



MONDAY MORNING NEWS

Puget Sound Chapter • National Electrical Contractors Association



JULY 20, 2020

No Meetings Scheduled

NECA ANNOUNCES DETAILS, PRICING STRUCTURE FOR NECA 2020 LIVE



NECA National announced details including the pricing structure for NECA 2020 LIVE, the virtual Convention & Trade Show which will take place Oct. 6th–8th. NECA is harnessing cutting-edge technology to deliver all the benefits of the NECA Convention—including an interactive trade show floor, extensive educational opportunities, and inspiring talks—as well as all the freedom that comes from an online experience. An emphasis was also made on making this event accessible and valuable to NECA

members amidst these uncertain times, enabling them to send more members than ever and continue to develop talent within their companies.

Full registration for NECA 2020 LIVE will be available Aug. 3rd at the following prices.

- **\$200 per individual registrant** for NECA members before Sept. 15th
- **\$250 per individual registrant** for NECA members after Sept. 15th
- **\$500 per individual registrant** for non-members
- **Free registration** is available for members of NECA Student Chapters

“We’re in unprecedented times in 2020, and at NECA National we have a fiduciary responsibility to our members in order to help get them through this challenging economy,” said NECA CEO David Long. “This pricing structure will allow our entire membership to register for NECA 2020 LIVE, and we feel this is an incredible value that enables companies to provide our cutting-edge education and industry-best exhibits to their entire staff in this difficult year.”

Registration will open Aug. 3rd on www.necaconvention.org. Follow NECA on social media to stay up-to-date on all the latest news.

ADDITIONAL \$600 IN FEDERAL BENEFIT FOR UNEMPLOYED WORKERS SET TO END JULY 25th

Unless Congress acts to extend or adjust it, the additional \$600 per week in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Program (FPUC) benefits, available under the federal CARES Act, will stop after the week ending Saturday, July 25, 2020. FPUC is entirely federally funded and available only at federal discretion. State employment agencies administer the benefits but do not have a say in whether these benefits are extended.

Nearly all individuals currently receiving unemployment benefits, or benefits under the federal CARES Act programs, receive the additional \$600 per week on top of their base weekly benefit amount. For those eligible for benefits between April 4, 2020 and July 25, 2020, if they should get resolution on their claims after the July 25, 2020 deadline, they are still eligible for back payments of FPUC funds for all weeks for which they were eligible.

As of July 11th, Employment Security has distributed a total of \$4,425,152,128 in FPUC benefits.

NECA WEBINAR CREATING AND MAINTAINING EFFECTIVE SAFETY PROGRAMS

On Wednesday, July 22nd and Thursday, July 23rd from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM, NECA National will be hosting a two-day training session on how to create and maintain effective safety programs. The sessions will delve into how companies can embrace the characteristics and habits of employee safety and will explain how “buy-in” affects the company’s safety culture. Following this course, participants will be able to; outline the key elements of a company safety program, identify the roles of supervisors in charge of safety, discuss the importance of a good safety record to a company, and explain the impact safety has on a company’s profitability. Register today for this informative webinar by clicking [here](#) Note: You will need your NECA National user ID and password to register for this event. For assistance, contact Justin Thayer at 206-824-2150 or justin@necaseattle.org

INSLEE - ANOTHER LOCKDOWN IS POSSIBLE

Gov. Jay Inslee warned Thursday that if the coronavirus continues to spread at its current rate, the state will likely roll back at least some of the steps it has taken to reopen the economy. Inslee said he didn't rule out the possibility of another stay-at-home order. Other possibilities, the governor said, include once again closing bars and restaurants and reinstating restrictions on outdoor recreation. Schools, he said, may not open for in-person classes in the fall. "Something has to change fairly significantly or we're going to be back in the soup, just like we were in March and April," Inslee said. He noted that the seven-day average for new Covid-19 cases is now at 629 each day. That is the highest number the state has seen throughout the entire pandemic, Inslee said. As a stopgap measure, Inslee restricted social gatherings to no more than five people in counties in Phase 2 of the governor's four-phase plan to reopen the economy. Counties in Phase 3 are restricted to gatherings of no more than 10. Also on Thursday, Inslee called on Congress to pass another aid package as coronavirus cases spike once again across the state and the country.

Inslee said the Republican timeline for considering a new aid package was too slow. He said the virus is moving swiftly and so should Congress.

"People need help. Businesses need help. Cities need help. States need help," Inslee said. "Pass the damn bill so we can take care of our people."

