OURAY COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT (OCPH)

PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER NO. 14, RESCINDING OCPH ORDER NO. 13

I. AUTHORITY

This Order is adopted pursuant to the legal authority set forth in C.R.S. § 25-1-506, 508, and 509, as well as all other applicable laws, regulations, orders, and declarations. This Order shall apply to all unincorporated areas of Ouray County, Colorado, and both municipalities that do not have a public health agency being, the Town of Ridgway and City of Ouray, pursuant to C.R.S. § 25-1-506(2)(a)(I). Separate orders or resolutions concerning county-owned property or facilities may be issued separately by the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners pursuant to C.R.S. § 30-11-107(1)(a) and (e).

II. NECESSITY AND INTENT

This Order is issued based on evidence of the occurrence, transmission, and vaccination rates for COVID-19 within Ouray County. As of March 3, 2022, Ouray County is designated as a “Low” COVID-19 Community Level, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC’s) Community Levels Tool which may be found at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html. The “Low” Community Level only specifies preventative measures for citizens to stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and to get tested if they have symptoms, and the “Low” and “Medium” Community Levels do not specify a preventative measure for all citizens to wear a mask indoors in public areas. OCPH will therefore rescind the previous local public health order due to a substantial decline in new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, a high level of community immunity from vaccines and recent illness, the recent availability of additional layers of protection including at-home tests and high quality masks, and increasing treatment options.

III. APPLICABILITY

At this time, OCPH is not imposing any additional local or countywide requirements beyond any requirements already found in State of Colorado Orders, including Executive Orders issued by the Governor and all subsequent Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Orders, which are incorporated as if fully set forth herein as may be amended or restated from time to time, and which may be found at https://covid19.colorado.gov/public-health-executive-orders. Should a surge of illness occur, this Order may be amended and/or rescinded accordingly, including the implementation of additional restrictions. OCPH will continue to monitor CDC Community Levels and other available data, and continue to work with the public and its community partners to advise and recommend any individual and community precautions.

IV. ORDER

The requirements of this Order supplant and rescind any other local public health orders, including but not limited to OCPH Order No. 13, and this Order shall take effect at 6:00 PM on March 15, 2022. Its requirements remain in effect until rescinded or amended by the OCPH Public Health Director and/or Ouray County Board of Health. This order shall be known as Ouray County Public Health Department Order No. 14. (OCPH Order No. 14).

__________________________________  Date: March 15, 2022
Tanner Kingery, M.P.H., Public Health Director

ANYONE FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THIS ORDER MAY BE SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES CONTAINED IN SECTIONS 25-1-516 AND 18-1.3-501, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, INCLUDING A FINE OF UP TO FIVE THOUSAND (5,000) DOLLARS AND IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR UP TO EIGHTEEN (18) MONTHS.