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IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

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April 8, 2020

TO: District Engineers 1-6, Division Administrators, HQ Section Heads, Idaho AGC, ACEC of Idaho and FHWA Division Office

FROM: Scott Stokes, Chief Deputy

RE: **UPDATED** COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Potential Impact on Highway Construction Projects

On March 25, 2020, Governor Little issued a statewide stay-at-home order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The order identified transportation services as an essential function, including construction.

ITD will continue with maintenance and construction activities but is doing so with the health of our staff and business partners at the forefront of all activities. ITD has implemented protective measures like the use of virtual tools to limit in-person contact and allowing employees to work remotely where feasible.

ITD requests that contractors, suppliers, staff and business partners remain vigilant and mindful of recommendations from health professionals for the duration of the stay-at-home order. These precautions include implementing social distancing, washing hands properly, cleaning touch points and exercising personal judgement to self-isolate when feeling ill. We should all also be courteous of communities near our projects and the legitimate concerns they may have about the potential risk of any visitors doing business in the area.

Several surrounding states have issued stay-at-home orders to contain the spread of the virus, but details of how they are exempting essential services has some variability. At this time the department is planning for continuous construction and will work with contractors to adjust for any schedule changes due to supply chain issues.

With the governor's stay-at-home order being issued just days after my initial letter on this same subject, I wanted to issue this communication today to clarify our intent. The safety of the traveling public, our employees and our business partners is always of our utmost concern. We will remain in close contact with the Governor's Office and will also continue to monitor updates for working safely from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. Please continue to approach your work and social interactions with extra caution to be mindful and respectful during this time.