WEST SEATTLE BRIDGE CLOSURE – CIVIL EMERGENCY

Last week, Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan declared the West Seattle Bridge closure an emergency, and filed a second civil emergency order requesting state and federal assistance for public safety, rescue and recovery efforts.

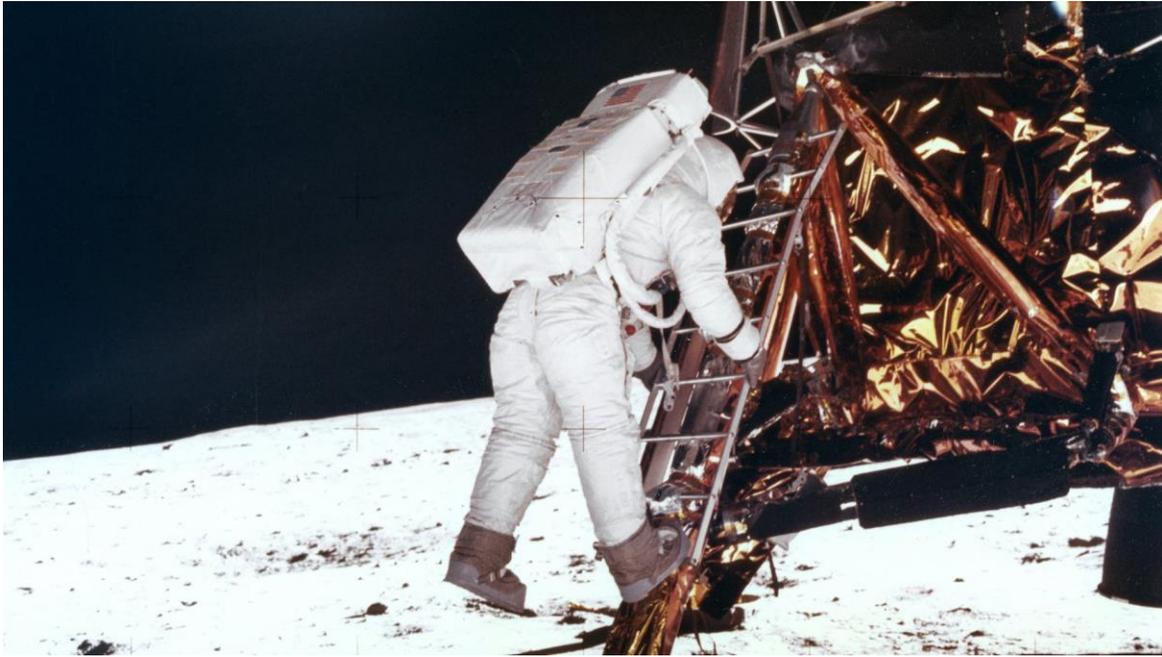
The move enables the city to expedite permitting, material and contract procurement; strengthen funding efforts and flexibility; work on the remaining Low Bridge over the Duwamish Waterway; and provide support to the communities most impacted by the bridge closure and changes in travel patterns, according to a news release.

"Our cities are facing a series of unprecedented crises, including rising Covid-19 cases and a significant economic crisis," Durkan said in a statement. "At the same time, residents, workers and businesses have been deeply impacted by the closure of the West Seattle Bridge – the city's busiest bridge. As SDOT continues to mitigate traffic impacts and stabilize the bridge while evaluating repair and replace options, this emergency proclamation will give Seattle the tools we need to expedite permitting and procurement, and strengthen our efforts to receive state and federal funding."

SDOT provided an overview of potential funding options last week, saying any repair or replacement will likely exceed the city's financial means without outside funding. The agency is considering state and federal funds, including:

- Federal Highway Administration grants, which provides most of the federal assistance for bridges.
- The U.S. Department of Transportation's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) or Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grant programs.
- Long-term, low-interest federal loans through the Transportation Infrastructure Financing and Innovation Act (TIFIA). The city would have to repay those loans through local funding sources like taxes and tolls.

ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY 1969 – American astronaut Neil Armstrong, 240,000 miles from Earth, speaks these words to more than a billion people listening at home: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Stepping off the lunar landing module *Eagle*, Armstrong became the first human to walk on the surface of the moon.



“Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma - which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.”

- Steve Jobs

As of Friday, July 17th, there are 250 JW on Book 1 and 109 JW on Book 2. There are 30 unfilled Commercial, 9 unfilled S&C and 0 unfilled Residential Apprentice requests. 17 Commercial bootcamp graduates will be available for dispatch on July 20th & 24 will be available on July 27th. 20 Sound and Communication bootcamp graduates will be available August 11th.