

Andrew Lee: would be good to have a clearinghouse website that summarizes relief for small businesses, whether local, state, or federal sources. too much to stay on top of; does aia-ca have staff to collate info? e.g. low- or no-interest loans, deferral of office rent?

Andrew Lee: also: are there / will there be a need for architect expertise for volunteering locally? would be good as a profession to pitch in if we can help. temporary facilities? coordination of construction? construction itself?

Louise: What security measures are in place, at company website or "secure cloud site), when "sensitive" (ex: financial) documents are transmitted/ exchanged from home personal computers.

ashtonhamm: is the AIA National doing anything to advocate for architects and architectural small firms in Washington DC similar to the efforts in the airline industry?

Madeleine: What happens when the staff's home computer is not up to snub?

Madeleine: Are you suggesting taking a desktop computer home?

Antonia Bowman: AIA CA website has posted resources for remote workplace, legal issues, small business report, resources etc. <https://aiacalifornia.org/covid-19-resources/>

Madeleine: i think this resource be on an as need basis

Andrew Lee: for those in single-family residential, would be interested in hearing: what is your understanding of how shelter-in-place applies to construction? are your GCs still working? if so, how differently? what do they say about the order?

Alice: what would everyone think of AIACA (or larger Bay area firms?) coordinating to offer no or low cost IT/IT security and troubleshooting services to us sole proprietors and small firms at home that now find challenges or do not have VPN?

Andrew Lee: ...follow-up: do you/your clients feel comfortable with meetings, either at their homes, or in your office?

Devi: no. we have not doing any in person meetings for the last 2 weeks

Antonia Bowman: AIA National is taking action to advocate for architects. All AIA members should have recently received an email about the proposed Economic Stimulus Package.

<https://www.aia.org/articles/6281454-aia-urges-small-business-relief-infrastruc>

Winston Win: We have been using zoom and gotomeeting for our office meetings, construction meetings (for projects not stopped), and client meetings

Dlnesh: Any advice for small firms just starting this year surviving a recession?

ksharch: Zoom meetings have worked great for me and my clients for the past two weeks.

Madeleine: One of my concerns is how to go about doing Business Development - getting new clients - in the era of cancelled events and conferences and in person coffee meetings.

marymuszynski: What different approaches are firms taking for marketing / business development in a time when in person meetings are restricted?

ashtonhamm: are all projects under construction allowed to continue? does this vary per municipality? what about for single family?

Andrew Lee: in answer to question about starting new firm: if you aren't in panic mode financially, take the opportunity to work on your systems: CAD, record-keeping, firm vision, detail library, reading, drawing, sketching from life (while social distancing :))

Devi: "housing" seems to be carved out as an essential service in the bay area, but some cities are not allowing construction on homes. varies by city.

Winston Win: NYTimes.com: Senate Plans Vote on \$2 Trillion Stimulus Bill After Sealing Bipartisan Deal

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/25/us/politics/coronavirus-senate-deal.html?smid=em-share>

ursula.currie: Public Works Projects under construction are still allowed to continue with construction.

Antonia Bowman: AIACA has small business support links for small business loans and disaster assistance on their website. Please take a look at these.

<https://aiacalifornia.org/covid-19-resources/>

Colin Maloney: My company offers Lidar-Scanning to draft As-Built plans. Currently we are trying to focus on empty commercial spaces - office buildings, retail, restaurant, hotels. Also single family residences - if the owners are open to a ~2-4 hour visit. With coordination, we can conduct the survey without touching any surfaces. We come with gloves, and masks - and emphasize that it's a solitary process, the surveyor comes from their residence to the location and back.

marymuszynski: Local SBDC has online resources that can help apply for Fed SBA loans.

Winston Win: One note of caution: forgiveness on these new loans may be tied to retaining current workforce

ursula.currie: Alameda County shelter in place orders have been issued for non-essential services, per the order provided on the County of Alameda website(<http://www.acgov.org/>)

laile: On National's Practice Management email someone noted "many AHJ's are suspending in-person building inspections. A local municipality that we conduct a lot of work in (Kalamazoo, MI) recently asked that design professionals (architects and engineers) start providing a version of their field reports to the city inspectors". Has anyone heard about that here?

brian: What projects types are essential, and if a project is considered essential, should architects do job site visits?

ursula.currie: Brian I have conducted my weekly site visits but practicing good health protocol.

Alice: What about the self-employed, who do not qualify for unemployment insurance benefits, but yet, billable work may have stopped due to clients or whatever having issues due to uncertainty of their economic situations?

Andrew Lee: Alice, I've seen / heard some talk about help for those of us in that category, but don't know any details

ksharch: @ Brian from DATE OF ORDER: MARCH 16, 2020: For purposes of this Order, individuals may leave their residence to provide any services or perform any work necessary to the operations and maintenance of "Essential Infrastructure," including, but not limited to, public works construction, construction of housing (in particular affordable housing or housing for individuals experiencing homelessness), airport operations, water, sewer, gas, electrical, oil refining, roads and highways, public transportation, solid waste collection and removal, internet, and telecommunications systems (including the provision of essential global, national, and local infrastructure for computing services, business infrastructure, communications, and web-based services), provided that they carry out those services or that work in compliance with Social Distancing Requirements as defined this Section, to the extent possible.

marymuszynski: A note of caution when working on line, take care (encryption, password protection, etc,,,) with sensitive information.

Andrew Lee: suggest just calling bldg and planning depts for all your projects to see what their current status is. fluid. talked w/ alameda county this a.m. and they literally changed their policy while i was on the phone.

Madeleine: Bill, can you repeat the last thing you said about the legality of stopping multi-res projects?

Dinesh: Oakland City cannot process variances currently because they don't have the resources to do public postings even for projects they considered essential services. Can AIAEB assist them with that to keep projects moving forward?

Madeleine: you said something about counties prerogative -

Madeleine: ok thanks

ksharch: The Mandate I posted is from Alameda County. Can Newell repeat why he thinks residential projects need to stop.

ksharch: Ok, that's what I thought and how I understood the mandate.

Dlnesh: Re: Oakland Variances... Planning is required to post them publicly and they create the postings in-house. So, during the shelter-in-place, they do not have any way to create the public postings, and therefore cannot intake variance applications. This is affecting in-take on projects they consider "essential"

Andrew Lee: going to sign off...Mike and all, thanks so much for organizing. Would be great to do round 2 in 2 weeks.

Dev: thanks all!

ksharch: thanks everyone!

marymuszynski: Thank you everyone!

StevesMacbook: Thank you for the open dialog and straightforward communication. I know we are all trying to consider how to take care of ourselves, may we all encourage each other to lean even more toward and into the leadership (vulnerable and powerful) that we possess as architects in our community. Good luck out there!

jqware: Mike - Thanks for setting this up. Very helpful to be able to share experiences and resources.

Ali Rafieetari: <https://adsknews.autodesk.com/views/covid-19>

Dlnesh: Looking at the construction industry before and after the recession we never recovered the labor force from 2006 yet we have a major housing shortage. Is there any political action

that we can promote to get more publicly funded projects and help not lose the critical skilled labor force.

Rudabeh: Thanks Mike and Devi!

VT: Thanks all!

Colin Maloney: Thank You!

laile: Thanks everyone

Alice: Thanks, Mike, all! Be safe and healthy!

Mimi Van Kirk: I'm glad I could participate in this discussion. Thank you all. I've practised most of my time in the East Bay but currently teach architecture and engineering to high school students in Fremont. I hope to be more in touch in the future. Possible collaborations. Thank you. All stay safe.

ursula.currie: best of luck to everyone -keep your faith!

John Perez: thanks guys