

Construction Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Virtual meeting held on December 2, 2020

Craig Blackwood, Deputy Assistant Director for DOSH, welcomed everyone and reviewed the agenda topics.

[CAC Agenda 12-2-2020.pdf](#)

DOSH Interventions in Construction 2015-2020: Craig presented a document with violation, fatality, and hospitalization data for the construction industry for the timeframe of 2015 – 2020, and provided an explanation of the information on the data charts.

Question: Will this information be sent to everyone?

Answer: Yes, you can access the information here:

[DOSH Interventions in Construction.pdf](#)

[2020 Top Cited Summary.pdf](#)

[Inspection information 2018.pdf](#)

[Inspection information 2019.pdf](#)

[Inspection Information 2020.pdf](#)

1-800 Line: Craig gave an update on the 1-800 line: DOSH has had a toll free phone line in place for many years for people to report workplace fatalities, hospitalizations, amputations, safety/and or health hazards, and ask workplace safety and health questions. Since the pandemic, the call volume has significantly increased and we heard from many customers, especially in the agriculture industry, that calling to talk to a live person during regular working hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) did not work for them. We have now hired more permanent staff to answer the calls, including staff that are bilingual, and also have an outside vendor hired to take calls after hours and weekends, so that there is now 24 hour coverage.

Complaint Forms: Craig shared that the safety and health and discrimination complaint forms are now available online on our website. The fillable complaint forms are in both English and Spanish and once they're filled out, they can be submitted directly to us. Jeff Killip provided a demo to show where to find the forms on our website.

<https://lni.wa.gov/workers-rights/workplace-complaints/safety-complaints>

Question: Are you planning to have the complaint forms in Russian as well?

Answer: Complaint forms are currently available in Russian, but not yet set up as a fillable form.

SHARP study update with a focus on construction/transient industries: Michael Foley from the SHARP program, presented a PowerPoint presentation on an annual study he completed, *Impact of Safety and Health Inspections on Workplace Safety, 2017-2018*. He described the criteria, details, and findings of the study.

The presentation can be found here: [CNE 2019 CAC 1222020 2.pdf](#)

There were no questions asked after Mike gave his presentation, but the audience was told if they thought of questions later, they could send them via email to Craig, Bonnie, or Mike.

Craig.blackwood@Lni.wa.gov

Bonnie.compton@Lni.wa.gov

Michael.foley@Lni.wa.gov

DOSH Education and Outreach Update: Jeff Killip reviewed the list of topics that have been posted to the website on the Corona virus resources page that include general information, industry and topic specific resources, and requirements and policies, found here:

<https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/coronavirus>

Update on Unified Fall Protection & Steel Re-enforcement rules: Erich Smith gave an update on the changes to these rules that went into effect in October 2020. Rule updates can be found here: <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=296-880>

<https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-rules/rules-by-chapter/?chapter=880>

Erich said there's been about 17 webinars done on the unified fall protection so far and more are scheduled for January 2021; each are about two hours in duration. [The webinars are not on the web are but setup as requested by specific groups.](#) (ASSP Seattle – Wednesday January 20th; Attorney General's Office – Wednesday January 27th)

Erich shared that changes to Part O, Concrete, Concrete Forms, Shoring, were initiated from a rule petition from the Ironworkers; same as CAL-OSHA. Erich said he was invited to and participated in a panel for a webinar at a webinar in September with the International Ironworkers.

Demonstration of e-Tools: Nichole Rose, an Industrial Hygienist in DOSH Education and Outreach, provided a demonstration on the Unified Fall Protection and Mask Selection e-Tools.

Unified Fall Protection e-Tool: She asked the audience for some examples and then she showed how the e-Tools work and what kind of information can be found when using them. The fall protection e-Tool is organized to search by three different tabs: equipment, activity, and surface. Nichole asked that if anyone had any feedback on this to please send her an email (nichole.rose@Lni.wa.gov). This e-Tool is in the final stages of development and not yet available for use.

Question: When available, will it also be in Spanish?

Answer: Yes, it will be translated once it is finalized.

Question: Is there a general search function on this e-Tool?

Answer: No. The software used (Articulate Storyline) doesn't enable searches.

Mask Selection e-Tool: Nichole also gave a demonstration on the mask selection e-Tool. This e-Tool is available on our website listed under the Covid resources: [maskselection/story.html](https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-topics/topics/coronavirus/maskselection/story.html) Nichole said application works best with Chrome and is mobile friendly. It is not specific to industry; it is general information.

If someone needs more specific information, they should contact a local DOSH consultant:
<https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/preventing-injuries-illnesses/request-consultation/>

Update on COVID activities in construction: Bruce Christian, DOSH Statewide Compliance Manager, shared that at the beginning of the pandemic, it was a bumpy start, but by and large, the construction industry is doing quite well. Thank you to all, as this is a very large industry and they seem to be taking care of their employees.

DOSH now has a drone program in place. We do not do surveillance; drones are only used for photos when it's unsafe for our staff to enter. We have developed strict policies and procedures for the drone program and the staff trained to use them.

The Compliance program has added two industrial hygiene positions in King County specifically for asbestos related inspections. We also have added two crane positions and now will have two supervisors in the crane compliance program. Currently there are 30 vacancies and there are 20 staff in new hire training.

Due to limitations of the pandemic the Compliance program has been doing things a bit differently for inspections, e.g., more phone/faxes, however, work continues as normal with only a small decrease in inspection activity.

Craig asked Bruce to describe drone use during a high voltage inspection. Bruce said this particular inspection used two drone pilots and two observers (to follow policies/procedures and specific FAA requirements). Inspection site was over the Columbia River and there was no safe way for our CSHO to get photos so the CSHO used the drone to take photos that were used in the inspection file that included the drone flight path and used as documentation as well.

Update on Covid activities in Consultation: Lou Flores, DOSH Statewide Consultation Manager, stated that as Bruce mentioned, Consultation staff are doing things differently during the pandemic to help employers. Staff have been doing a lot of residential construction consults, addressing safety distancing and masking requirements.

The Consultation program now has a designated crane consultant that came from the DOSH Compliance program. The Consultation program has been losing experienced staff due to retirements.

Update on wildfire rulemaking: Ryan Allen, Alan Lundeen, and Dr. Nicholas Reul. (Ryan was appointed to the Senior Manager position in DOSH Standards Technical and Laboratory Services, effective 12/1/2020, replacing Alan Lundeen who is now the Senior Manager for DOSH Operations, replacing Janet Kenney who retired in October; and Dr. Nicholas Reul, a Physician, has now joined DOSH working in the DOSH Technical Services program). Ryan shared that we are working on emergency rulemaking for Wildfire Smoke for the summer of 2021. Stakeholder meetings will be scheduled in 2021. To sign up and receive rule information and stakeholder meeting schedules, please go to: <https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-rules/rulemaking-stakeholder-information/wildfire-smoke>

2021 meetings for Construction Advisory Committee: Craig said that there will be at least two meetings held in 2021. Most of the audience agreed two meetings next year would be fine plus it was suggested to have an in-person meeting, if allowed, at the Governor's Conference.

Open Forum: A few questions were asked and Craig provided answers. Someone asked Ryan for the link on the website for wildfire smoke rulemaking info and Ryan provided the link in the chat box: <https://lni.wa.gov/safety-health/safety-rules/rulemaking-stakeholder-information/wildfire-smoke>

Meeting was adjourned at 11:19 a.m.