FAQs on the Governor's May 6, 2020, Memo on Vehicle and Vessel Sales

What does the Governor's May 6, 2020, memo on vehicle and vessel sales do?

The memo generally allows wholesale and retail sales of motor vehicles and motor vessels, new and used, throughout Washington.

What are some of the key definitions in the memo?

Currently operating wholesalers, retailers, and dealers are sellers who were able to operate prior to this memo. These include sellers of essential vehicles like farm vehicles and commercial vessels.

When does this go into effect?

All sellers may remain open or reopen immediately, if and only if they follow all Phase 1 requirements. Currently operating wholesalers, retailers, and dealers may continue to operate under pre-existing social distancing and sanitation measures until May 13, 2020, at which time, all Phase 1 requirements must be in place.

What about non-motorized vehicles and vessels?

Products like skateboards, canoes, and kayaks are not covered by this memo. These will be addressed by a separate memo concerning general retail sales.

Are maintenance and repair components of a sales operation subject to this memo?

No, maintenance and repair of vehicles and vessels is not addressed by this memo. This activity was already permitted under Proclamation 20-25.

May we bring back office staff who support our business?

Yes, the office staff may return to work. However, employees who can work remotely are encouraged to do so. All employees, management, office, sales, and support, must adhere to the specific framework described in the Phase 1 plan for customer interaction.

Proclamation 20-46, "High Risk Employees – Workers' Rights," still remains in effect and requires employers to use "all available options for alternative work assignments to protect high-risk employees."