



March 19, 2020

TRACKING IMPACTS OF COVID-19 TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

CWCC organizations and their members are experiencing unprecedented conditions and challenges related to continuity of operations in light of the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We recognize every state is addressing this matter differently. That said, we felt it would be helpful to explain the situation in New Jersey and how the UTCA of NJ is responding.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy [declared a State of Emergency](#) on Monday, March 9, 2020 relative to the COVID-19 outbreak. Subsequently on March 16th he issued [Executive Order 104](#) related to social distancing to mitigate community spread of COVID-19. **Of note to CWCC members is that construction sites are among those activities listed as exempted from the provisions on gatherings over 50 persons.** Further, we wanted to point out that Section 12 of the E.O states;

"No municipality, county, or any other agency or political subdivision of this State shall enact or enforce any order, rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution which will or might in any way conflict with any of the provisions of this Executive Order, or which will in any way interfere with or impede its achievement."

We have encountered issues with some of our 21 County governments and 565 municipal governments going past the Governor's EO. We have experienced a few of these local governments attempting to stop all non-emergency county road projects and permit issuance (i.e. road opening permits). We used the language to correct/mitigate these situations.

UTCA of NJ has discussed the impact, if any, concerning construction projects administered by all major transportation, water and energy agencies in the State of New Jersey. UTCA has encouraged the State Agencies to, consistent with EO 104, continue all of their construction projects and continue to process all related project documents/paperwork including inspections, approvals, payments and etc. needed to keep all projects on schedule. As of today, our state agencies have "business continuation plans" in place and staff is effectively working remotely. While this is good news for the industry, this all could change quickly so we are staying in constant contact.

Although you are likely to have already seen this, we felt it prudent to let you know that **OSHA** has issued guidance for employers to prepare for the impact of the global and local spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19). For the **OSHA Guidance document on Coronavirus [click here](#)**

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* Steering Committee Member



Additional Important Links For World Health Organization (WHO) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) are below.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) advice for the public

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

Q&A on coronaviruses (COVID-19)

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

CDC page on Coronavirus

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

We invite any CWCC Member to “reply all” to this message and advise:

- **How are you experiencing the Covid-19 situation?** How has it changed how your organization and how you are going about your work? What challenges are you having that peers in the CWCC may be able to help problem solve? What questions do you have for each other?
- **How is your trade association responding?** How are your states and communities responding and what might we do together to educate the public and policy makers?

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