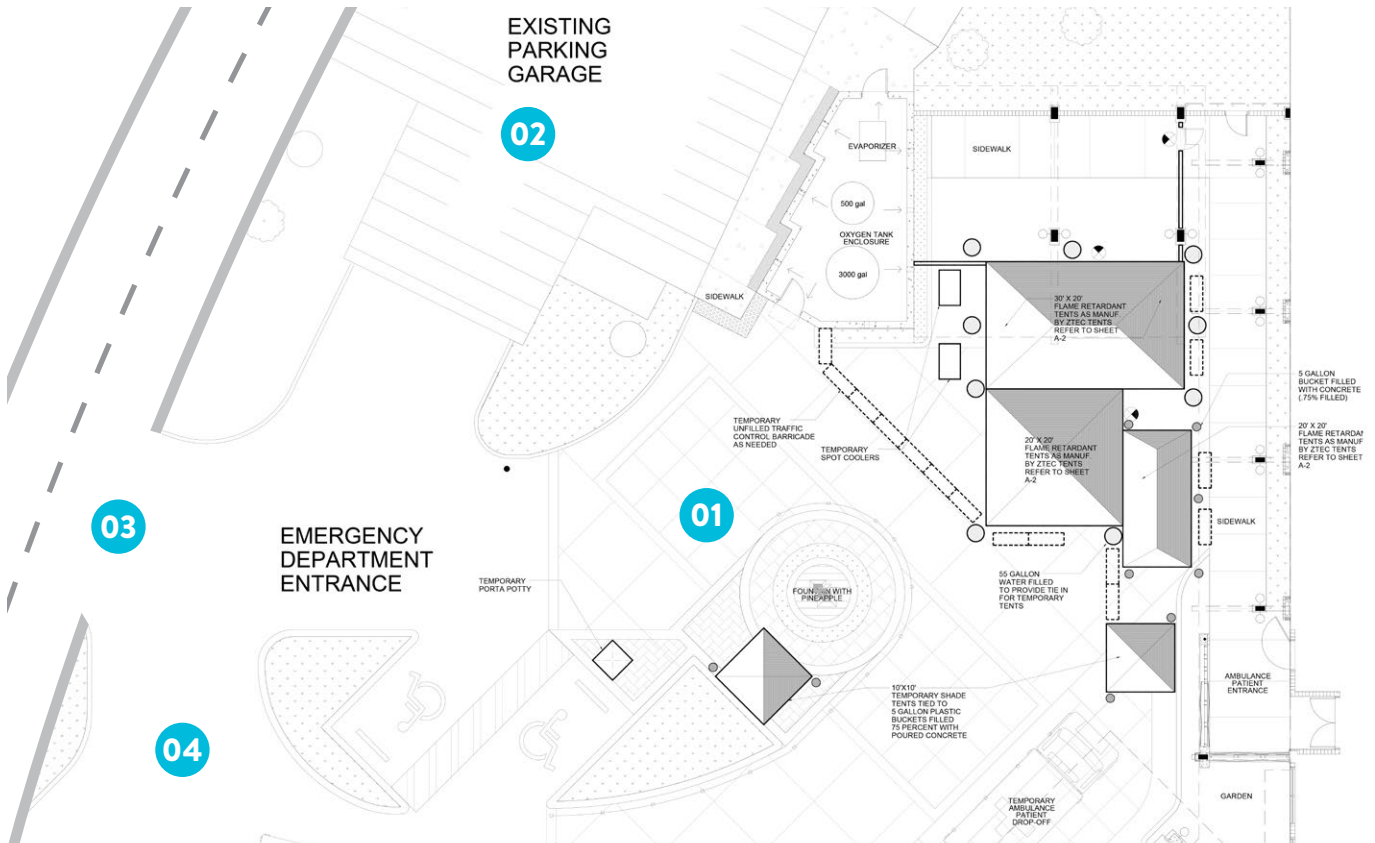


COVID-19 TEMPORARY TESTING FACILITIES



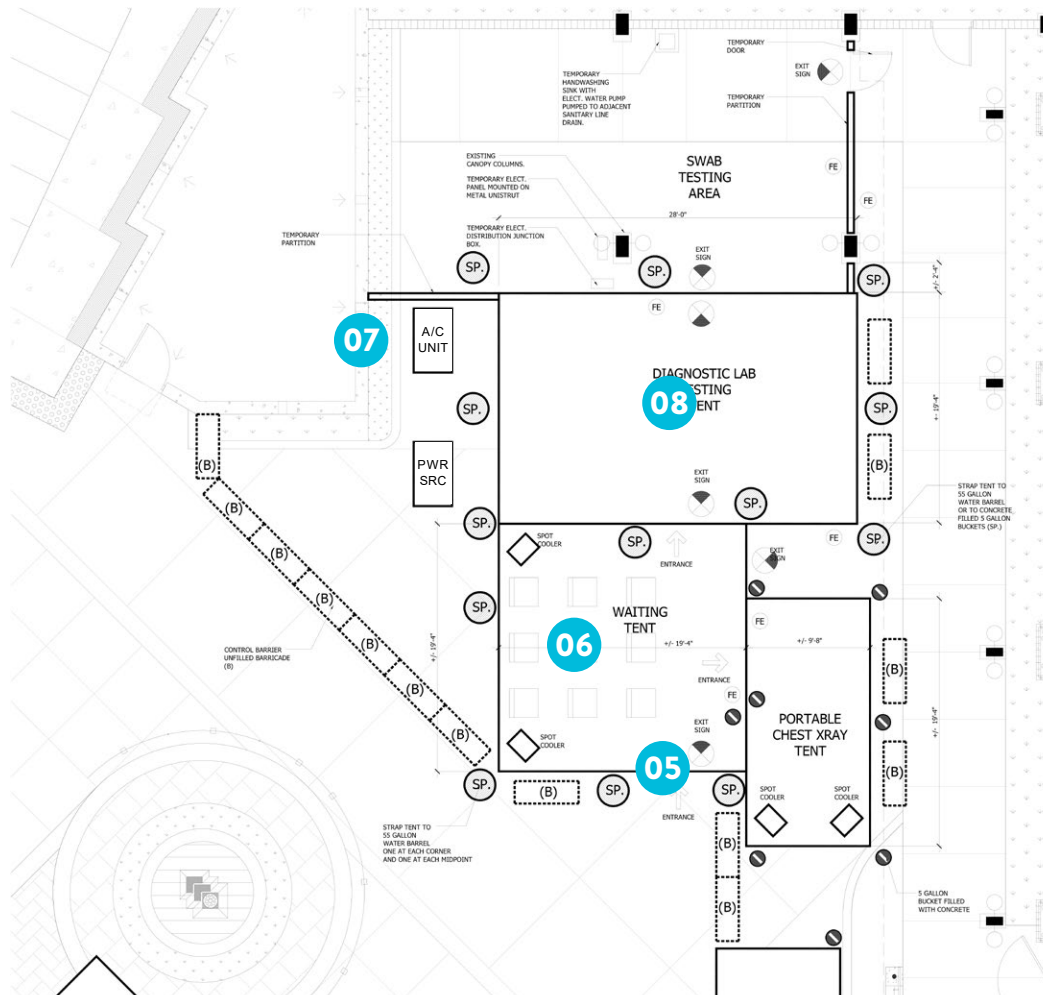
The COVID-19 pandemic has ushered in a new urgency to quickly set up and adapt both public and private space for temporary testing facilities (TTFs). To help our clients, communities, and nation minimize ongoing pandemic impacts, we have developed a set of best practices and insights to safely and efficiently establish a TTF.

Among many factors, the first consideration is careful planning for the safety of medical workers performing the tests. But other issues are equally as important, such as the privacy and dignity of the patient; spatial requirements to allow for safe distancing and infection controls; thoughtful selection of materials; and the protection of surrounding areas. Balancing all of these factors will enable a successful facility to safely and rapidly collect samples for laboratory testing.

