



# Essential Business Related Construction Projects

April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

City of Prosser  
Building Department  
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The City of Prosser Building Department has recently seen an increase in calls & questions from owners & contractors regarding whether or not they have permission to continue their construction project and/or whether or not their specific project is deemed essential. The City of Prosser Building Department wanted to take some time to clarify the City's role during these times.

Due to the recent circumstances regarding the COVID-19 outbreak Governor Jay Inslee issued the "[Stay at Home, Stay Healthy](#)" order which is now in effect until May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020. According to the Governor's order all non-essential businesses are to remain closed during this time.

The order provides a specific list of essential businesses, additionally Governor Inslee provided further [guidance on construction related activities](#) stating

***"In general, commercial and residential construction is not authorized under the proclamation because construction is not considered to be an essential activity."***

However, construction related activities in relation to items listed in the "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order **are permitted to continue working**. In addition to this such construction activity which is required to maintain habitable living conditions in existing homes, such as water or sewer service line repairs, electrical repairs, HVAC repairs, etc. which would otherwise cause an unsafe or unsanitary condition within the home if not addressed.

The City of Prosser Building Department does not have the authority to enforce the Governor's proclamation nor does it have the authority to render interpretations of the proclamation in regards to whether or not a business or activity is deemed essential.

If you are unsure whether or not your construction activity is permitted to continue working, the Governor's Office has provided an [online essential business inquiries form](#) which can be filled out for review. If a business is suspected of violating the Governor's Proclamation, the Governor's Office has provided an [online form for reporting violations of the Governor's Proclamation](#).



## Related Links

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[Proclamation by the Governor Amending Proclamation 20-25 – Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#)

[Construction Guidance – Stay Home, Stay Healthy Proclamation \(20-25\)](#)

[Essential Business Inquiries](#)

[Report a Business Suspected of Violating Governor's Order](#)

[Amendments to the State Building Code \(20-40\)](#)