



Notice regarding construction activities

On March 23, 2020, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation No. 20-25 which ordered that all non-essential businesses would be prohibited from conducting all but basic minimum operations and all essential businesses were allowed to continue operations so long as appropriate physical distancing, sanitation, and worker safety measures were implemented. On March 25, 2020, the Governor issued a memorandum clarifying that, in general, commercial and residential construction is not authorized under the Proclamation because construction is not an essential activity, except for construction related to essential activities described in the order, to further a public purpose, to “prevent spoliation and avoid damage or unsafe conditions”, or emergency repairs. On April 2, 2020, the Governor issued Proclamation No. 20-25.1, extending the Stay Home – Stay Healthy Order until 11:59PM May 4, 2020.

This notice provides additional information regarding specific work as detailed below:

1) For single-family and multi-family residential development and building projects, final inspection to complete the real estate transaction and work as necessary to prevent spoliation and avoid damage of previously erected structures is recognized. For the purposes of this section:

a. “Previously erected structures” are defined as those where the structure has already been framed. Requests for shear inspection will be accommodated and any or all of the following work as necessary. “To prevent spoliation and avoid damage” work is limited to:

- i. Weather wrap/membrane;
- ii. Windows;
- iii. Temporary construction doors;
- iv. Plumbing and heating vent pipes no longer than 10’ through to accommodate roof flashing;
- v. Roofing (including shingles);
- vi. Siding;
- vii. Temporarily securing garage and other openings with plywood or similar materials.

b. It is at the discretion of the builder to secure the site against theft or specific damage while working within the requirements and restrictions. Placing temporary protection, such as plastic sheeting or similar, is addressed in the proclamation.

c. You are required to submit a **Request for Inspection** form for any inspection and the form shall include the reason it qualifies under the proclamation and a detailed description the work.

2) All construction on existing residential structures (remodel, addition, site work, accessory structure, etc.) as is necessary for “emergency repairs and projects that ensure structural integrity” or on previously framed structures as described above will be inspected.

3) Commercial/industrial development and building projects, which directly involve any of the thirteen essential facilities, services, or projects listed in the governor’s order, are eligible for inspections. All other commercial/industrial development and building projects may secure a site for protection of the structure and in the interest public safety.

For all inspections, adherence to special requirements as previously announced is required, including the physical distancing from inspectors. Please let us know if you have any questions and visit our website for current information regarding the Covid 19 crisis.

