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## COMPTROLLER'S PREVAILING WAGE MEMORANDUM REGARDING FLAG PERSONS

June 1, 2024

This memorandum supersedes and replaces the Comptroller's Prevailing Wage Memoranda dated May 21, 1998 and related clarification dated March 13, 2001 concerning Flag Persons. This memorandum sets forth the superseding determination of the New York City Comptroller concerning the applicability of Article 8, Section 220 of the New York Labor Law (the "Labor Law") to individuals who perform traffic control duty or "flagger" tasks in connection with public works construction projects within the jurisdiction of the City of New York. The guidance set forth herein is effective July 1, 2024 and applies only to public works contracts and subcontracts solicited on or after such date.

For purposes of this memorandum, "traffic control duty" means tasks necessary or appropriate to alleviate congestion by directing the flow of pedestrian and/or vehicular traffic away from the vicinity of the construction site using a sign or flag. Workers performing traffic control duty in connection with a public works construction project, whether or not such workers are on, adjacent to, or in close proximity to the construction site, are performing the work of a construction "laborer," as directing traffic away from the job site serves to protect the public and safeguard the work crew. Such workers are thus subject to the prevailing wage requirements of Article 8, Section 220 of the Labor Law as "laborers, workmen, or mechanics." Accordingly, the Prevailing Rate of Wages and Supplements applies to such individuals.

Additionally, workers who perform "flagger" tasks relating to the protection of the public and/or work crew, including but not limited to erecting traffic cones, setting up construction site barriers, and directing the movement of trucks or construction equipment in, on, and off the site, also are subject to the requirements of Article 8, Section 220 of the Labor Law and the Prevailing Rate of Wages and Supplements.

This position is consistent with the New York State Department of Labor's position under Article 8 of the New York Labor Law and the U.S. Department of Labor's position under the Davis-Bacon Act and will promote and streamline compliance with prevailing wage requirements on the various public works construction projects within New York City.

If the trade performing the underlying work performs its own flagging or traffic control, e.g., bridge painters, the flagger or traffic control worker shall receive the same wages as the underlying trade. In the absence of an underlying trade, the flagger or traffic control worker shall receive the wages as set forth in the "Flagger" section of the New York City Comptroller's Construction Worker Prevailing Wage Schedule.

Contractors, agencies, and members of the public are encouraged to contact the Bureau of Labor Law to seek clarification regarding specific instances to ensure compliance with prevailing wage regulations and this memorandum.