

Joint-Labor Management Industry Statement – March 30, 2020



Labor and management are committed to the health, safety and welfare of our skilled construction industry workforce and the Minnesota public. Governor Walz's Emergency Executive Order 20-20 *Directing Minnesotans to Stay at Home* recognizes the essential work our skilled construction industry workforce performs every day to maintain and improve Minnesota's infrastructure, including energy and communication systems, roads and bridges, police, fire and health care facilities, and the homes and businesses that Minnesota families rely on.

Safety is the single most important issue to our industry, and, during this pandemic, safety includes practices to protect workers, their families, and the public. In order to ensure the safety of construction workers while they continue their critical work in these unprecedented times, labor and management are jointly issuing this statement to recognize the importance of safe, responsible work practices and jobsite conditions.

To protect workers, their families, and the general public, we must implement and enforce specific practices and protocols, based on CDC and OSHA workplace guidance, during the COVID-19 outbreak. These and other safety measures have the full support of labor and management. The full cooperation of employers and workers is critical to their success.

- Ongoing education – through specific communications and posters – of the importance of frequent handwashing, hand hygiene, cough and sneeze etiquette, staying home when sick, and other best practices.
- Careful attention to jobsite toilet and hand cleaning facilities. These facilities should be disinfected and kept in clean, working order and stocked with soap and/or hand sanitizer.
- Jobsites must be kept clean, with frequent disinfecting of any frequently touched surfaces on the site. Any tools or equipment that might be shared by workers must be disinfected before and after use.
- All personnel must observe a minimum distance of six (6) feet between individuals to increase physical space between workers at the worksite. This includes pre-work and post-work events of all kinds.
- Modification of jobsite communication processes, planning, and schedules to eliminate group gatherings. This includes changes to or the elimination of pre-job conferences, communal break locations, and any other activity that would bring a group of people together on the jobsite.
- Appropriate PPE will be provided by the employer and worn by the employee as necessary.
- Policies for material deliveries and other third-party jobsite visits should be altered as necessary to limit the number of people present on jobsites.
- Though risk of spread on clothes is much lower than on commonly used surfaces, workers should take steps to ensure that work clothes are kept clean and work only at work.
- Workers must immediately report: (1) symptoms associated with COVID-19 exposure; and (2) contact with any person who tests positive for COVID-19. Self-quarantine must follow CDC guidelines. Employers must take action to protect any exposed employees including reporting any known job site exposures to other employees and their respective unions.

The situation and responses around COVID-19 are changing rapidly. We will continue to work constructively together and with public officials to support and take the steps necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of our workforce and the public.


For the NCSRCC


For the AGC


For CCA and MDPA