UPDATE ON BOSTON CONSTRUCTION

District Council 35 has been in close contact with Boston Mayor Martin Walsh and other city officials throughout the last six weeks. The City has received input from the Building Trades and other industry partners in establishing a protocol to resume construction activity in Boston.

It was announced earlier today that Boston will re-open construction activity, on a limited basis, beginning on May 18. Construction will be allowed on Hospital projects, School and University projects, and road work. The City’s Inspectional Services Department will be implementing a new process which will require contractors to prepare and submit a site-specific COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan for approval. If the plan is approved, jobs in these limited areas of construction will be allowed to resume on May 18.

It is expected that all other construction activity in Boston will be re-opening during the week of May 25. The same site-specific Health and Safety Plan will be required for ALL projects.

This is obviously an important and encouraging step for our members. I have heard from so many of you who want to return to work to continue providing for yourselves and your families. The District Council 35 staff have conducted many jobsite visits over the course of the past month while we have implemented our own system for declaring jobs safe for OUR members. This process will continue, and we will do everything in our power to keep you and your families safe during this COVID-19 crisis.

As you begin to return to work, please remember that you also play an important role in keeping yourselves and your jobsite safe. Follow all safety rules in place on your job. Keep in mind the rules of social distancing and make sure you have the proper equipment available to you every single day.

If you have any concerns about your health and safety, please reach out to your Business Representative. We are available to you 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We will make our way through this tough time and come out a stronger union. We must all stay vigilant and make sure to protect ourselves.