

HEALTH OFFICER'S ORDER NO. 23-033

June 30, 2023

RE: Order Rescinding Health Officer Orders Nos. 20-056, 20-063 & 22-002

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, pursuant to order 20-056, the Local Health Officer declared a public health emergency within Snohomish County due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Snohomish County Executive Somers declared a state of emergency in Snohomish County due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2020, Governor Inslee declared a state of emergency for all counties within the State of Washington due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency within the United States related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared COVID-19 was a global health emergency; and

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2020, the Local Health Officer issued order 20-063 establishing guidance for prioritization of procurement and distribution of personal protective equipment tied to guidance published by the Washington Department of Health and was tied to the WA State emergency declaration due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2022, the Local Health Officer issued order 22-002 establishing guidance for isolation, quarantine, and face-covering use in public spaces deferring to relevant state orders and guidance tied to the WA State emergency declaration due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2022, Snohomish County Executive Somers rescinded the state of emergency within Snohomish County due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2022, Governor Inslee rescinded the state of emergency within the State of Washington due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 11, 2023, the Department of Health and Human Services rescinded the state of emergency within the United States related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2023, the World Health Organization declared that COVID-19 is no longer a global health emergency; and

WHEREAS, although COVID-19 transmissions remain an ongoing threat in Snohomish County, the availability and uptake of life-saving vaccines by Snohomish County residents as well as immunity provided by a high prevalence of previous infection have changed the impact of the ongoing pandemic in fundamental ways; and

WHEREAS, while COVID-19 continues to circulate widely and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future, recent advances in medicine, including the availability of bivalent COVID-19 boosters for ages 6 months and older and antiviral therapies, are able to protect against and treat for severe disease and prevent death to a much greater extent than previously possible; and

WHEREAS, although Snohomish County, the Washington State Department of Health, and national data reflect the continued persistence of COVID-19, including continued hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19, this data reflects an ongoing decreased trajectory in community spread and severe outcomes such as hospitalization and death; and

WHEREAS, the Snohomish County Public Health Department and the Washington State Department of Health will continue to monitor COVID-19 disease activity in the county and state and carry out public health activities that help prevent severe disease and death from COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, based upon the preceding, the Local Health Officer hereby orders the following: Health Officer Order Nos. 20-056, 20-063 & 22-002 are hereby rescinded.

This order shall take effect immediately and will remain in effect until further notice.

Signed and ordered this 30th day of June 2023 in Everett, Washington, by



James Lewis, MD, MPH
Health Officer