



March 23, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: California's Engineers and Land Surveyors – COVID-19 Crisis Field
Operations Assistance

Gary Antonucci
President

Kurt Yoshii
President-Elect

Miranda Patton
Vice President

Raul Laborin
Secretary-Treasurer

Ralph Guida, IV
Immediate Past President

Jeff Walker
ACEC National Director

Brad Diede
Executive Director

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies, California (ACEC California), I wish to applaud your exemplary leadership in this difficult time.

ACEC California's nearly 1,100 member firms wish to offer our professional services to you and your team, as you increase efforts to battle the COVID-19 crisis. Whether it be the development of emergency shelter housing, the expansion of hospital capacity, berthing of hospital ships, or assistance in crisis field operations, the partnership between the state, local governments and the Architecture & Engineering (A&E) industry is vital.

We have several member firms that have the expertise and experience to quickly design and oversee the construction of safe, temporary emergency structures. ACEC California can rapidly assist the appropriate state and National Guard personnel to connect with regionally based firms that are ready to assist. Please let us know how we can help.

Consistent with your order, along with so many businesses that provide critical and essential services to our state's 40 million people, California's design firms are implementing protocols to ensure the health and safety of employees in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In consideration of Executive Order N-33-20, which orders "all individuals living in the State of California to stay home or at their place of residence except as needed to maintain continuity of operation of the federal critical infrastructure sectors [...]," our members wish to stress the importance of maintaining California's physical infrastructure. Infrastructure projects – including transportation, water delivery, school facilities, affordable housing, and hospitals – must be adequately maintained and even expanded in order to meet current and future needs.

We are committed to safely continuing progress on critical projects, to keep people on those projects working, maintain contractual obligations and schedules, and mitigate economic damage in the wake of this crisis. The role that local governments play in facilitating the delivery of public work projects cannot be understated. Fundamental to success is a structure that allows certain public employees – for example, essential regulators and local planners – to do their jobs.

California is currently facing great challenges, and the A&E communities remain dedicated to helping you serve the state's residents by continuing to build a better California. If we may be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me directly at (916) 715-0683 or email: bdiede@acec-ca.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brad Diede". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Brad Diede
Executive Director

c.c.

Ann O'Leary, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor of California

Ana Matosantos, Cabinet Secretary, Office of the Governor of California

Mark Ghilarducci, Director, Cal OES

Timothy Perry, Chief of Staff, Cal OES

Abby Browning, Chief of the Office of Private Sector/Non-Governmental
Organization Coordination, Cal OES

Reggie Salvador, Legislative Director, Cal OES

Professional engineers and surveyors dedicated to building a better California.