
- When he ran he discussed infrastructure
- These have been in the pipeline forever
- Needs to be done, when will be a better moment in history to do it, let's building things we can leave for our children