



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MARTIN J. WALSH

May 5, 2020

To All Interested/Affected Parties:

Due to the public health emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the City of Boston has implemented new protocols for construction work in Boston. As of April 27, all construction sites that are allowed to operate have been required to submit a COVID-19 Safety Plan and a signed COVID-19 Safety Affidavit. This effectiveness of, and compliance with the policy will continue to be evaluated as the City looks to broaden its categories of allowed construction work to further align with the Commonwealth.

Now that the COVID-19 Safety Policy for Construction has been implemented, and current construction is in compliance with the new mandate[s], the City will incrementally expand its categories of allowed construction to further align with the broader categories of construction defined as essential by the State.

The City of Boston will be taking an incremental approach to broadening the allowable categories. Key dates are described below. **The City of Boston reserves the right to to modify and/or adjust allowable work or implementation dates based upon public health, safety or capacity to issue permits, conduct inspections, and coordinate work consistent with the City's COVID-19 safety policies. At no time will the City of Boston permit any construction beyond what is allowed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as an essential construction project.**

- **May 5, 2020** - Essential construction projects with approved safety plans and signed affidavits filed with the appropriate regulatory agencies will be authorized to prepare the site with project-specific COVID-19 safety measures.
- **May 18, 2020** - The City of Boston will allow essential construction project on sites that meet the following criteria: (1) Projects are permitted, in compliance and have filed a Covid-19 Safety plan and a signed affidavit; (2) Project sites are sufficiently prepared to adhere to all criteria of their safety plan; and (3) the work is for hospitals, public schools, residential buildings [1-3 units], road and utility work, or other outdoor/open air-work such as steel erection, roofing and constructing foundations.
- **May 26, 2020** - The City of Boston will allow all essential construction projects to re-commence construction activities in adherence to their safety plans. This incremental approach will provide the time necessary to allow complex, large-scale development an opportunity to educate their workforce, safely remobilize and implement their site-specific Safety Plan.

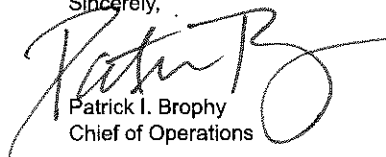
Enforcement: The Department of Public Works and Inspectional Services Department inspectors shall continue to monitor and enforce the Covid-19 Safety Plans for Construction. In accordance with the signed affidavit, Contractors acknowledge and agree that non-compliance with any requirements, including failure to abide by its own COVID-19 Safety Plan, may result in suspension or termination of work in progress or revocation of the City's permit for such work.

Safety & Worker Protection: As essential construction activities commence, the City will continue to focus on the health and well-being of Boston residents, worker protections and the safety of Boston construction sites. To further ensure safety of essential work, Mayor Martin J. Walsh has partnered with the Tufts Medical Center to provide testing services for the industry at the Tufts COVID-19 Screening Clinic at the Josiah Quincy Elementary School located at 885 Washington Street in Chinatown. The site is located at the intersection of Washington Street and Marginal Road next to the Tufts/New England Medical Center Orange Line MBTA station.

Additional Information: To access updated safety plan and permit submission protocol, and associated reference documents, please visit the City's website for guidance for construction in Boston.

Thank you for your partnership during this time. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the respective regulatory agencies. For building-related inquiries, please feel free to contact the Inspectional Services Department at 617.635.5300, for street-related work, please feel free to contact the Department of Public Works at 617.635.4900.

Sincerely,



Patrick I. Brophy
Chief of Operations

CITY *of* BOSTON

COVID-19 Safety Affidavit and Plan Submission Process

To Whom It May Concern:

As you know, the City of Boston has implemented new protocols for essential construction work in the City of Boston due to the public health emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus). For the health and safety of workers, their families, and our communities, all permitted construction will be required to adhere to COVID-19 best practices during this public health emergency.

This policy is effective for active permitted projects and for all future permit applications moving forward, including Alterations, Amendments, Erect Building, Use of Premises, Short Form, Electrical (Temp Service, Low Voltage, Fire Alarm, and general), Plumbing, Gas, Sprinkler, Sheet Metal and Trench permits.

PLEASE NOTE: The Citywide moratorium for nonessential construction remains in effect. Contractors/permittees must upload COVID-19 Safety Affidavits and COVID-19 Safety Plans prior to resuming work. The Inspectional Services Department will notify contractors/permittees when the Citywide nonessential construction moratorium is lifted.

COVID-19 Safety Affidavits and Safety Plans will NOT be accepted via email.

For a jobsite to be permitted by the Inspectional Services Department the following additional documents must be attached to your application:

COVID-19 Safety Affidavit [Link: [COVID-19 Safety Affidavit](#)]

This affidavit attests that the contractor has created, provided to the City, and will implement its COVID-19 Safety Plan. It follows the same requirements as the Safety Plan. Failure to adhere to the policy may result in approval to work being revoked.

COVID-19 Safety Plan [Link: [COVID-19 Safety Plan](#)]

This document will detail the job site practices that the contractor will follow to protect worker safety. There are six key elements the City will be looking for in each plan:

- steps taken before shifts start to ensure workers are healthy;
- practices to ensure social distancing that can be achieved on the job site;
- materials provided to ensure job site hygiene;

- protocols for the use of personal protective equipment;
- communications and training practices to ensure everyone is informed; and
- procedures in case there is COVID-19 exposure on the job site.

Note, prior to submission, you must determine your company's role – Contractor/General Contractor or Subcontractor

If you are the contractor for a small project or the general contractor on a large project then you must attach to your application:

- A COVID-19 Safety Plan for the site
- A COVID-19 Affidavit for your company

If you are a subcontractor on a large project you must attach to your application:

- Your General Contractor's COVID-19 Safety Plan for the site
- A COVID-19 Affidavit for your company

Instructions for Uploading Safety Affidavits and Safety Plans to existing permits:

- Log on to the ISD's Online Permitting Portal [link: [Boston Permits & Licenses Portal](#)]
- Navigate to the permit application through Search or Recent Activity links
- Scroll down to the Attachments section, and click the "Upload Attachments" link
- Upload both the Safety Affidavit and Safety Plan, and any additional related information, as separate attachments
- Save the attachments

Contractors are required to have printed copies of both the COVID-19 Safety Affidavit and COVID-19 Site Safety Plan on hand at the job site, posted in a conspicuous place to the extent possible.

Thank you for your partnership during this time. Additional information on Mayor Walsh's original order can be found at www.boston.gov. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Inspectional Services Department at 617.635.5300.

Sincerely,

Dion Irish, Commissioner
Inspectional Services Department