



Washington State Legislature

February 24, 2021

Washington State Department of Health
Dr. Umair A. Shah, Secretary of Health
101 Israel Rd SE
Tumwater, WA 98501

Dear Dr. Shah,

We are writing to express our concern regarding the lack of COVID-19 vaccine allocations going to Clark County. Despite being the fifth largest county in the state, to date, Clark County has only received 94.1 doses per 1,000 people.

By comparison, the three largest counties in the state – King, Snohomish and Pierce counties – have all received far more vaccine doses per 1,000 people than Clark County (132.4, 121.1 and 111.9 doses per 1,000 people, respectively), according to Clark County Public Health data analysis. Two counties with comparable populations: Spokane County and Clark County have received significantly different dosage count of the vaccine; 30,325 more first doses than Clark County, despite having only 35,000 more residents.

Regardless of the reasons behind the difference, we call on those who oversee vaccine allocations in the state to increase the number of vaccines being sent to Clark County immediately. Our residents deserve to be treated fairly in vaccination allocations and they continue to express frustration with the lack of doses available.

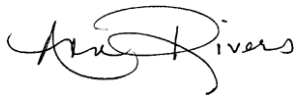
So far, the county has administered 44,941 doses of the vaccine and 16,928 residents have received both doses. That amounts to a total of only 8.26 percent of the county's population having received the first dose, while only 3.47 percent have received a second dose. Those numbers pale in comparison with Spokane county, whose comparable numbers are 13.48 percent and 5.26 percent respectively.

To be clear, this is not an administration issue. Clark County has demonstrated complete competence in distributing the doses they have received. Additionally, County officials overseeing vaccination administration have the infrastructure and capacity in place to increase the number of doses and administer them in a timely and efficient manner.

We ask that you please investigate this matter and rectify it immediately to see that Clark County residents receive equal treatment in the state's ongoing vaccination efforts.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Senator Ann Rivers (R)
18th Legislative District



Representative Brandon Vick (R)
18th Legislative District



Representative Larry Hoff (R)
18th Legislative District



Senator Lynda Wilson (R)
17th Legislative District



Representative Paul Harris (R)
17th Legislative District



Representative Sharon Wylie (D)
49th Legislative District



Senator Annette Cleveland (D)
49th Legislative District



Representative Monica Stonier (D)
49th Legislative District



Representative Ed Orcutt (R)
20th Legislative District



Representative Peter Abbarno (R)
20th Legislative District