Coronavirus may affect some ongoing construction contracts. This directive seeks to clarify contract administration concerning traffic control and contract time because of the virus.

For traffic control requirements, any planned closures and corresponding detours that may affect first responders or emergency vehicles’ access to hospitals are to be communicated and coordinated with the affected hospitals, emergency responders, local law enforcement, local government and the California Highway Patrol. Continue to update the Caltrans Lane Closure System and make sure that cancelled lane closures are updated within the Lane Closure System and that the California Highway Patrol is notified if Construction Zone Enhanced Enforcement Program is not needed.

The coronavirus pandemic may affect the ability of the contractor to perform the work because of lack of workforce, materials, or related reasons. When a contractor requests time because of the pandemic, grant non-working days in accordance with Section 1-1.07B, “Glossary,” of the Standard Specifications, which defines working days as a 24-hour period except for unanticipated events not caused by either party, such as an epidemic.

If you have questions or comments regarding this directive, please contact Chuck Suszko, Division of Construction, at Chuck.Suszko@dot.ca.gov or (916) 798-6029.