



9-29-21

Work Zone Safety II

According to data from the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration an average of 3 people die every day in work zone accidents. The number of vehicles on the road is growing every year, drivers' commutes are getting longer, and drivers have to deal with more distractions. On top of the already crowded roads there are more new construction projects starting up all the time. Work zone safety needs to be a priority and you can help.

As a worker, you need to constantly be on the lookout for danger. When working in a highway construction zone, always be aware of your surroundings, wear a reflective vest and any other required personal protective equipment, and keep your body behind a substantial barrier whenever possible. If roadwork is being performed at night additional concerns should be addressed: lighting is limited and therefore visibility is limited, drivers are more likely to be tired, and some drivers may have been drinking. All of these increase the danger to workers. Motorists don't usually want to "give you a brake" by slowing down in a work zone.

Work zones are dangerous for both highway workers and motorists. As a motorist, remember that hazards begin with the first warning sign or flashing light and don't end

until the "end construction" sign. While you are traveling through a work zone you must obey all signs, channeling devices, and pavement markings. It is very important that you slow to posted speed limits within the work zone as soon as possible. Refrain from using cell phones while in a construction zone; they create another distraction that could prove dangerous to you, other drivers, and road workers.

Contractors, workers, and the public do have something in common; none of them want to be involved in a highway accident. Work zone safety must be emphasized at all levels. Traffic laws should be strictly enforced within all work zones. Local officials should do their part to inform the community of all upcoming roadwork. Contractors need to erect and maintain proper signs and make sure flaggers do their jobs. Workers need to protect themselves by wearing reflective vests and being aware of their surroundings. Drivers need to choose other routes or be prepared for slower traffic and delays. Working together we can improve work zone safety and reduce fatalities.

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SAFETY REMINDER
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Anytime you're driving ask yourself, "Is getting there faster worth risking my life?"

NOTES:

SPECIAL TOPICS /EMPLOYEE SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS/NOTES:

MEETING DOCUMENTATION:

JOB NAME:

MEETING DATE:

SUPERVISOR:

ATTENDEES:

S.A.F.E. CARDS* PLANNED FOR THIS WEEK:

REVIEWED SDS #

SUBJECT: