



NEVADA COUNTY  
Public Health

## REOPEN NEVADA COUNTY: A PLAN TO REOPEN IN STAGES WHILE LIMITING THE LOCAL SPREAD OF COVID-19

### BACKGROUND

The plan to reopen Nevada County outlines stages that may be phased in, or out, based on data-driven measures for loosening or tightening restrictions to limit the spread of COVID-19. The plan outlines the measures, lists the stages of reopening, and includes guidance for industry sectors that were developed in partnership with public and private sector representatives, or provided by the State. The stages align with the [State's Resilience Roadmap](#). The plan is consistent with guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health: *Variance to Stage 2 of California's Roadmap to Modify the Stay-at-Home Order: Guidance to County Government*.

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*NOTE: The plan to reopen Nevada County is based on State guidance as of May 8, 2020, and will change as the State Resilience Roadmap changes. The plan was developed using best available information.*

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### REOPENING NEVADA COUNTY IN STAGE 2

The plan to reopen Nevada County into Stage 2 at an accelerated rate aligned with the State's Resilience Roadmap. The planned reopening of sectors included in Stage 2 is based on the potential risk for spreading the virus within a specific workplace or facility and on the ability to make modifications to mitigate risk.

### STAGE 1: STAY-AT-HOME ORDER IN PLACE WITHOUT MODIFICATIONS

The Governor announced modifications to the State's Stay-at-Home Order on May 8, 2020, which allows some sectors to reopen with modified operations as shown below in Stage 2 – State Resilience Roadmap.

## STAGE 2: STATE RESILIENCE ROADMAP

The State outlined a resilience roadmap for modifying the Stay-at-Home Order. As of May 8, 2020 the State indicates the following are allowed with no local action. You may review the [State guidance online](#) for full details.

- Curbside retail, including but not limited to: bookstores, jewelry stores, toy stores, clothing stores, shoe stores, home and furnishing stores, sporting goods stores, antique stores, music stores, florists.
- Supply chains supporting the above businesses, in manufacturing and logistical sectors.

The State indicates the following sectors/businesses will be opened later in Stage 2 by the State but may be opened sooner by some counties that meet the requirement for a Local Variance.

- Destination retail, including shopping malls and swap meets.
- Personal services, limited to car washes, pet grooming, tanning facilities, and landscape gardening.
- Office-based businesses (telework remains strongly encouraged)
- Dine-in restaurants (other facility amenities, like bars or gaming areas, are not permitted)
- Schools and childcare facilities
- Outdoor museums and open gallery spaces

### **Nevada County – Moving Further into Stage 2**

The State issued guidance that counties may move further into Stage 2 and allow businesses to reopen with greater operations **once businesses meet mitigations measures to slow the spread of COVID-19**. The guidance allows counties to attest to local readiness and move through Stage 2 and to reopen more businesses before the State does so as a whole.

This plan describes Stage 2 for Nevada County as of May 8, 2020. Stage 2 includes workplaces and activities rated as low and medium risk for contact intensity and number of contacts by the [Johns Hopkins guidance](#).

Workplaces that reopen and activities that resume in Stage 2 must do so in accordance with the required reopening measures. State guidance can be found online at <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>. Stage 2 in Nevada County includes industry sectors that are rated as low-medium risk by the Johns Hopkins guidance and by the State.

During Stage 2, individuals should continue taking steps to reduce exposure and limit the spread of COVID-19 as shown in the list below.

**Individual Actions:**

- **Anyone who is feeling ill should stay home.**
- **Vulnerable (i.e., at high risk for serious illness) individuals** – should continue to follow the State’s Stay-at-Home Order.
- **Wear face coverings** – individuals are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering when in public. See Appendix A for face covering guidance.
- **Continue physical distancing** – When in public, maximize physical distance from others (at least six feet).
- **Maintain good hygiene practices** – Washing hands, use hand sanitizer, cleaning frequently touched surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes.
- **Social Settings** – Gatherings of non-household members are still not allowed under Stage 2.
- Non-essential travel is discouraged.

