

Frequently asked Questions

Regarding COVID-19

FOR

MoDOT's Consultants and Construction Contractors

<https://www.modot.org/modot-and-covid-19> for more details

Consultants

Q: Will MoDOT work with consultants be suspended?

A: No, not at this time. MoDOT has a continuity of operations plan and program delivery for the infrastructure has been defined as a critical function. Therefore, all work for design of highway projects will continue. See <https://www.modot.org/modot-and-covid-19> for information sent to industry regarding this topic and other links related to continuing work during this pandemic.

Q: Who should I contact for more details or questions?

A: Your PM remains the primary contact for design projects. Travis Koestner, State Design Engineer, at 573-526-0245 or Travis.Koestner@modot.mo.gov for general program delivery questions.

Q: Will there be any disruptions to consultant payments?

A: No. MoDOT's continuity of operations includes all invoice processing for consultants.

Q: What will happen if my company cannot work due to circumstances related to COVID -19?

A: Contact your normal project contact – PM for MoDOT with the details. In addition, information regarding contract time extensions has been posted to the website. <https://www.modot.org/modot-and-covid-19>

Q: Can our company travel to work in areas that have been ordered to “shelter in place”?

A: **(Revised 3/26/2020)** Yes, they can continue to perform MoDOT project business. You should review the information published by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) at the following site also see below in the contractor section information regarding this topic:

<https://www.cisa.gov/publication/guidance-essential-critical-infrastructure-workforce>

Q: Will we still have meetings for projects including design-build projects?

A: Yes, but we will adhere to CDC and Department of Health guidelines to conduct meeting virtually. If teams meet on construction sites, they will meet in groups smaller than 10 and adhere to social distancing recommendations. In addition, any public meetings required for projects will be held in a virtual format. Work with your MoDOT project contact to arrange these virtual meetings.

Q: What if my MoDOT prequalification for consulting is set to expire?

A: MoDOT plans to still process consultant financial and technical information needed for qualification at this time. If there are circumstances due to the pandemic that delays information needed MoDOT will extend the due date and your company will still be eligible to do work. Work through the usual MoDOT contacts to address your specific situation.

Q: Will bid openings continue?

A: MoDOT plans to continue regular bid openings. In addition, the Highway Commission has plans to conduct meetings to award projects via virtual meetings.

Q: I have contracts with cities and counties (LPA projects). How are these contracts being handled?

A: Please contact the owner of your contract for specific information on how the contract is being managed as a result of the COVID-19 virus. Reimbursement to those entities for projects that have funding through MoDOT will still be processed.

Construction Contractors

Q: Will MoDOT's work with construction contractors be suspended?

A: No, not at this time. MoDOT has a continuity of operations plan and care for the infrastructure has been defined as a critical function. Therefore, all work for construction of highway projects will continue. See <https://www.modot.org/modot-and-covid-19> for information sent to industry regarding this topic and other links related to continuing work during this pandemic.

Q: Who should I contact for more details or questions?

A: Your RE remains the primary contact for construction projects. If you have more general questions you can contact Dave Ahlvers, State Construction and Materials Engineer, at 573-751-7455 or David.Ahlvers@modot.mo.gov

Q: State offices are being closed. How will this impact construction inspection and administration on road and bridge projects?

A: Construction projects are considered essential infrastructure and therefore contracts will move forward. All MoDOT workers involved with construction contracts are deemed essential. Construction inspection, administration and materials testing will continue but we will adhere to social distancing recommendations and conduct communications virtually and by phone.

Q: Areas of the state are starting to be determined as "shelter in place" locations. What is the plan for highway and bridge projects in these locations?

A: **(Revised 3/26/2020)** MoDOT prepared a letter that contractor workers could carry with them that authorized continued work in these locations. This document was issued through the resident engineer.

We are going to end this process and ask that contractors and suppliers go to the CISA website. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency within the Department of Homeland Security published a list of private sector businesses and workers considered critical infrastructure industry. Contractors could review the list and develop a document specific to their situation.

<https://www.cisa.gov/publication/guidance-essential-critical-infrastructure-workforce>

Q: Will there be any disruptions to contractor payments?

A: No. MoDOT's continuity of operations includes contractor payments and timely payments will continue.

Q: What if my Technicians certifications are about to expire?

A: MoDOT is extending the due date for individuals with certifications due until September 1, 2020. Existing technicians will be allowed to work under their existing certifications for this time. This applies to all certifications housed within MoDOT's Technician Certification Program. IRI and IP equipment certifications are included in this extension.

Q: Can work hour restrictions be revised due to the decrease in traffic volumes?

A: Yes, projects will be evaluated on an individual basis for increases or changes in working hours. Please note though that while traffic volumes have decreased, we are seeing an increase in the travel speeds of drivers remaining on the roads. It is vitally important to maintain and manage the work zones, utilize rumbles, law enforcement and other traffic management tools to keep the drivers and workers safe.

Q: The COVID-19 is going to increase my cost as a contractor to complete the contracts I have been awarded. How does MoDOT plan to handle this?

A: Delays due to pandemics ("epidemics" are specifically addressed in the Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction under Section 108.14.1 Excusable or Noncompensable Delay. MoDOT will provide appropriate contract time extensions should a project delay occur. These requests should be presented to the projects Resident Engineer.

Q: My annual update is due to expire, will I be allowed to keep working and bidding on upcoming lettings?

A: MoDOT will continue to process annual updates at this time. If the virus impacts the contractor's ability to complete this update, please notify us soon as possible of the situation and we will provide an extension accordingly. Your company will be allowed to continue existing contracts and bid on new work. Please make sure your email contact information is current. Also, please remember to include the contract ID and/or job number on your insurance certificate and to list MoDOT and its employees as additional insured on the insurance certificate.

March 26, 2020

Time: 8:00 am

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