

Biden: We'll 'manage the hell' out of feds' COVID-19 response

BY RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR AND BILL BARROW
The Associated Press
WILMINGTON, Del. — President-elect Joe Biden pledged Friday to boost supplies of coronavirus vaccine and set up new vaccination sites. It's part of a broader COVID strategy that also seeks to straighten out snags in testing and ensure minority communities are not left out.
"Some wonder if we are

reaching too far," Biden said. "Let me be clear, I'm convinced we can get it done."
The real payoff, Biden said, will come from uniting the nation in a new effort grounded in science.
Biden spoke a day after unveiling a \$1.9 trillion "American Rescue Plan" to confront the virus and provide temporary support for a shaky economy. About \$400 billion of the plan is focused on measures

aimed at controlling the virus. Those range from mass vaccination centers to more sophisticated scientific analysis of new strains and squads of local health workers to trace the contacts of infected people.
"You have my word: We will manage the hell out of this operation," Biden declared. He underscored a need for Congress to approve more money and for people to keep

following basic precautions, such as wearing masks, avoiding gatherings and frequently washing their hands.
Throughout the plan, there's a focus on ensuring that minority communities that have borne the brunt of the pandemic are not short-changed on vaccines and treatments.
A key challenge for Biden and the nation: Vaccines are in too-short supply.

Biden said he would use the Defense Production Act, a Cold War-era law, to boost vaccine supplies and work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency to set up 100 vaccination centers around the country by the end of his first month in office.
"Almost a year later, we're still far from back to normal. The honest truth is this: Things will get worse before they get better," he said Friday.



Susan Walsh/AP file
President-elect Joe Biden speaks at The Queen theater in Wilmington, Delaware.

Vaccine

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That includes hospitals, urgent care, skilled nursing and memory care facility health care providers and residents, long term care facilities providers and residents, hospice programs, outpatient settings, health care personnel working in public health settings and workers caring for children or adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
"We urge people who are not in these categories not to sign up at this time," Absalon said. "We've been reassured that we are adhering to the two-dose regime. We have enough to give the two doses."
In Crook County, which receives about 100 doses a week, only those that fall in this cohort will be vaccinated now. As Crook County completes this phase, it will expand vaccinations to the next priority group, which includes K-12 teachers and staff for schools to begin on Jan. 25, Ryan said in a prepared statement.
Using the fairgrounds and teaming up with the county means more people can be vac-

inated at one time, he said. The vaccinations will be available by appointment only. Appointments can be made online at www.deschutes.org/covid19/vaccine.
The announcement on Friday that more vaccines will not be arriving from federal storage facilities left Oregon scrambling its priority list for COVID-19 vaccinations, with some seniors' priority pushed from next weekend to March.
Gov. Kate Brown and health authorities blamed the whip-sawing schedule this week on unreliable numbers and statements from the Trump Administration as it wraps up its final days in office.
"This is a deception on a national scale," Brown said.
Brown announced just Tuesday that the vaccine would be opened up to those 65 and older beginning Jan. 23. Teachers and child care providers would also start receiving inoculations that day.
U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said Jan. 12 that it would expand the distribution of vaccine it was holding, creating a possible windfall for states that

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— Pat Allen, Oregon health director

were worried about scarcity in coming weeks. Federal officials also recommended opening up vaccine availability to those over 65 once the first group of health workers and people in long-term care facilities were vaccinated.
The earlier time frame was met with much happiness across the state as a sign that more of those most susceptible to serious illness and death from COVID-19 would get inoculations.
But the optimism soon evaporated as federal officials told Brown and Oregon Health Director Pat Allen that there had been a miscommunication and actually no additional vaccine would be on its way.
"I thought I was losing my mind," Allen said, "I went back and actually reviewed the actual C-SPAN video of Secretary Azar, and the words he

used were 'releasing the entire supply.' He talked about physical inventory. It was incredibly clear."
In response, Brown on Friday announced another schedule for rollout of the vaccine. It underlines an already controversial decision by the governor to place school teachers and staff above the elderly on the priority list.
Older Oregonians who are not in long-term care facilities would be placed into four priority tiers. Those over 80 would begin vaccinations on Feb. 8. Those over 75 come next a week later, on Feb. 15. Over 70 would begin Feb. 22 and over 65 on March 1.
Despite criticism that she was putting schooling over lives, Brown has stuck with her decision to prioritize getting schools reopened. She said virtual learning had left many

students, particularly in less-affluent districts, falling behind. She also pointed to an uptick in teenage suicides due to the long isolation.
Brown said she didn't know if any other state was giving teachers the same higher priority.
A model program sent to the states by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has at-risk elderly in the group to be vaccinated after health care workers and congregate care residents and staff.
"Each state is doing it differently," Brown said.
Oregon has more than 200,000 doses of vaccine on hand, enough to ensure that the over 120,000 people who have received their first dose but are awaiting the second can be served. The COVID-19 vaccinations are given in two doses spread between three and four weeks apart.
Brown said that the Trump Administration had "pulled the rug" out from under hopeful Oregonians.
"I am demanding answers from the Trump administration," Brown said. "I am shocked and appalled that they have set an expectation on

which they could not deliver, with such grave consequences."
COVID-19 policy is in the middle of a transition as Trump is replaced by President-elect Joe Biden at noon on Jan. 20. Biden has promised a \$20 billion vaccine push once he becomes president, including using the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other agencies to speed up and widen distribution.
"The vaccine rollout in the United States has been a dismal failure so far," Biden said Friday. "The honest truth is this, things will get worse before they get better. And the policy changes we are going to be making, they're going to take time to show up in the COVID statistics."
Biden has set a goal of "100 million vaccine shots into the arms of the American people" by his 100th day in office, April 30.
Brown said she was ready for a more dependable effort from Washington, D.C.
"I am looking forward to working with a federal partner who is competent," Brown said.
■ gwamer@eomediagroup.com; sroig@bendbulletin.com

