

April 30, 2020

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA,
NORRISTOWN, AND S&C DIVISIONS

FROM: AARON R. KELLEY,
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COORDINATOR

RE: **PHILADELPHIA CONSTRUCTION REOPENING ORDER**

Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney has released an Order outlining additional restrictions for the May 1 Construction reopening in the City.

Contractors resuming work in Philadelphia must adhere to these restrictions in addition to those announced by Governor Tom Wolf in his [April 23 Guidance](#).

Mayor Kenney's complete Order is available by clicking on the link below:

[PHILADELPHIA CONSTRUCTION REOPENING ORDER](#)

Please note that City construction reopening guidelines are subject to change at any time. Please review the Philadelphia L&I webpage below for the latest information prior to resuming work:

[PHILADELPHIA L&I CONSTRUCTION REOPENING INFO](#)

A brief summary of this Order is below.

Section 1: Scope

- This Order applies to projects with permits issued on or before March 20, 2020.
- Restrictions remain on projects with permits issued after March 20, 2020. These will be addressed in a future order. Work on such projects shall not take place until after these restrictions are lifted, except for projects to abate emergencies.
- No work is permitted in Residential interiors except for emergency repairs.
- No work is permitted in Multi-family buildings within occupied dwelling units or shared common areas except for emergency repairs.
- The following types of construction work remain prohibited:
 - underpinning work,

- demolition of an attached structure; and
- projects that require the support of an existing party wall.

Section 2: Period of Authorized Work

- Work may begin on May 1, 2020 at 7 AM.
- Work must take place between 7 AM and 5 PM on Mondays through Fridays.
- Work is prohibited on Saturdays or Sundays, or before 7 AM or after 5 PM on a weekday, except in emergency situations.

Section 3: Safety and Mitigation Requirements

- Work must conform to the requirements of all Pennsylvania Secretary of Health ([April 5](#) and [April 15](#)) and [Governor's Orders](#) and applicable [CDC Guidance](#).
 - This includes worker per square foot requirements, i.e. no more than four (4) persons working at an enclosed commercial site of less than 2,000 square feet; one additional worker allowed for each additional 500 enclosed square feet.
- Contractors must assign a “Pandemic Safety Officer” and “Site Safety Manager”. One will be required to remain at each active job site and will also need to acquire a COVID-19 training certificate from a source authorized by Philadelphia L&I. However, there is conflicting language between the Mayor’s Order and L&I Guidance. The Chapter is awaiting further clarification from the City of Philadelphia on these matters and will release updated information when it becomes available.
- A COVID-19 Safety plan must be maintained at each job site.
- Sick or other applicable leave time, as required by City, state, or federal law, must not be restricted in connection with activities allowed under this Order.

Section 4: Adherence to Limitations of this Order

- This Order will be strictly enforced; violations may lead to the issuance of violation notices, stop work orders, the imposition of fines, the revocation or suspension of licenses, and any other remedies available under law.

Section 5: No Vested Rights

- Work based on permits for which a right of appeal has not expired because of the extension of appeal rights due to the emergency shall proceed at the builder’s own risk and not be subject to a claim of vested rights or any other similar claim.

Additional City Guidelines

- Future City building permitting must be completed [online](#).
- Permits for projects requesting zoning code variances will not be issued by the City until further notice.

Please review the [complete Order](#), the [latest Philadelphia L&I requirements](#), and all applicable state Orders and Guidelines before resuming work in the City of Philadelphia.

If you have any questions, please contact me at akelley@neca-pdj.org. Thank you for your time!

Very Respectfully,

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