



Western Building Material Association

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Washington Member Update April 24, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee, in consultation with the state's construction industry, announced a plan today to allow current construction projects to be completed.

The recommendation were informed by workers, contractors, health and safety experts, and local government officials, for safe construction standards.

"I thank all those involved in the construction work group in helping us get to this decision in a responsible way that supports workers, businesses, and communities in a way that protects the health of all of their families and ours," Inslee said. "Our strategy is working and we need to keep with it. We would much rather protect people from sickness and death now, so that we don't have to go through this crisis all over again later."

The requirements developed by the work group are as follows:

- 1) Restart existing construction projects with COVID-19 safety plans that allow work which only can be performed while meeting social distancing requirements.
- 2) Prior to recommencing work, all contractors are required to develop and post at each job site a comprehensive COVID-19 exposure control, mitigation and recovery plan.
- 3) All contractors are required to post at each job site a written notice to employees, subcontractors and government officials the work that will be performed at that job site and a signed commitment to adhere to the requirements.
- 4) All contractors have a general obligation to keep a safe and healthy job site in accordance with state and federal law.

Specific safety requirements include:

COVID-19 site supervisor

A site-specific COVID-19 supervisor will be designated by the contractor at every job site to monitor the health of employees and enforce the COVID-19 job site safety plan.

COVID-19 safety training

A training must be conducted on all job sites on the first day of returning to work, and weekly thereafter, to explain the protective measures in place for all workers.

Social distancing

Social distancing of at least 6 feet of separation must be maintained by every person on the job site at all times.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) — employer provided

Employers must provide personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, face shields and face masks as appropriate, or required, for the work being done.

The plan also includes proper sanitation and cleanliness for workers, as well as policies to encourage workers to stay home or leave the job site when they are sick.

The order includes public construction projects underway from the state Department of Transportation as well. WSDOT staff and contractors will implement similar protocols and crews will need to demonstrate how they will adhere to safety protocols and compliance.

Restart Low-Risk Construction

To resume work, existing projects must meet safety measures:

- Safety Plan to maintain physical distancing, adequate PPE, a COVID-19 site supervisor, etc.
- Comprehensive COVID-19 exposure, control and mitigation plan
- Post written notice of the work to be performed at the job site for employees, subcontractors and government officials
- Keep a safe and healthy worksite

Office of Governor Jay Inslee



Plan for Getting Back to Work

- **Governor's office and Dept. of Commerce will convene specific industry stakeholder groups**
- **We will develop plans to provide enforceable safety guidelines**
- **Plans will guide modification of restrictions when safe to do so**
- **Health experts and data will continue to guide when restrictions can be lifted responsibly**

Office of Governor Jay Inslee

