

City of Bismarck Public Works/Engineering Department

Construction Procedures in Response to COVID-19 –

April 8, 2020

As the construction season approaches, the City of Bismarck Public Works and Engineering Departments are working to comply with National, State and Local requirements and recommendations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, the City plans on moving forward with all projects for construction in 2020. City Staff will work with contractors, consultants and others in the construction process to implement strategies in response to the current pandemic. Current guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and ND Department of Health (NDDOH) should be followed and would supersede the information below.

Please review the following procedures:

In Person/Construction Site Protocol

If any of the following statements apply to an individual, that individual will not be permitted in any City of Bismarck building or in-person meetings of any kind with City staff:

- Have any of the following symptoms:
 - Temperature of 100.4F or higher
 - OR Two of the following symptoms
 - Chills
 - Shortness of breath
 - Cough
 - Sore throat
 - Fatigue
 - Body aches
- Have been notified by the NDDOH to be under quarantine or isolation due to COVID.

Meeting Protocol

- Limit face-to-face meetings as much as practical.
- If meetings can be held with 10 or less people present:
 - Hold the meeting on-site and outdoors
 - Maintain a minimum of six feet of separation
 - Minimize the meeting duration
 - Follow the above In Person/Construction Site Protocols
- If attendance of more than 10 people is required, meeting will need to be held remotely using Webex, Microsoft Teams, Zoom or other remote meeting options.

If City staff do not feel safe while on-site due to this protocol not being followed, City staff will notify the Contractor's project manager for immediate resolution. If not resolved immediately, City staff may require all work be shut down until the work site and personnel are in conformance with protocol. Any work completed while the site is shut down will not be eligible for payment.

City Staff, Contractors, Consultants, and anyone else on a jobsite should follow current CDC and NDDOH health guidelines in all situations, including, but not limited to:

- Maintain a distance of at least 6' from any other person.
- Do not shake hands, share or exchange documents, tools, or equipment.
- Frequently sanitize hands by washing or applying sanitizer.
- Have fewer than 10 individuals in a congregated workplace.
- Regular cleaning of common work areas and equipment.

As we move into construction season, communication and adherence to strategies to minimize risk will be critical. Preconstruction meetings and regular update meetings should include discussion of current guidelines and strategies and how they will be implemented during projects.

Due to the situation surrounding the pandemic continually changing, it is difficult to predict all potential impacts on projects. If delays are experienced due to impacts of the pandemic, documentation and timely communication with the City will be key.

All parties are encouraged to monitor the CDC and NDDOH requirements and recommendations and coordinate with all parties involved for all construction projects, including the updating of the guidance within this document. Our primary goal is the safety and health of all individuals involved with our projects and to be socially responsible in doing our part in slowing the spread of the virus.