

March 31, 2020

The Honorable Jay Inslee, Governor
Office of the Governor
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, WA 98504-0002

Re: Residential Construction Non-Essential Determination

The undersigned Washington Mayors are greatly concerned about the recent decision to include residential construction activities as a non-essential activity. We respectfully ask you to reconsider your position on this issue considering the recent Department of Homeland Security “Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response Version 2.0”.

This recent update to the guidelines includes “Workers performing housing construction related activities to ensure additional units can be made available to combat the nation’s existing housing supply shortage”. Adhering to this guideline will lessen the economic harm that is already felt as a result of the “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” directive which is causing distress to a multitude of employers, suppliers, and employees. The fiscal impact to our local communities is presenting challenges that will require a great deal of energy and resources to overcome.

If your directive is extended past April 8th, the ability and speed to recover economically will be evermore challenging and will significantly impact the livelihoods of the residents of the State of Washington.

We the undersigned signatories request you reconsider your previous decision designating residential construction activities as “non-essential” in light of the recent DHS guidelines.

Respectfully,

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City

Mayor
City