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Pastor Trevor Waybright

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541-382-6081

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Worship - 10:50am
Evening Bible study - 6:00pm
Evening Worship - 6:00pm

Wednesday
Ladies Bible Study - 10:00am
Bible Study and Prayer - 7:00pm

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Barry Campbell, Lead Pastor

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Bend, OR 97703
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541-389-8888 Ext. 200

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For Both Children and Adults

Weekly Programs:
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Rabbi Johanna Hershenson

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Sunday, January 17 at 9:00 am – Chevruta: Maimonides, Guide for the Perplexed
Sunday, January 17 at 10:15 am – Tikun Olam, A Do-the-Work-Group
Wednesday, January 20 at 7:00 pm – Hamsa Course, Jewish Environmentalism
Friday, January 22 at 5:45 pm – Friday Night Shabbat Lights

All Events meet via Zoom
To join a specific event, please email templebethtikvah@gmail.com.
541-388-8826
www.bethtikvahbend.org

Congregation Shalom Bayit
Jewish Community of Central Oregon (JCCO), an affiliate of Reconstructing Judaism
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Rabbi Yossi Feintuch

Sun, Jan 17, 3 PM
Counteractive Threat Training
Thu, Jan 21, 6 PM
The Ouran and Islam on Who has rights to the Holyland
Sat, Jan 23, 10 AM
Torah Service

Active Torah Study group
Most Saturdays, 11 AM
Active Hebrew School

Due to COVID-19, most events have been moved to Zoom.
Visit www.JCCOBend.com for more information about joining these and other upcoming events.
Or call (541) 668-6887 or email Secretary@JCCOBend.com

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Concordia Lutheran Mission (LCMS)

"The mission of the Church is to forgive sins through the Gospel and thereby grant eternal life. St. John 20:21-23, The Augsburg Confession, Article XXVIII.8-9, 10."

Sunday the 17th
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Because Governor Brown has approved Deschutes County entering Phase II of the reopening, allowing faith gatherings of 25 or less, Public Services have resumed. Only the Divine Service at 11 AM will be offered. There will be no Sunday School, other Services, or refreshments served until further notice.

The Rev. Willis C. Jensen, Pastor
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Rev. Steve Garza, Parochial Vicar
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Church Locations
Historic Church:
Corner of Franklin and Lava
Main Church & Office:
2450 NE 27th Street

Weekend Masses:
All Weekend Masses are at Main Church
Saturday-Vigil: 5 p.m.
Sunday: 7:30 a.m. & 10 a.m., 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 12:30 p.m. Misa en Español

Weekday Masses (M-F)
7 a.m.; Main Church
12:15 p.m.; Historic Church
8 a.m.; Saturday; Main Church

Eucharistic Adoration (M-F)
7:30 a.m.-12 noon; Main Church
12:45 p.m.-6 p.m.; Historic Church

Reconciliation: Main Church
Tuesday: 7:30 a.m.
Saturday: 8:30 a.m.
Saturday: 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

NOTE: Seating at Mass is limited due to social distancing requirements and is on a first-come, first-served basis. Masks are required. All Masses, except the 12:15 p.m. weekday Masses, are being live streamed and can be viewed at stfrancisbend.org.

Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Parish
Rev. Paul Antao, Pastor
www.holyredeemerparish.net
Parish Office: 541-536-3571
HOLY REDEEMER ROMAN CATHOLIC, LA PINE
16137 Burgess Rd.
Mass: Mon., Tues., Wed., Fri. 9:00 am & Sun. 10:00 am
HOLY TRINITY ROMAN CATHOLIC SUNRIVER
18143 Cottonwood Rd.
Mass: Thurs. 9:30 am
Sat. 5:30 pm Sun. 8:00 am
OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS ROMAN CATHOLIC, GILCHRIST
120 Mississippi Drive
Mass: Sun. 12:30 pm
HOLY FAMILY ROMAN CATHOLIC, NEAR CHRISTMAS VALLEY
57255 Fort Rock Road Fort Rock
Mass: Sun. 3:30 pm
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1720 NW 19th Street
Redmond, Oregon 97756
541-923-3990

Father Todd Unger, Pastor

Mass Schedule:
Weekdays 8:00 am (Except Wednesdays)
Wednesday 6:00 pm

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
First Saturday 8:00 am (English)

Sunday 8:00 am, 10:00 am (English)
12:00 noon (Spanish)

Confessions on Wednesdays
From 5:00 to 5:45 pm and on Saturdays From 3:00 to 4:30 pm

Roman Catholic

St. Edward the Martyr Roman Catholic Church
123 N. Trinity Way
PO Box 489
Sisters, OR. 97759
stedward@bendbroadband.com
541-549-9391
Father Sibbi Poulouse

Mass Schedule:
Weekdays 8:00 am
Saturday Vigil 5:30 pm
Sunday 9:00 am

Adoration
First Friday of the month
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Reconciliation
Saturday
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm
or by appointment

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Please check our website (www.unitycentraloregon.org) for on-line groups and upcoming classes.

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