**Workplaces and Facilities**

The industry sectors in Stage 2 are rated as low and medium by the Johns Hopkins guidance and are considered to be in [Stage 2 by the State](#). Businesses in the sectors listed in Stage 2 **must implement required mitigation measures**, as shown in and referenced in Appendix B, before reopening.

The mitigation measures for the public and private industry sectors were developed in coordination with local public and private sector representatives. These representatives continue to work with the County in partnership for Reopen Nevada County and to limit the spread of COVID-19. See Appendix C for a description of the COVID-19 Recovery Advisory Committee and its membership.

Stage 2 - Lower Risk Workplaces and Activities		
Sector	Opening Timeline*	Mitigation Measures
<b>General business, office</b>	Reopen May 12, 2020	See Appendix B, section 1 for reopening measures.
<b>Retail</b>	Reopen May 12, 2020	See Appendix B, Section 2 for reopening measures.

<b>Personal services, limited to: car washes, pet grooming, tanning facilities, and landscape gardening.</b>	Reopen May 12, 2020	See Appendix B, Section 1 for reopening measures.
<b>Manufacturing</b>	Reopen May 12, 2020	See Appendix B, Section 3 for reopening measures.
<b>Restaurants</b>	Reopen May 12, 2020	See Appendix B, Section 1 for general reopening measures, and <a href="#">State Guidance</a> for dine-in restaurants.
<b>Child care</b>	Reopen May 12, 2020	See the <a href="#">California Department of Social Services guidance for child care providers</a> and see State guidance when it is released.
<b>Places of Worship</b>	Reopen May 26, 2020	See <a href="#">State Guidelines</a> posted at the covid19.ca.gov website for requirements and recommended prevention practices prior to modified, limited reopening.
<b>Hair Salons and Barbershops</b>	Reopen May 26, 2020	See <a href="#">State Guidelines</a> posted at the covid19.ca.gov website for requirements and recommended prevention practices prior to modified, limited reopening.
<b>Schools</b>	Not currently planned for opening in local Stage 2.	Reopening measures are in development with education representatives.

\*Opening Timeline is estimated only. Actual reopening cannot occur before Nevada County's Attestation Form is reviewed by CDPH and posted on CDPH's website, and

until each place of business develops and implements a site-specific protection plan as per [State Guidance](#).

## MEASURES FOR TIGHTENING RESTRICTIONS TO LIMIT COVID-19 SPREAD

The measures tightening local restrictions are considered in three categories: epidemiology, healthcare, and public health. The model is provided by Resolve to Save Lives, a global health initiative that describes the “adaptive response” to the COVID-19 pandemic. Stricter mitigation measures should be considered when one or more criteria in two or more columns are met:

Epidemiology	Health Care	Public Health
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A significant increase in new cases* over 3 consecutive calendar or work days in the context of no substantial increase in testing</li> <li>• Doubling time of cases less than 5 days (from most recent nadir)</li> <li>• More than 4 unlinked chains of transmission in a 14-day period</li> <li>• High likelihood of exposure at mass gathering or congregation of people or delayed detection of a case (&gt;5 days) from a mass gathering or long-term care facility)</li> <li>• Concerning, persistent increase in Influenza Like Illnesses in syndromic surveillance per symptom tracker at 211</li> <li>• Increasing number of new health care worker infections for 5 consecutive days</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inability to scale up to 2x the number of ICU patients from current census (including staffing)</li> <li>• Can no longer screen significant numbers* of symptomatic patients safely (including staffing)</li> <li>• Inadequate availability of PPE for healthcare workers</li> <li>• Insufficient face masks to provide to all patients seeking care</li> <li>• Unacceptable ratio** of admissions to discharges for COVID-19</li> <li>• Health care facilities can no longer be structured to reduce possibility of exposure at triage and all other locations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannot elicit contacts for 20% or more of cases</li> <li>• 10% or more of symptomatic contacts fail to get tested or get tested in more than 48 hours of symptom onset</li> <li>• Insufficient hand sanitizer to place at entry of buildings including workplaces</li> <li>• No designated facilities for non-hospitalized COVID-19 infected people who can't be safely cared for at home (e.g., because of space constraints, medically vulnerable household members, or otherwise)</li> </ul>

