



Office of the County Executive *Josh Schoemann, County Executive*

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July 30, 2021

Washington County leaders stand firm amidst CDC's Continued Flip-Flopping

On March 18, 2021, County Executive Josh Schoemann said, "We are not just looking at the light at the end of the tunnel, we are standing in the light." Now, over four months later, with more than 80 percent of our county's 65 and older population vaccinated, as well as nearly a majority of our population, we join as leaders across our county in strongly opposing any mandates or lockdowns.

We've bent the curve. We've protected our vulnerable. We've mitigated the burden on our hospitals. While other states across the nation may have more significant work to do, and other nations across the world are just now getting the vaccine, here in Washington County we will continue as announced in March, "with life as we have long known it." We will not move backward; we will keep moving forward.

Enforcing any kind of mandates or dictating policy within our school systems, businesses, churches or organizations is not our role in county government. After consulting with the Washington County Sheriff's Office and the Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department, we can once again affirm that we will not enforce any such mandates. We encourage organizations to educate themselves and make the best possible decisions.

Finally, we applaud former President Trump's Operation Warp Speed (OWS), especially the accelerated distribution of safe and effective vaccines, and the delivery of 300 million doses beginning in January 2021. This was a giant success for our nation, and we strongly encourage people to take advantage of OWS as your conscience allows by finding which vaccine might be best for you and the many convenient locations you can get it: <https://www.vaccines.gov/>

We stand together to protect our individual freedoms and to serve you, the people of Our Great Community. As we move forward, follow your conscience out of love for your neighbor and personal responsibility. Enjoy the best quality of life in Wisconsin in the freest county in America.

Thank you.

Joshua Schoemann, County Executive
Tim Michalak, Mayor Hartford
Bob Bingen, Town Chairman Addison
Ryan Lippert, Town Chairman Hartford
Scott Wollner, Town Chairman Kewaskum
Kris Turner, Town Chairman Barton
Dean Wolter, Village President Germantown
Kevin Scheunemann, Village President Kewaskum
John Jeffords, Village President Richfield

Don Kriefall, County Board Chair
Christophe Jenkins, Mayor West Bend
Doug Neumann, Town Chairman Farmington
Robert Hartwig, Town Chairman Jackson
Albert Schulteis, Town Chairman Polk
Dennis Kenealy, Town Chairman Erin
Mike Schwab, Village President Jackson
Scott Stortz, Village President Slinger
Dave Miskimen, School Board Pres. Living Word - Jackson