

Integrated Infrastructure Services

Office of the Deputy City Manager

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To our Industry Partners

Re: City of Edmonton Construction During the COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 situation is changing rapidly and many businesses and industries are feeling its effect. At the City of Edmonton we want you to know that we are all in this together and believe that our greatest strength is how we work together.

Our first and utmost priority is our people. Whether it be our staff, industry partners or citizens, being safe and staying healthy are at the top of our minds. Over the past several weeks, we have all worked tirelessly to continue to provide services and deliver programs safely and we want to continue to do so in this challenging environment.

Integrated Infrastructure Services Business Continuity

We live in a climate that has short construction seasons and opportunities to build infrastructure. Delays during a construction season can be disruptive to cost and schedule impacts on projects. We want to provide opportunities for business and citizens to continue to work and to help us build Edmonton. Like myself, most of our people are currently working at home where possible, equipped with the necessary knowledge, tools and reassurance that we need to keep design and construction projects moving forward despite the challenging circumstances.

Our industry colleagues have also let us know that they are ready to work with us to keep the projects moving forward safely. Contractors and consultants are already adjusting their HSE plans to incorporate COVID-19 protocols to keep workers safe and compliant with AHS directives and guidelines. We also recognize the current market conditions and labour force availability are challenging and some projects may experience schedule impacts. We will continue to work with all of our industry partners on a project-by-project basis to understand those impacts and address them in accordance with our respective contracts. Recognizing that there may be some capacity challenges, and in consultation with industry and council, we will continue to prioritize our work and help our contractors keep their construction sites active as much as possible. Our procurement processes will continue to operate during this time, however, it is important to note that submission timelines may be extended to ensure bidders are able to submit proposals in a virtual working environment.

We are very proud of how well the community has come together in a concentrated effort to make the best decisions for today and tomorrow. We know that by continuing working together, aligned with the City Council, we enable a better life for all Edmontonians even in these challenging times.

We will continue to monitor this situation and will take our direction from Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health in an effort to contain the spread of COVID-19. We are all in this together and only together can we move forward.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JM', with a small horizontal line extending to the right.

Jason Meliefste P.Eng.
Acting Deputy City Manager