



New Guidelines for Construction Meetings, Bids:

Effective immediately, all field, construction and bid opening meetings should follow new public health guidelines from Centers for Disease and Prevention, NC Department of Health & Human Services, and Governor's Office. Virtual meetings are strongly encouraged, provided they comply with all public bidding laws until further notice.

Most meetings in our work can be held remotely. Remote bid opening of a formal project under the oversight of the State Construction Office is possible under the following conditions:

An addendum or a notice must be issued to all plan recipients and all possible bidders, with instructions on submitting bids via snail mail (no electronic bids can be accepted at this time) or hand delivery to a physical location.

The host will be required to provide video and audio to access the bid opening session remotely. The bid opening location must remain public (i.e., it cannot be held in a private office). A description of the remote communication system/platform to be used should be widely accessible for use and require no special equipment outside of a computer/mobile device and internet/Wi-Fi connection.

Any bidder who would like to be present at the bid opening must provide notice and be scheduled.

The bid opening location should accommodate current guidelines for social distancing and meeting capacity, as outlined by the CDC, NC DHHS and the Governor's Office.

Minimize the number of personnel to only essential employees attending this meeting.

With proper observation of recommendations from state and federal health officials, meetings such as bid openings can still be held as required by General Statute. For the latest updates on North Carolina's response to COVID-19, please visit the [NC Department of Health & Human Services information portal](#).