

City of Graham

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Infrastructure Construction Inspections – COVID-19 Interim Policy

Effective April 15, 2020

The coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has impacted a number of businesses across a variety of industries, forcing them to rethink their daily operations to ensure the safety of their employees and the general public. This is no different for the construction industry. Construction sites are generally busy areas and most outdoor sites make it possible to maintain distances from one person to another. However, there are certain spaces on construction sites that require coordination between workers and city representatives.

In order to protect the welfare of workers, representatives, and the public, the City will be instituting the following modifications and requirements to inspections. This is a temporary policy that may be amended as the situation changes.

- Workers that appear to be sick or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g., fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, runny nose, body aches, chills or fatigue) are not permitted to be on site. Individuals experiencing such symptoms should also be instructed to consult guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on seeking medical care.
- Social distancing on site is required. Workers are not to approach city representatives unless asked and are to remain 10' away.
- Workers are to wear masks when in the general presence of city representatives.
- Primary discussions are to be held over the phone or through email. Construction meetings are to be conducted through remote technology.
- The number of workers on site is to be minimized to the maximum extent practicable.
- Workers are to wear gloves and masks whenever practical.

Social Distancing includes:

- Avoiding gatherings of 10 or more people.
- Keeping at least 6 feet of distance from other people.
- Hosting meetings virtually when possible.
- Limiting the number of people on the jobs site to essential personnel only.
- Encouraging staff to work from home when possible.
- Discouraging people from shaking hands.

Noncompliance with the above policy will result in canceling of the inspection and the work will be deemed incomplete. A written explanation detailing steps to prevent a reoccurrence of the non-compliance will be required prior to a rescheduled inspection. Missed inspections due to non-compliance will also be deemed failed and the work will not be accepted.

Thank you for your patience during this difficult time.