



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

July 10, 2020

Peter McKay, Chairman
San Juan County Board of Commissioners
1557 Greene Street
P.O. Box 466
Silverton, CO 81433

Jim Donovan
San Juan County Public Health
1557 Greene St
Silverton, CO 81433

RE: San Juan County Variance Request from portions of **Public Health Order 20-28**

Dear Commissioners and Director Donovan:

Thank you for your second application to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) requesting a variance to portions of **Public Health Order 20-28 Safer at Home**. I have had an opportunity to review your request for the outdoor event of the Kendall Mountain Run and the Silverton Alpine Marathon, and consider the information provided. The request is approved, with some amendments, as explained further below.

As stated in Appendix G to PHO 20-28, when reviewing a variance request, we evaluate the current prevalence of COVID-19 in the jurisdiction, including whether cases are increasing, stable, or decreasing. Your application addresses particular requirements that you propose as an alternative to the Safer at Home model for each of these areas. The data and information included in your request demonstrates that San Juan County has reported 2 COVID-19 cases to date with 1 case in the last two weeks. With fewer than 7 cases in a two week period, San Juan County in the "low" variance category - see [here](#) for more information.

Based on the low disease prevalence in San Juan County as assessed in this variance review, the following standard is applied: for all indoor and outdoor spaces, in order to achieve 6 feet distancing, the limit is 50% of the posted occupancy code ensuring a minimum 28 square feet per person not to exceed more than 175 people gathered in a confined indoor space at any given time, and not to exceed 250 in an outdoor space.

Your variance application requests for outdoor events, specifically for the Kendall Mountain Run and the Silverton Alpine Marathon, is approved as follows:

- 250 participants for the Kendall Mountain Run and the Silverton Alpine Marathon with 6 foot distancing and limitations of no more than 10 people gathered at a time for

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staggered start times. This approval is subject to following the provisions of requirements and guidelines related to [outdoor recreation](#).

This variance approval is granted based on the facts and circumstances today as you have described them in your request, and is subject to adjustment if conditions worsen as described [here](#). If the County observes 7 or more cases in a two week period, notify CDPHE and then implement a mitigation plan for 2 weeks to try and restore virus transmission levels to the baseline under which the variance was approved. If after 2 weeks the levels are not restored, then the capacity limits are automatically adjusted to the maximum of the new level (low goes to medium, medium goes to high). If the county started at the “high” level for the variance, and after the 2 weeks of mitigation the baseline has not been restored, then the variance is rescinded. This standard for variance review applies to all variances currently in effect in San Juan County. Additionally, CDPHE reserves the right to modify or rescind this variance approval as circumstances warrant. This approval is in effect until the final expiration of PHO 20-28, which will be extended in some capacity beyond the current expiration date of June 30, 2020.

I appreciate your thoughtful approach to these challenging issues, and wish you all the best in your continuing efforts to ensure that San Juan County residents are safe and healthy as we deal with this global pandemic. San Juan County is a valued partner, and we are available to answer any questions and work with you on these matters. Please give me a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Hunsaker Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH
Executive Director