THE HOUSTON CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

RECOMMENDED PRACTICES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19
The Houston Construction Industry provides consistent employment annually for over 230,000 construction workers in the Houston Metro Area.

The average wage for construction workers across all trades is approximately $20/hour.

Most construction employees work 45-50 hours/week.

The annual payroll for construction labor in the Houston Metro Area is a staggering $12 billion.

Almost all of the $12 billion construction payroll goes directly back into the Houston economy and provides a multiple of same as local economic impact.

The hardworking construction workers in the Houston area are collectively our best asset.

### Fast Facts:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total nonfarm</td>
<td>3,225.7</td>
<td>88.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mining and logging</td>
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<td>Construction</td>
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<td>Manufacturing</td>
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<td>Trade, transportation, and utilities</td>
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<td>Information</td>
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<td>Financial activities</td>
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<td>Professional and business services</td>
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<td>Education and health services</td>
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<td>Leisure and hospitality</td>
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<td>Other services</td>
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<td>Government</td>
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COVID-19 Recommended Practices – Construction Sites:

Three distinct areas on most construction sites:

1. Field Office (Job Trailer)

2. New Construction (open to exterior environment)

3. Interior Construction (closed to exterior environment)
Field Office/Job Trailer Protocol

- Enhance all safety plans to include COVID-19 protocols.
- All on-boarding of new personnel will include COVID-19 awareness and protocol.
- No job site/job wide meetings should be held.
- Use available technology to its full capacity to avoid face to face meetings/interaction.
- Conference calls, go-to meeting and/or video conferencing should be held in lieu of face to face meetings.
- Remind site personnel to avoid touching their faces and cover coughs and sneezes.
- Hand shaking should be avoided, other noncontact methods should be used for greeting.
- Practice social distancing (6’ away from each other).
- Frequent hand washing is encouraged. If soap and water is not available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer should be used.
- Clean common surfaces in the job office frequently.
- No communal food is permitted.
- Food items and utensils should not be shared.
- Use disposal products if available.
- Utilize hand towels and no-touch trash receptacles where possible.
- Office supplies should not be shared.
- Hazards should be routinely assessed to limit exposure.
- Continuously evaluate risk and exposure on the job site.
New Construction Protocol

- Practice social distancing and personal hygiene at all times.
- Only critical deliveries and visitors will be permitted to enter the job site.
- Communication will be increased to all employees on site to help everyone stay informed of the latest developments.
- Meetings should be limited and should only include critical staff (under 10 people). Conference calls and/or video conferencing will be used as much as possible.
- Provide disinfecting wipes for elevator operators and hoist operators to sanitize surfaces as often as possible.
- Site personnel should eat their lunch away from others. Lunch breaks will be rotated to keep crowd size limited.
- Facemasks should be added as additional PPE, as available.
- Employees should wear gloves at all times (PPE).
- Employees shall not share PPE.
- Additional hand washing and hand sanitizer stations will be provided.
New Construction Protocol, continued

- Signage will be promoted across the job site to raise awareness of the COVID-19 best practices and symptoms.
- Work hours will be staggered to avoid large crowds entering/exiting the job site and gathering at lunch.
- JSA meetings will be conducted with 10 or less people.
- CDC updated information will be provided as part of the daily JSA.
- A questionnaire will be utilized during the daily JSA meeting to gain information regarding workers’ health and exposure.
- Employees will attest when signing JSA's that they have not experienced fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, non-allergy nasal congestion.
- Additional training and information will be provided to all site personnel as required on COVID-19 and symptoms.
- Servicing of portable toilets will be increased & toilet banks sanitized routinely.
- All coordination efforts will be done in open environments.
- Bottled water will be utilized, if available – water cooler use should be limited.
- Only approved food trucks will be allowed on site.
- Projects with remote parking will limit occupants of shuttle buses and increase the # of shuttles.
- Shuttle buses will be sanitized after each trip.
Interior Construction Protocol

Same as New Construction Protocol plus:

• Increase ventilation in all work areas.
• Keep construction workers and office workers separated by partitions.
• Limit elevator use to material handling.
• If elevators are required for personnel, dedicate one elevator for construction use.

Construction Site Employees

• All employees will be asked daily if they are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
• Anyone who believes that they have been exposed or is experiencing symptoms or the virus – will be sent to seek medical attention.
• If exposure to COVID-19 is confirmed – they will go home and quarantine for 14 days.
• If in quarantine they begin to experience symptoms – they will seek medical attention.
• Employees will practice social distancing.
• Employees will practice hygiene as recommended by the CDC & communicate the same to fellow workers.
• Employees will not share tools, food or drink.
• We will encourage workers to change clothes prior to arriving home and wash work clothes in hot water and sanitizer.