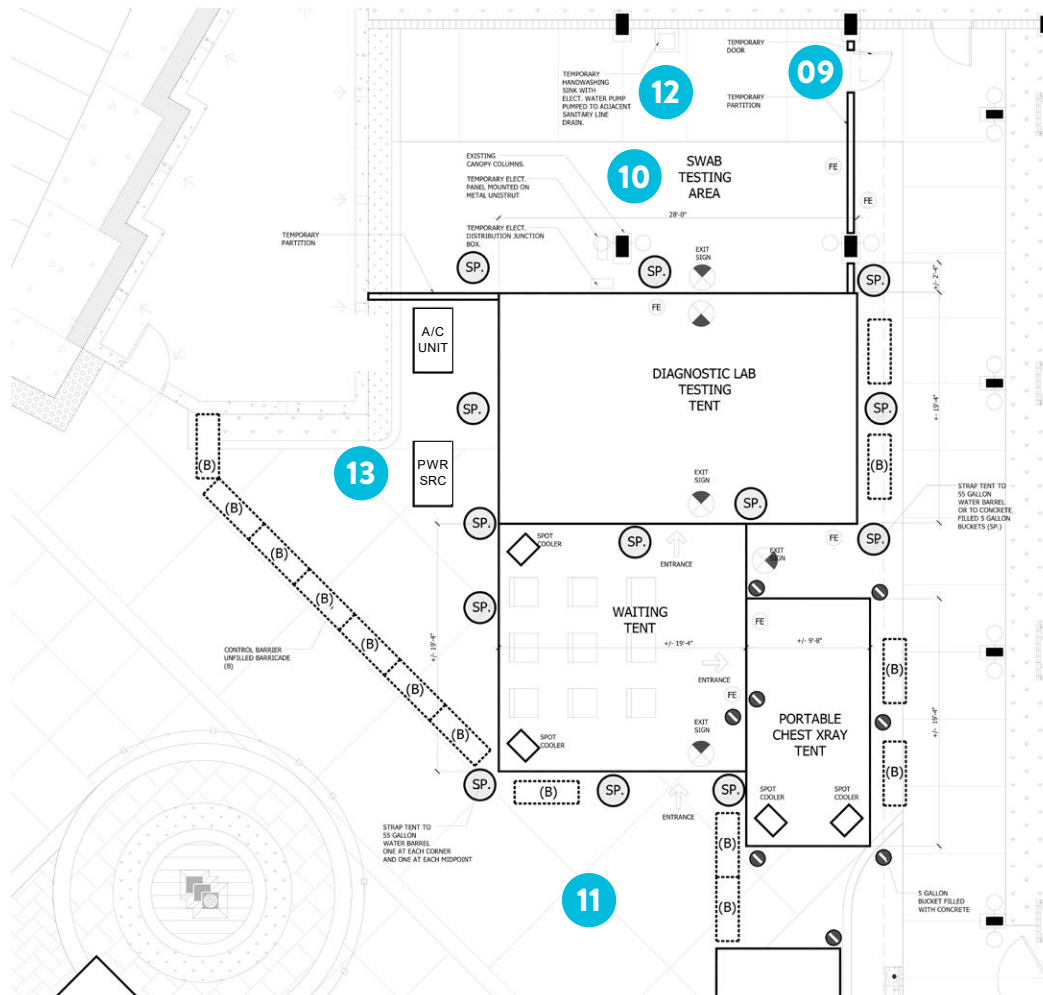


NELSON is actively working with several existing clients to configure TTFs for the benefit of healthcare workers and surrounding communities. Our teams' key considerations and best practices are as follows:

- 01. Accessible Area:** Select a readily accessible area not requiring long travel distances that could potentially expose people to contaminants. Adjacent areas for pick-up of soiled materials and where ambulances or emergency services can approach, if necessary, will also be important.
- 02. Convenient Parking:** Parking should be in proximity to the tent in order to limit the travel distances from car to tent. If appropriate, drive-through arrangements should be considered.
- 03. Visibility from a Public Road:** The TTF should be visible from a public road for individuals arriving by public transportation or pedestrians walking to the facility.
- 04. Control the Flow of Traffic:** Maintain one-way traffic flow to minimize cross-contamination. Individuals would enter at one end and exit at another. The station layout should be arranged as follows:
 - a. Reception & Triage
 - b. Waiting
 - c. Testing
 - d. Exiting



05. **Triage Area:** The triage area should include locations where individuals are first interviewed. Typically, the temperature of the individual is taken to determine if a fever is present and visual observation may be done for the medical staff to make a first determination. These locations are recommended to be 8 feet by 8 feet to allow for proper distancing and to provide privacy for any confidential conversations. Triage should also include space for people to put on protective measures before proceeding and are best located outdoors prior to entering a building for testing
06. **Large Waiting Area:** Waiting areas must be large enough to properly accommodate those waiting to be tested and have the required distancing. Restroom facilities should be available.
07. **Smart Ventilation Systems:** If outdoor locations are not available, proper ventilation is critical. Air should be circulated away from each area and exhausted to avoid contamination of adjacent spaces. If necessary, portable HEPA filtering machines are available that can create a negative air flow with appropriate filtering.
08. **Private Testing Space:** Separate “cubicles” are to be installed for testing, again, recommended to be about 8 feet by 8 feet. The area would accommodate supplies, hand sanitizing, disposal, and staging of the specimen along with a work counter and chair. Since personal protective equipment (PPE) is replaced continuously, an area where soiled materials can be appropriately stored in stages, prior to disposal, is of utmost importance.



09. **Discharge Sites:** At the exit, a separate area should accommodate any last-minute private consultation. A work counter should be included for staff to prepare any necessary documentation.
10. **Sample Pick Up:** This area may also serve as a pick-up area for specimens by the assigned laboratories; therefore, proper space should be allocated for holding and document processing.
11. **Expansion Areas:** For all areas, consider how each can accommodate growth or a reduction in space with minimal disruption to testing.
12. **Sanitation Areas:** At least one handwashing facility should be accessible and should be sized depending on the space. Hand sanitizers should also be distributed throughout the space along with trash receptacles.
13. **Power and Lighting:** Equip the TTF with hands-free portable lighting and a generator sited remotely to avoid cross-contamination with diesel fumes and the negative pressure of the spaces. Generators providing power to testing centers should not interrupt building operations.

**Local, state, and federal building and health codes should be consulted for compliance, as needed.*

Let's talk.

We welcome the opportunity to assist you with this specialty facility. We can work with your selected tent provider, providing architectural site planning and mechanical electrical engineering as needed for follow-up permit with the building department should this be required.

If you need guidance on setting up a temporary testing facility, contact our NELSON and Brinjac team of experts listed below.

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