



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

LOUIS A. DePASQUALE
City Manager

LISA C. PETERSON
Deputy City Manager

May 20, 2020

Dear Cambridge Business,

I am writing in reference to Baker-Polito Administration's Reopening Massachusetts plan of May 18, 2020 (the "Reopening Plan"), specifically the workplace safety standards for office spaces set forth in the Sector Specific Workplace Specific Safety Standards for Office Spaces to Address COVID-19 and available at <https://www.mass.gov/lists/safety-standards-for-office-spaces>. As employers, we want to ensure the safety of our workforce, and to ensure the reopening of the economy occurs in a safe and ordered manner. While office spaces may begin resuming with restrictions and some capacity limitations on May 25, 2020, I urge you, if you have not already done so, to consider abiding by Governor Charlie Baker's request that businesses continue allowing employees to work from home as much as possible even, as the state begins to reopen

Our business community is a vital and valued part of our city and the local economy. Your employees, whether they live here or not, are indispensable members of our community. I look forward to when they, along with all our residents, can once again enjoy all Cambridge has to offer. But the reality is that we need to cautiously proceed as we begin to ease the public health restrictions that helped the Commonwealth through its surge without overwhelming our health care system. I would greatly appreciate it if you would follow the City's lead and delay returning non-essential workers to your physical locations until at least June 1 and even after that, allowing those workers who can effectively work remotely to continue to do so.

Because Cambridge is a dense urban environment, this extra window of time will help ensure that we can responsibly and safely reopen the Cambridge economy. Our City will continue to implement public health policies, practices, and initiatives that will allow us to slow the spread of COVID-19 until a treatment or vaccine for COVID-19 is available.

For the health and safety of your employees and all of our community, I strongly encourage you to consider delaying the opening of your office space in Cambridge until at least June 1, 2020.

Yours sincerely,

Louis A. DePasquale
City Manager

