Governor Murphy orders closure of all non-essential retail businesses

Message from the President on COVID-19 Response

ACECNJ Member Firms,

Governor Murphy issued two Executive Orders that mandate a statewide stay-at-home order and require the closure of all non-essential retail businesses.

EO 107 allows essential design and construction work to continue. EO 108 prohibits counties and municipalities from taking any action that is inconsistent with EO107, in effect prohibiting local governments from implementing more drastic closures.

Closure order does NOT impact services provided by ACECNJ member firms

The essential work our firms perform is exempt from this closure order.

This includes design, construction inspection, bridge inspection, survey and more. This includes work for state agencies and authorities and also local governments.

This issue of ACECNJ’s newsletter includes important resources for you and your firm as you navigate COVID-19’s impacts. Please refer to the resources on Page 2 and contact us at any time with questions or for more information. Check out our upcoming web events on Page 3-4. We are committed to continuing to deliver valuable member services during this unprecedented time.

I know this is an extremely challenging time for you and for your firm. My team and I are working 24/7 to advocate for your interests. I am in regular contact with senior Murphy Administration officials and various agency heads.

Call/text/email me directly at any time with specific concerns — if you don’t already have it, my contact info is below. Hang in there. We will get through this together.

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COVID-19 RESOURCES

Like many of you, ACECNJ, is continuing to monitor the threat of Coronavirus very carefully. The health of our members is at the forefront of our policies and actions and as such we have compiled the following information as an easy reference guide on preventative measures and best practices, as well as information on how ACEC (national) is internally anticipating an outbreak and the impact it will have on business operations.

**Events**

ACECNJ is actively reviewing the event calendar and will advise of all postponements and date changes. As the future of these events is determined information will be shared through our email notifications system. If for any reason you are not receiving these notifications make sure to add INFO@ACECNJ.ORG to your email’s “safe list” or email us to confirm you are on the email blast list.

In the mean time we encourage members to take advantage of our virtual WebEx series to stay up to date on the latest industry and organizational news.

**Statewide Actions**

**Governor Murphy**

On 3/21/20 Governor Murphy issued Executive Order 107 that mandates a statewide stay-at-home order and orders the closure of all non-essential retail businesses. A link to press release and text of the order is here.

**IMPORTANT:**

Design and construction work have been determined essential & will continue.

A separate Executive Order (EO 108 found here) prohibits counties and municipalities from taking their own actions that are inconsistent with the Governor’s order. In effect, orders issued by various local governments earlier in the week shutting down operations, including construction projects, are invalidated.

**NJ State Legislature**

While the NJ Statehouse has to been closed to the public, legislation has been passed that will allow the NJ Legislature to work and vote remotely, meaning bills will be introduced and passed as needed. ACECNJ staff will continue to closely monitor all actions taken by the legislature for any effect on

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**Information from NJDOT**

ACECNJ leadership is working closely with senior leadership at NJDOT to implement changes to ensure a smooth and constructive working relationship throughout this difficult period.

All Construction Inspection recertification classes for the various NJ certifications have been cancelled. In an effort to continue to support the NJDOT with consultant staffing for current projects and future proposals, ACECNJ and NJDOT have agreed to provide extensions to certifications for NJSAT, ACI and TCP, etc. that will expire in 2020. These will be extended by waiver to 4/30/21, similar to waivers approved by PennDOT.

Classes and most re-certification hours are in-class only. With the national developments we hope to see these certification agencies go to online but practical hands-on tests like ACI cannot be converted to online only.

Once classes resume, staff will be entered in the classes and the re-certification dates will be from the date of the classes.

More recommendations are in discussion and should be forthcoming. Please ensure you are receiving ACECNJ emails to stay up to date on the most pertinent information.

**Resource Links**

**CDC information sheet on COVID-19:**
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019

**NJ COVID-19 Information Hub:**
https://covid19.nj.gov

**ACEC National Statement on COVID-19:**
https://acec.org/conferences/coronavirus

We recommend our members use best practices to protect the health of all New Yorkers:

- Don’t shake hands. Use alternative greeting methods, such as an elbow bump, or simply exchange verbal greetings.
- Provide as much space (at least 6 feet) between yourself and others.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. Use anti-bacterial or anti-viral products when hand washing is not possible.
- Staff will continue to reach out to other associations and related groups to update and add to these practices with a goal of maintaining the safety of all involved.
EXCLUSIVE MEMBERS ONLY ACCESS:

Committee Activities and Updates
Members Only Webex Series
Committee Update & Activity Report

ACECNJ is pleased to launch a new Webex series that will provide important updates and information on critical business practice, procurement, professional development and diversity issues. This exclusive opportunity is open to ACECNJ members only and will provide unique insight into the work of committees. This is a fantastic way to stay abreast of the important work we’re doing to advance the business interests of engineering firms and is a great way stay in the loop and connected to colleagues! Sessions will include updates from committee chairs followed by Q&A and discussion.

March 27, 2020
Young Professionals, Women Executives in Engineering and SBE/MBE/WBE Advocacy Committees

March 31, 2020
SJTA, DRJTBC and DRPA Committees

April 3, 2020
Buildings & Facilities, Local Government and Public Utilities Committees

April 17, 2020
NJ Turnpike Authority, NJ Turnpike Authority CI, NJ TRANSIT Capital Program Delivery and NJ TRANSIT Business Practices Committees

April 24, 2020
NJDOT – Design, NJDOT – Procurement, NJDOT – Construction Inspection and NJDOT – Bridge Inspection Committees

May 1, 2020
Land use & Permitting, Site Remediation and LSRP and Water and Waste Water Committees

May 8, 2020
PANYNJ – Capital Project Delivery and PANYNJ – Business Practices Committees

All sessions will run from 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Information on Webex login will be sent to each individual attendee after they register.

***Considering the rapidly evolving nature of the coronavirus pandemic, event dates and formats are subject to change***
HOLD THE DATES

Watch your email for the following!!

April 9, 2020
ACECNJ General Membership “Breakfast” WebEx
Guest Speaker
Commissioner Gutierrez-Scaccetti
Discussing NJTA Proposed Capital Program

April 21, 2020
ACECNJ Continuing Education
Ethics for Engineers

April 23 – 24, 2020
ACECNJ Emerging Leaders Program
Stay Tuned for Updates!
2020 DESIGN SUMMIT
MAY 20, 2020

2020 DESIGN SUMMIT
JUNE 4, 2020

ACECNJ General Membership Breakfast June 2, 2020
Introduction to the NJ State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC)
(Rescheduled from March 23, 2020)

NEW DATE ANNOUNCED!

2019 GRAND HONOR AWARDS

ENGINNERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS BANQUET
JUNE 10, 2020

Please watch your email for updates on upcoming events.
Thank you for your continued support of ACECNJ!
What’s inside:
• COVID-19 Resources
• Members Only Webex Series

Look on the front page for
Governor Murphy’s Executive Order

Be kept informed of all ACECNJ activities, sign up for our email blasts at www.acecnj.org

Over 26,000 Cans of Food Donated
Benefits FulFill NJ

ACEC New Jersey
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
CAN-STRUCTION EVENT

Join the Fun! Contact: info@acecnj.com
Prizes Awarded for Creativity

Hold the Date! Construction: Dec. 6th, 2020, Holiday Open House: December 7th, 2020