

Joint Statement: Mask Mandates in the City of Philadelphia and FDA Approval of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine

The health and safety of those that work in the union construction industry, their families, and the public is of paramount importance to the Building Trades of Philadelphia & Vicinity, Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters and the General Building Contractors Association. In response to increasing rates of COVID-19 hospitalizations in Philadelphia and surrounding regions, and in support of our local owners and developers and the City of Philadelphia, we strongly encourage strict adherence to the City's new mask requirements that went into effect on Thursday, August 12, 2021. This requirement includes a mandate that masks be worn on all indoor construction projects unless all personnel on site have been vaccinated. These safety measures put in place by the City of Philadelphia, coupled with the FDA approval of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine on Monday, August 23, 2021 are steps in the right direction for the health and safety of our construction community, and we urge all those eligible over the age of 16 to pursue vaccination.

Additionally, we support the continued adherence to measures required by project owners regarding efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Only by taking steps like getting vaccinated, wearing a mask, and social distancing when possible will we ensure that we are able to continue to build safely. The steps taken by our industry last year helped to ensure the safety of many. Through continued vigilance we'll continue to move through this pandemic while protecting those who choose to build our region.





