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State releases guidance outlining transition of COVID-19 mitigation and management to local authorities

CARSON CITY – Today, the State released initial guidance detailing the transition of certain mitigation measures to local authority. The guidance is in line with the phased-in approach and long-term timeline announced by Governor Sisolak in mid-February when he rolled out Nevada's Roadmap to Recovery Safe Reopening Plan.

Per the Governor's <u>Emergency Directive 037</u>, the transition to local authority will occur in a phased approach, with transition beginning on May 1, 2021 at the earliest. The plan released today is intended to provide a planning outline and other considerations that local authorities must address in order for this transition to occur during this timeline.

"As a former long-time local elected official, I know how unique local communities are and how much faith is placed in local leadership," **said Gov. Sisolak.** "The best part of this plan is that every Nevadan and every Nevada community has a part to play. For the transition to local control to succeed, we must work together now to continue to reduce our community transmission and have a plan to keep Nevadans safe throughout the rest of this emergency period."

The state will manage the transition plan through the COVID-19 Mitigation and Management Task Force (Task Force) in coordination with partners

through regularly scheduled meetings. Early next week, the Task Force will release related planning templates and resource guides that county governments will use during this planning process.

Throughout the next several months and prior to May 1, each county will be required to develop a plan in order to assume the authorities delegated to them by the Governor. In addition to having input and support from regional government leaders, these plans will outline the local approach to mitigation, management, and enforcement.

More information on the Task Force meetings, including upcoming meetings and agendas can be found here.

"I am grateful to Governor Sisolak for empowering the Task Force to work directly with local communities on this tremendously important plan and I look forward to strong state and local collaboration so we can continue to ensure our response is federally supported, state managed and locally executed during this transition," **said Caleb Cage**, the State's COVID-19 response director.