



**Medium Firm Virtual Roundtable
Summary Notes
May 15, 2020**

Getting Back to Work:

- Some firms doing employee surveys
- Issues around employees being concerned about using public transportation to get to work
- Many folks want to stay remote
- For those with multiple offices finding inconsistency around what landlords are doing in each building
- Many leaving it up to employees what they would like to do
- Some offices planning/are taking steps such as: engaging in social distancing, sneeze guards at reception area, masks for everyone, temperature checks
- Some people want to come back because they need a different environment away from distractions—particularly young folks/roommates
- There seems to be a 1/3 – 1/3 – 1/3: folks that want to come back, a hybrid approach, and last third that want to completely work remotely
- Cybersecurity is a concern for those working from home; remote workers may not have correct protocols, and some of this is required in client contracts
- Firms' struggling to get basic cleaning supplies
- Some employees hosting 'backyard gatherings' for 10 or less w/social distancing so folks can see each other
- Comment that Staples has disinfectant wipes; another going to distillery for hand sanitizer (field staff, etc.)
- Local drycleaner making masks with company logos
- Important to advise employees to clean cloth masks, details in CDC guidance
- Amazon Prime for Business useful for supplies
- Utilization is strong for those working from home
- Concern about future pipeline of work, really need infrastructure funding to come through
- Business development a challenge, since so much of it is about building relationships
- Will people allow guests/family members in offices?
- Some allowed employees to check-out equipment and take home, such as monitors, etc.

Business / Project Impacts & PPP Update/Discussion with Steve Hall:

- Current House bill (HEROES) a 'messaging bill'
- Includes some money for State DOTs
- Likely to be passed by House and then will be hashed out in Senate
- McConnell focusing on liability

- Republicans warming to idea of helping states/localities
- FAST Act & WRDA update, discussion
- PPP guidance that came out this week regarding good faith certification assumed good for those loans under \$2M
- ACEC will be hosting a CPA-led PPP webinar on relevant topics in the near future
- PPP 8-week period being examined, may be extended
- Took quick poll: will recovery be in 2020 or 2021, most said 2021
- Both q3 & q4 2020 will have challenges with those challenges growing in intensity in 2021 pending a resurgence in q4 2020 + stimulus or not in 2021 based on state and local with Federal participation
- Relief for states and local governments is 'huge'
- The HW Trust Fund is running out, priority to get through Sept. 30/end of fiscal year
- ACEC needs members to inform us if public clients are pulling work inside their shops
- We are all in this together!

Links shared in the chat as of 5/15/20

R3 Advocacy Center <https://programs.acec.org/rescuerecoverrebuild/>

ACEC Webinars, Education Resources <https://programs.acec.org/r3educationseries/>

ACEC's Latest Research [https://www.acec.org/default/assets/File/ACEC%20COVID-19%20Business%20Impact%20Survey%20-%20Wave%206%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.acec.org/default/assets/File/ACEC%20COVID-19%20Business%20Impact%20Survey%20-%20Wave%206%20(1).pdf)

ACEC BIT Return to Work Guide

<https://files.engineers.org/file/ACEC-BIT-Employers-ReturnToWork-Guide.pdf>

Available masks for purchase (logo)

<https://www.facebook.com/hongkongcleanersyork/posts/1339531002922839>