



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

1401 EAST BROAD STREET
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219-2000

Stephen C. Brich, P.E.
Commissioner

March 29, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Contracting Community
District Engineers
District Construction Engineers
Area Construction Engineers

FROM: Kerry A. Bates, P.E., State Construction Engineer

SUBJECT: UPDATE - COVID-19 / Coronavirus

Further to my August 21, 2020 memo regarding the COVID-19/ Coronavirus, I would like to reiterate my appreciation to the contracting community as a whole, regarding its continued response to this pandemic. The Department continues to experience minimal coronavirus related impacts to its construction program and this is due in large part to the responsible efforts of our contractors to adhere to the guidance provided in the Governor's Executive Orders on VDOT projects throughout the Commonwealth. I value your efforts in this regard and encourage you to continue to observe the Governor's guidance, as well as the recommendations from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

While the overall response to this pandemic has been a positive one, I have become aware of at least one instance where a member of the traveling public has contacted the Governor's Office to express concerns regarding a contractor's compliance with CDC guidelines. As such, I would like to reiterate some of the specific guidance I have previously disseminated pursuant to the Governor's Executive Orders:

Social Distancing

- Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.
- Do not gather in groups.
- Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gathering.

Face Coverings

In the event of an impractical situation or emergency where social distancing is

impossible to achieve, a cloth face covering is required (in-person meetings where social distancing is not possible, riding in vehicles with others, anytime indoors in a public building, etc.). **Please note that CDC guidance now recommends that face coverings have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric.**

Stay home if you feel sick.

- Avoid close contact with others and seek medical treatment if necessary.
- If you have a fever, stay home until you are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Practice good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

Practice good coughing and sneezing etiquette

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Put your used tissue in a wastebasket.
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve—not your hand.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Additional information on CDC guidance may be found at the following link:

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

Again, I greatly appreciate your efforts to minimize the effects of this pandemic on VDOT's construction program and encourage you to keep up the good work. Stay safe!