\*Case means a laboratory-confirmed case for COVID-19

\*\*Measure may be changed by Health Officer to address the local needs in Nevada County and in consultation with local hospital officials

Actions to consider to tighten over time if triggers are met include: in-dining restaurant closures; return to curbside pickup; childcare closures; restrictions on some outdoor recreation; if there is a large surge, may consider return to strict stay at home (Stage 1).

## RELEVANT GUIDANCE

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommends the following guidance for all essential sectors:

- [Face Coverings Guidance](#)
- [Self-Isolation for Older Adults and Those Who Have Elevated Risk](#)
- [Employers, Health Care Workers and Workers in General Industry](#)

In addition, CDPH also recommends guidance relevant to each specific sector listed above. Those guidance recommendations can be found [here](#).

## APPENDIX A

### FACE COVERING GUIDANCE

The Nevada County Health Officer continues to recommend that our best community and individual steps to slow the transmission of COVID-19 include washing hands frequently, avoiding touching our eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands, and physical distancing, especially by staying at home. In addition, given more recent evidence that people can transmit the virus before symptoms develop, Dr. Cutler encourages everyone to cover their faces when it is necessary to go out in public. There are several key points to consider:

1. Covering your face DOES NOT substitute for existing guidance about physical distancing and handwashing and is not mandated.
2. Cloth face coverings may help to reduce asymptomatic or pre-symptomatic (before symptoms start) transmission; however, that only works if people do not increase risk by going out more, getting closer to others, or washing hands less often. If you must make a trip outside of your home, a cloth face covering may reduce transmission to others.
3. It is important to wash your hands *before* putting on a face covering, *after* putting on the covering, and trying not to touch the face covering. *If you do touch it, wash your hands again.*
4. Cloth face coverings are not a substitute for staying home when ill.
5. Given the shortage of surgical masks and N95 respirators, those should be reserved mainly for healthcare workers and first responders until the shortage is over. In the current environment, purchases of these items by the general public will worsen these shortages for those who are taking care of ill patients.

We thank all of you who are sewing and creating cloth face coverings. For more information about cloth face coverings and how to care for them, please see: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Face-Coverings-Guidance.aspx>

## APPENDIX B

### MITIGATION MEASURES TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The following sections outline required mitigations measures for businesses aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19. Employers/businesses should use this document as follows: Section 1 includes mitigations measures that all employers/businesses should follow as applicable.

Additional measures identified for specific industry sectors and specific business types can be found at <https://covid19.ca.gov/roadmap/>. Those specific industries should reference both Section 1 in conjunction with the section(s) applicable to its business.

Nevada County will continue to monitor State and Federal guidance materials to determine modifications needed, if any, to create alignment. The County will also continue to work with specific industries and business types to seek input as these mitigation measures are implemented.

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*NOTE: The State of California may issue guidance for employers/businesses that is different than these mitigation measures. The County may update these measures to align with State requirements and guidance, or other best practices as data becomes available for COVID-19. These measures were developed to speed up the reopening of businesses in Nevada County, and the development occurred prior to [State guidelines](#) being complete.*

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### SECTION 1: ALL EMPLOYERS

Section 1 includes recommended guidelines and best practices that all employers should follow. The best practices are written to describe the current understanding of actions that can be taken to limit or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.

In addition to these measures, additional best practices and guidelines have been identified for specific industry sectors and specific business types, as listed in the following sections. Those specific industries should reference both Section 1 in conjunction with the section(s) applicable to its business.

