



March 27, 2020

Governor Kate Brown
State of Oregon
900 Court Street, Suite 254
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Dear Governor Kate Brown:

We wanted to take a moment to thank you for your leadership addressing the COVID-19 crisis. Taking bold steps to avoid or even address a crisis requires strong leadership and difficult choices. As Oregonians committed to doing our part to help address the challenges you have identified, we want you to know you have a partner that recognizes we must support each other in times like these. We appreciate your unique approach, as part of the Oregon Way, to demand accountability, set clear standards of performance and expect all Oregonians to work and live differently than before. No one can do it alone - it requires a team committed to the goal, tireless work by your agencies, our local government partners, business, workers and citizens all going the same direction to achieve the safety outcomes you have set.

Please know that the thousands of employees and businesses in the construction industry are also committed to doing our part. We understand performance outcomes, we understand public safety, we understand your approach to safety enforcement, and we understand we must all work together to slow the spread of COVID-19. We also understand the need to share best practices, to communicate and to think about our work differently than we have before.

To that end, we would like to introduce our coalition and to share some of the steps we have taken in response to your recent order.

- Since the best way to meet the outcomes of your order is to be proactive, we formed the Oregon Construction Coalition, representing most, if not all, of the key contractor groups across Oregon. This forum allows us to communicate your message, take advantage of our collective expertise and to tackle the assignment we have been given.
- We recognized government needed to be at the table, so we established a unique partnership with the Oregon Building Officials Association, representing over 1,000 public officials committed to safety.
- We have developed safety protocols unique to our job sites, and we have shared information with your agencies so all contractors and safety professional could benefit. You should know our safety

protocols also captured advice found within your latest order: we require a single point of accountability to ensure social distances are met.

- We also update information through our daily group conversations to capture best practices and share information.
- We have conducted regional webinars, conference calls and disseminated other information to improve our practices and inform our members.
- We are launching first-in-the-nation training programs with information specific to your directives and information to protect our government partners that visit our sites.
- Our association websites are full of information, best practices, and links to your agencies and the federal government.

We believe this unique coalition is also part of the Oregon Way and what you should expect from business, but we need your help. We think we can do better to get the message out. We suggest a series of PSA's to communicate sector-specific safety messages. We suggest an expanded partnership with your safety professionals in collaboration with our team to make sure everyone knows how to work and operate safely in this new environment.

Finally, you need to know that there are literally hundreds of individuals working behind the scenes in support of our coalition. That may be another area we can work on together when we are on the other side of the crisis – identifying the many contributions of our business and government professionals to map out future best practices that reach Oregonians swiftly in an emergency.

The following organizations just wanted to give you a progress report and say thank you for what you have done to keep Oregon moving forward safely.



CC: Christian Gaston, Governor Brown Policy Advisor
Mark Long, CEO, Oregon Home Builders Association
Mike Salsgiver, Executive Director, Associated General Contractors Oregon Columbia Chapter
Brian Krieg, Focus Point Communications
Ryan Tribbett, Pac West Communications
Darrell Fuller, Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors Assn, Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon