## CITY OF PHILADELPHIA DEPARTMENT OF LICENSES & INSPECTIONS

## EMERGENCY REGULATIONS ADDRESSING THE EXTENSION OF OPEN PERMIT APPLICATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

On March 22, 2020, as part of a series of emergency declarations and orders, the Mayor and Health Commissioner issued an Emergency Order Temporarily Prohibiting Operation of Non-essential Businesses to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 ("Emergency Order"), which was approved as a regulation of the Board of Health on March 26, 2020 (effective March 27, 2020).

The Philadelphia Department of Licenses & Inspections ("Department") recognizes that the COVID-19 Pandemic is unprecedented. The City's top priority is maintaining public health and the safety of all Philadelphians and those who work and invest in the City; by taking proactive steps now we can help mitigate community spread.

Consistent with the Emergency Order and the City's general plan of operations during the emergency, general activities of the Department have been suspended, and their offices closed to all non-essential matters. Such closure has potentially affected review of new or pending applications and documents previously submitted or intended to be submitted to the Department. Section A-301.8 of the Philadelphia Building Construction and Occupancy Code provides for "deemed abandonments" of applications for permits based on inaction of the applicant after submission of certain applications and other documents for their review. Therefore, the following emergency measures are required:

- 1. "Affected Permit Applications." Means any permit application submitted to the Department prior to March 13, 2020 for which more information has been requested from the Department or which has been approved by the Department and is available for pick-up, excluding any permit application which was deemed abandoned prior to March 13, 2020.
- The time for all Affected Permit Applications to be deemed abandoned shall be extended for 180 days from the current date the permit would be deemed abandoned.
- Additional extensions may be requested under A-301.8 upon the expiration of the extended time period for a permit application to be deemed abandoned.
- 4. Based on the Mayor's March 11, 2020, Declaration of Extraordinary

  Circumstance that allows regulations related to addressing the pandemic to become effective immediately upon transmission to the Department of Records, this emergency regulation shall be effective immediately.

The City of Philadelphia, by and through its Department of Licenses & Inspections

By: David Perri

Commissioner

Department of Licenses & Inspections City of Philadelphia

Date Signed: May 6, 2020