#### **A. Training:**

- Train employees on all measures and protocols applicable to their function or role prior to returning to work at place of business.

## **B. Signage:**

- Post local self-certification notification in a visible location.
- Provide signage at each entrance of the facility to inform employees and customers of common COVID-19 symptoms and that they must not enter the facility if they are sick with or suspect they may be experiencing COVID 19 symptoms.
- Provide signage regarding the social / physical distancing protocol at the facility; persons to maintain a minimum six-foot distance from non-household members as much as practicable and not engage in any unnecessary physical contact.
- Provide signage regarding proper hand washing technique should be posted at all hand- wash sinks.
- Provide signage encouraging regular hand washing in breakrooms and other locations where employee information is provided.

## **C. Measures to Protect Employee Health:**

- Direct all employees to stay home if sick.
- Instruct employees to notify a supervisor if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever, cough, and/or gastrointestinal symptoms.
- Direct sick employees with symptoms associated with COVID-19 to be evaluated for testing by their doctor or urgent care.
- Direct all employees to self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19.
- Direct all employees to maintain at least six feet distance from customers and from each other, as much as practicable.
- Provide face coverings to employees and encourage employees to use face covering when physical distancing is not feasible.
- Encourage customers to utilize face coverings when entering the facility.
- Separate workstations by at least six feet.
- Do not share office supplies, tools, etc.
- Provide separate seating in common areas such as break rooms and conference rooms.
- Utilize and encourage virtual meetings where possible.
- Encourage telecommuting where possible.
- Discourage congregation of employees during breaks and lunches,

unless physical distancing can be maintained.

- Instruct cleaning staff to wear applicable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as disposable gloves and eye protection for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash. Direct staff to wash their hands immediately after removing disposable gloves.
- Disinfect high contact surfaces in break rooms, restrooms, and other common areas (i.e. door handles, lobbies, etc.) frequently. Those areas receiving more traffic should be disinfected more often. As a best practice, all businesses should disinfect on the following schedule and maintain a log capturing actions, at a minimum:
  - Public Restrooms: Twice daily
  - Employee Breakrooms: Daily
  - Employee Restrooms: Daily
  - Other employee shared areas: Daily
  - High contact surfaces (door handles, light switches, etc.): At least daily and more frequently if needed
- Sanitize incoming packages, products or materials as part of the receiving process.
- Direct employees to regularly clean their workstations daily, or at the start and end of their shift for shared workstations and areas.
- Make sanitizer / disinfectant and related cleaning supplies available to all employees at specified locations.
- Ensure employees frequently wash hands using soap, water and single-use paper towels. In situations where hand washing facilities are not available, provide hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Provide hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol to all employees and customers at common points of ingress/egress and in common areas such as conference rooms, breakrooms, or other locations used by multiple employees.
- Provide hand sanitizer to employees at their workstation when their role requires regular interaction with customers.
- Post copies of measures and protocols being taken related to COVID-19 in a conspicuous place and provide to all employees.

**D. Measures to Prevent Crowds from Gathering / Encourage Physical Distancing:**

- Limit the number of customers in the facility at any one time to the maximum number which allows for customers (or groups of household members) and

employees to easily maintain at least six-foot distance from one another, at all practicable times.

- At retail counters or in other locations where queueing is possible, placing tape or other markings at least six feet apart in customer areas inside the facility and on sidewalks at public entrances with signs directing customers to use the markings to maintain distance. If groups of household members often wait together, increase distances between markings so that separation of household groups of at least six feet is maintained.
- Where long lines can form, assign an employee to monitor lines in order to ensure that the maximum number of customers in the facility is not exceeded.
- Limit use of lobbies / waiting rooms. Develop a system(s) that allows customers to wait in cars or other locations.
- Offer service by appointment-only.
- Offer and encourage on-line product ordering with curbside pickup or delivery.
- Create one-way shopping aisles in higher traffic areas.
- Separate order areas from pickup and delivery areas to prevent customers from gathering.
- Implement protections for cashiers, pharmacy workers, and other workers who normally have regular, close interaction with the public with engineering controls such as Plexiglas screens or other physical barriers, or spatial distance of at least six feet.
- Develop restroom occupancy plans that will help ensure 6 foot physical distancing can be accomplished, limit restrooms to single user if necessary.

