Re: COVID-19 Non-Essential Construction Shutdown and Commonwealth Waivers

Dear Contractors,

Mayor Kenney and Governor Wolf have issued orders temporarily prohibiting non-essential construction in the City of Philadelphia.

Non-essential construction includes all construction EXCEPT for the construction of healthcare facilities or emergency repairs specifically approved by the City of Philadelphia.

Unless you have received a waiver that specifically addresses the jobsite at which you wish to work (not your company generally) you are otherwise not permitted to continue work and must immediately stop all work beyond what is necessary to make the building safe and secure.

Please note: Emails or letters that state that your business appears to be life-sustaining are not authorization to work. These letters and emails are not waivers.

The Department is enforcing the Mayor’s and Governor’s orders strictly. Failure to comply with this directive will result in a Stop Work Order being posted to your jobsite, the issuance of violations and a corresponding fine of $1,000 dollars per day of violation, the suspension or revocation of your contractor’s license, and a referral to Commonwealth authorities.

Do not give yourself the benefit of the doubt and continue working at any jobsites unless you have a waiver that expressly applies to that jobsite. If you require clarification, stop work and contact your local L+I Construction District to ask for guidance.

I understand how disruptive stopping your construction projects for an indeterminate period of time is—as you know, this unprecedented health crisis calls for extraordinary actions from all of us. I thank you sincerely for your continuing cooperation with the Mayor’s Emergency Order.

Sincerely,

Will Fernandez
Director, Audits and Investigations
Department of Licenses and Inspections
City of Philadelphia