

From: [Mayor](#)
To: [Mayor](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Update: Construction Allowed
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Yakie Howard

The City of Spokane **COVID-19 News Update for April 24**

Information about Coronavirus Disease 19 (COVID-19) is evolving rapidly. We want to make sure our City employees have up-to-date information. We will provide this update, as needed, to communicate what you need to know, while we work to reduce the spread of this disease in our community and continue to provide critical public services.

Governor Allows Low-Risk Construction to Move Forward

Washington Governor Jay Inslee today announced that “low-risk” construction activities can move forward under the state’s “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” order today. Construction industry and labor representatives joined the Governor during his announcement.

In order for construction work to proceed, work site safety plans will be required that accommodate social distancing and measures to help keep workers and the community safe. [Here is a look at the safety requirements](#) for construction work [and related guidance from L&I](#). The City already had planned to move ahead with its construction season and is adding an additional \$10 million in construction investment to help assist our community with economic recovery. Robust safety plans were also part of the City’s plan on construction.

The Governor didn’t indicate when other businesses or activities might be allowed, but said that he and his health advisors are working to make sure our citizens are protected as part of any changes. The current “Stay Home, Stay Healthy” continues through May 4.

Tell Us What You Think -- Answer our [Survey!](#)

More than 10,000 responses were received to the public version of the survey, where the City asked citizens about their opinions and concerns related to COVID-19 and the impacts of the response to slow the spread of the virus. We would also like to understand how our own employees are feeling. So far, more than 220 of you have taken the survey, but we are hopeful to get even more responses.

If you took the community survey, you will find several of the same questions. We also have included some City-specific questions for our employees. Please take a moment to tell us what you think. We’ll keep the survey open through Friday at midnight and then provide you with information on the results next week.

More Help to Cope during this Stressful Time

Here are a couple of new articles with good tips from our Employee Assistance Program:

- [Couples and COVID-19 Confinement](#)

The COVID-19 pandemic has uprooted every person's routine and mandatory *stay-at-home orders* and quarantines. You may find yourself confined to your home with your partner for an extended and indefinite amount of time. With such a significant shift in your daily dynamics, you may start feeling a wide range of emotions with your significant other: Annoyance, frustration, boredom, sadness, or anxiousness. These emotions can impact your relationship.

- [Exercise and Depression](#)

If you are feeling down, exercise may seem like the last thing you want to do, especially if you are suffering from depression. The good news is that the combined results of over 35 scientific studies show that people who exercise as part of their depression treatment plan show even more improvement than those who just take antidepressant medication alone.

To access more topics related to COVID-19 visit: www.EAPHelpLink.com, using company code: **CITSP0**

Enhance your virtual work skillset

Check out our featured content in our Skillssoft Percipio e-Learning platform designed to help employees and supervisors upgrade their skillsets to adjust to the new virtual work environment.



Want to learn more? Login at <https://spokanecity.percipio.com/login.html#/> or contact your Skillssoft Administrator at erahrsa@spokanecity.org for assistance.

Employee Information Portal (<https://covid19.spokanecity.org/>)

Remember, this Employee Information Portal is a great resource for employees to stay current on what's happening with the COVID-19 response. The [Employee Information Portal](#) can be accessed from work or home, using a computer or mobile device. All of the emailed information we have sent to employees is archived here.