**E. Measures to Prevent Unnecessary Hand Contact / Increase Sanitation / Disinfection:**

- Provide contactless payment systems or, if not feasible, sanitize payment systems frequently, depending on volume of use.
- Provide hand sanitizers at check-out stands/stations.
- Provide disinfecting wipes containing an EPA-registered disinfectant or other disinfection measure(s) for employee or customer use where appropriate.
- Eliminate or restrict use of self-service sampling unless provided from a single use container (personal care products, foods, etc.).
- Assign employee(s) to disinfect high-contact surfaces frequently (point of sale terminals, counters, common tables, restroom surfaces, doorknobs, phones, keyboards, light switches, etc.).

**F. Additional Measures to Protect Health:**

- Require employees to wear face coverings when physical distancing of at least 6 feet cannot be maintained. See face covering guidance.
- Discourage customers from bringing their own bags, mugs, or other reusable items from home.
- Clean visibly dirty surfaces with soap and water prior to disinfecting.
- Use EPA-approved disinfectant against COVID-19 and read the label to make sure it meets your needs and application. A list of approved disinfectants can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2>.
- Only allow service animals in your facilities.

**G. Measures to Prevent Crowds from Gathering/ Encourage Physical Distancing:**

- Review and follow guidelines by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) to develop, implement, maintain, and revise your cleaning and disinfecting plan as new information becomes available.
- Read instructions and wear gloves and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as specified by the manufacturer for the cleaning and disinfecting products you are using
- Consider what items can be moved or removed completely to reduce frequent handling or contact from multiple people. Soft and porous materials, such as area rugs and seating, may be removed or stored to reduce the challenges with cleaning and disinfecting them. You can find additional reopening guidance for cleaning and disinfecting in the CDC's [Reopening Decision Tool](#).
- Implement flexible sick leave and supportive policies and practices.
- Consider how your facilities will operate if absenteeism spikes from increases in sick employees, those who stay home to care for sick family members, and those who must stay home to watch their children.
- Prepare to perform cleaning and disinfection if persons suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 have been in your facilities.
- Follow all industry guidance issued by State and federal regulatory agencies. See industry [guidance published by the State of California](#).

## SECTION 2: RETAIL STORES

*Note: The County may update these measures to align with State requirements and guidance or other best practices as data becomes available for COVID-19.*

In addition to the measures listed in the [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Retail](#), additional measures have been identified for Retail Stores. Employers within this Industry should implement the following measures in order to open for in-store shopping.

**A. Training:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Retail](#).

**B. Signage:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Retail](#).
- Post local self-certification in a visible location.

**C. Measures to Protect Employee Health:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Retail](#).

**D. Measures to Prevent Crowds from Gathering / Encourage Physical Distancing:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Retail](#).
- Assign an employee to monitor that the maximum number of customers in the facility is not exceeded.

**E. Measures to Prevent Unnecessary Hand Contact / Increase Sanitization / Disinfection:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Retail](#).
- Close fitting rooms until required guidelines can be finalized.
- Suspend returns and exchanges until a store policy is established to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 for returned items.

**F. Additional Measures to Protect Health:**

- Require employees to wear face coverings when working in places accessible to the public. See Appendix A for face covering guidance.

## SECTION 3: MANUFACTURING

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*Note: The County may update these measures to align with State requirements and guidance or other best practices as data becomes available for COVID-19.*

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In addition to the measures listed in the [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#), additional measures have been identified for Retail Stores. Employers within this Industry should implement the following measures in order to open for in-store shopping.

