

County of Santa Clara

County Government Center
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing, 9th Fl.
San Jose, California 95110
Departmental Operations Center
Community and Business Engagement Branch



ADVISORY **Revised Mandatory Construction Directive Now In Effect**

December 21, 2020

Dear Contractor:

The Community and Business Engagement Branch writes to inform the construction industry in Santa Clara County that the County Health Officer has issued a revised Mandatory Directive for Construction Projects (the “Revised Construction Directive”),¹ and that the County has at the same time increased its focus on ensuring compliance with COVID-19 rules and requirements on construction jobsites.

Under the directive, general contractors are responsible for ensuring compliance on jobsites, including by submitting a jobsite-specific Social Distancing Protocol; reporting COVID-19 positive cases and complying with County contact-tracing efforts; designating and supporting the work of a jobsite-specific COVID-19 Supervisor; providing personal protective equipment and ensuring physical distancing; and, for large construction projects, appointing and following instructions related to a third-party Jobsite Safety Accountability Supervisor (JSAS). Although general contractors must ensure compliance on the jobsite, subcontractors are also responsible for following all public health orders and are subject to enforcement if they fail to comply.

The Revised Construction Directive contains industry-specific rules that supplement the October 5, 2020 Order of the Health Officer of the County Santa Clara Establishing Revised Mandatory Risk Reduction Measures Applicable to All Activities and Sectors to Address the COVID-19 Pandemic (the “Revised Risk Reduction Order”)² and the State’s August 28, 2020 Blueprint for a Safer Economy (“Blueprint”).³ You are required to comply with these orders and directives and all other public health orders, directives, and industry-specific guidance issued by the County or State (“public health orders”).

Violations of the public health orders are subject to civil and/or criminal enforcement, including but not limited to fines and penalties, suspension or revocation of permits or licenses, stop-work orders, refusals to inspect, and other consequences.

Thank you for your cooperation.

¹ <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/mandatory-directives-construction.aspx>

² <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/covid19/Pages/order-health-officer-10-05-20.aspx>

³ <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy>