



Date: APRIL 27, 2020
To: ALL CONTRACTORS
From: DELFINO R. CONSUNJI, P.E., DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS/CITY ENGINEER
Subject: CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS DURING COVID 19

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Delfino R. Consunji', is written over the 'From:' line of the memorandum.

During this COVID 19 virus pandemic, the City of Downey is first and foremost concerned with the safety and well-being of the general public including the residents, employees, consultants and our contractor partners. The City of Downey also continues its commitment to provide its residents and the general public with safe and reliable Essential Critical Infrastructure (roadway, bridges, water mains, sewers, etc.). Hence, construction projects in the City will continue to move forward and as contractors, you play a vital role in constructing and maintaining the Essential Critical Infrastructure.

It is imperative that everyone working on Essential Critical Infrastructure projects take practical measures to minimize exposure and prevent transmission of the COVID 19 virus. Attached for your use are guidelines from Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to help protect workers during these extraordinary times. Therefore, it is strongly urged and recommended that you take any additional control measures to help prevent the spread of the COVID 19 virus.

Also, you are encouraged to visit the State of California, Los Angeles County, OSHA, and CDPH websites provided below for more information regarding the COVID 19 virus.

<https://covid19.ca.gov/>

<https://covid19.lacounty.gov/>

<https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/>

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/covid19>

Attachments

- OSHA COVID 19 Guidance for the Construction Workforce
- CDPH Face Coverings Guidance

COVID-19 Guidance for the Construction Workforce

OSHA is committed to protecting the health and safety of America's workers and workplaces during these unprecedented times. The agency will be issuing a series of industry-specific alerts designed to keep workers safe.

When working in the construction industry, the following tips can help reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus:

- Encourage workers to stay home if they are sick.
- Allow workers to wear masks over their nose and mouth to prevent them from spreading the virus.
- Continue to use other normal control measures, including personal protective equipment (PPE), necessary to protect workers from other job hazards associated with construction activities.
- Advise workers to avoid physical contact with others and direct employees/contractors/visitors to increase personal space to at least six feet, where possible. Where work trailers are used, all workers should maintain social distancing while inside the trailers.
- Train workers how to properly put on, use/wear, and take off protective clothing and equipment.
- Encourage respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes.
- Promote personal hygiene. If workers do not have immediate access to soap and water for handwashing, provide alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Use Environmental Protection Agency-approved cleaning chemicals from [List N](#) or that have label claims against the coronavirus.
- To the extent tools or equipment must be shared, provide and instruct workers to use alcohol-based wipes to clean tools before and after use. When cleaning tools and equipment, workers should consult manufacturer recommendations for proper cleaning techniques and restrictions.
- Keep in-person meetings (including toolbox talks and safety meetings) as short as possible, limit the number of workers in attendance, and use social distancing practices.
- Clean and disinfect portable jobsite toilets regularly. Hand sanitizer dispensers should be filled regularly. Frequently-touched items (i.e., door pulls and toilet seats) should be disinfected.
- Encourage workers to report any safety and health concerns.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov/coronavirus or call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).

*OSHA issues alerts to draw attention to
worker safety and health issues and solutions.*



State of California—Health and
Human Services Agency
**California Department of
Public Health**



April 1, 2020

TO: General Public

SUBJECT: Face Coverings Guidance

This document provides public health information for the use of cloth face coverings by the general public when outside the home conducting essential activities. It does not substitute for existing guidance about social distancing and handwashing. It does not mandate that face coverings be worn state-wide.

Guidance

- Our best community and individual defense against COVID 19 is washing our hands frequently, avoiding touching our eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands, avoiding being around sick people and physical distancing, especially by staying at home. A strong health care delivery system and emergency response system is also an essential core defense to save lives when people do get ill.
- There may be a benefit to reducing asymptomatic transmission and reinforcing physical distancing from the use of face coverings. However, face coverings may increase risk if users reduce their use of strong defenses, such as physical distancing and frequent hand washing, when using face coverings.

Considerations

- Counties that choose to introduce policies promoting face coverings for their residents should make sure that these policies do not put increased demand on medical grade respirators, such as N95 and surgical masks. Counties should emphasize the use of face coverings in conjunction with evidence-based interventions such as staying at home, physical distancing when completing essential activities and washing hands.
- Individuals outside of counties with recommendations on face coverings, should wear coverings if they feel comfortable doing so, and practice strict hand washing before and after touching and adjusting the mask. They are reminded that face coverings are not a replacement for other evidence-based measures such as physical distancing, frequent hand washing practices, and remaining at home when not doing essential activities.

Background

What is a cloth face covering?

A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand, or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

How well do cloth face coverings work to prevent spread of COVID-19?

There is limited evidence to suggest that use of cloth face coverings by the public during a pandemic could help reduce disease transmission. Their primary role is to reduce the release of infectious particles into the air when someone speaks, coughs, or sneezes, including someone who has COVID-19 but feels well. Cloth face coverings are not a substitute for physical distancing and washing hands and staying home when ill, but they may be helpful when combined with these primary interventions.

When should I wear a cloth face covering?

You may choose to wear a cloth face covering when you must be in public for essential activities, such as shopping at the grocery store. Wearing a cloth face covering does not eliminate the need to physically distance yourself from others.

How should I care for a cloth face covering?

It's a good idea to wash your cloth face covering frequently, ideally after each use, or at least daily. Have a bag or bin to keep cloth face coverings in until they can be laundered with detergent and hot water and dried on a hot cycle. If you must re-wear your cloth face covering before washing, wash your hands immediately after putting it back on and avoid touching your face. Discard cloth face coverings that:

- No longer cover the nose and mouth
- Have stretched out or damaged ties or straps
- Cannot stay on the face
- Have holes or tears in the fabric

California Department of Public Health
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Department Website (cdph.ca.gov)



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