**A. Training:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#).

**B. Signage:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#).
- Post local self-certification in a visible location.

**C. Measures to Protect Employee Health:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#).

**D. Measures to Prevent Crowds from Gathering / Encourage Physical Distancing:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#).

**E. Measures to Prevent Unnecessary Hand Contact / Increase Sanitization / Disinfection:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#).

**F. Additional Measures to Protect Health:**

- Comply with [CDPH and Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Manufacturing](#).
- Require employees to wear face coverings when working in places accessible to the public. See Appendix A for face covering guidance.

## APPENDIX C

### COVID-19 RECOVERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Establishment:** The Nevada County COVID-19 Pandemic Roadmap to Recovery Advisory Committee (“Committee”) is hereby established by the Nevada County Public Health Officer on April 28, 2020 and will be dissolved when no longer needed as determined by the Nevada County Public Health Officer. This Committee is created in accordance with all applicable State and Federal laws, including but limited to: California Health and Safety Code sections 101040, 101085, and 120175 and Title 17 California Code of Regulations section 2501.

**Purpose:** The purpose of this Committee is twofold: to provide advice, input and recommendations to the Public Health Officer on implementing any decision by the Governor to modify the Stay-at-Home Order and to provide guidance and resources to local businesses to assist them in preparing to reopen, once allowed, with modified public health and safety measures in place.

**Functions/ Responsibilities:** This Committee is responsible for collecting questions and concerns from community stakeholders including businesses, non-profits, city/town and special districts, clubs, organizations and other groups who operate facilities where groups of people may congregate and therefore pose a risk for spreading COVID-19. The Committee is then responsible for weighing those concerns and providing recommendations and information to the Public Health Officer to consider as related to implementing the Statewide Stay-at-Home Order. Topics to be discussed may include but are not limited to: adaption strategies to protect employees and community members in high risk and low risk businesses/organizations to safely reopen in conjunction with the State’s six-point reopening plan.

This Committee is also responsible for developing communication tools and meeting with stakeholders to explain the necessary precautions and safety measures required to prepare for modified re-opening when that becomes allowed under Governor’s Order and per the Nevada County Pubic Health Officer’s direction.

The Committee shall serve solely in an advisory capacity to the Public Health Officer. It is not the responsibility or within the authority of the Advisory Committee to make decisions, manage or direct the implementation of any modifications of the Stay-at-Home Order.

**Composition/ Membership:** The Committee shall consist of the following persons:

1. The Nevada County Assistant County Executive Officer
2. The Grass Valley City Manager
3. The Nevada City Manager
4. The Truckee Town Manager
5. The Nevada County Environmental Health Director
6. The Nevada County Chief Building Official
7. The Nevada County Public Health Director
8. The Nevada County Superintendent of Schools
9. A representative of the Nevada County Economic Resource Council
10. Two representatives from the incorporated business community as determined by the City/Town management (1 Eastern, 1 Western representative)
11. A representative from the unincorporated business community as determined by County management.
12. A representative from the faith community as determined by the Public Health Officer
13. A representative from law enforcement as determined by the Public Health Officer
14. A representative from the healthcare community as determined by the Public Health Officer
15. A representative from the recreation community as determined by the Public Health Officer

**Method of Operation:** The Committee will meet as needed and a summary of the Committee's work will be made available to the public following each meeting. The Public Health Officer will not necessarily attend each meeting. It will be the responsibility of the Assistant County Executive Officer and Public Health Director to liaison with the Public Health Officer. This Committee will seek input from individuals and stakeholder groups as needed to make the most informed and comprehensive recommendations it can to the Public Health Officer. Comments and ideas may be submitted to [COVID19Recovery@co.nevada.ca.us](mailto:COVID19Recovery@co.nevada.ca.us).