Work Zone Traffic Control Guidelines for Maintenance Operations

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Foreword

While this manual provides interpretive guidance, it does not change the intent of Part 6 of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD). This manual is a supplement to the MUTCD and applies to temporary traffic control operations of 3 days or less for maintenance, utilities, and developers.

Effective traffic control is essential, not only for the safety of the traveling public, but also for WSDOT employees whose jobs often require them to be near high-speed motor vehicle traffic. The traffic control guidelines in this manual are intended to reduce field personnel's exposure to the risks of proximity to traffic and offer road users consistent and positive guidance through work zone areas. Safety of crews and the driving public must be an integral part of WSDOT field operations.

We emphasize that these are guidelines and not absolute standards. The information provided in this manual is intended to provide consistent statewide guidance in how to address common work operations and does not address all possible work zone operations. Modifications to the plans to fit specific work operations and locations are encouraged. Some portions of the guidance such as **the bold text along with charts shown on the plan sheets refer to WSDOT policy and should be considered requirements**. If these requirements cannot be physically implemented, then MUTCD standards shall apply as the minimum. The traffic control plans in this manual are to be used along with sound judgment. Proper planning, a good safety conscious attitude and full participation from the persons involved in the work zone are all prerequisites to good traffic control. Aspects of the roadway environment such as weather, time of day, motor vehicle traffic volumes and speed, presence and composition of other multimodal traffic, roadway geometry, roadside conditions, and your inventory of traffic control devices should all be considered when implementing the guidelines of this manual.

If you have any questions or needs not addressed here, please consult your Regional Traffic Office staff for assistance.

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1-1 Introduction

The primary function of work zone traffic control is to allow all modes of traffic, including motor vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians to move safely and easily through or around work areas while still allowing for safe and efficient work operations to be conducted. Effective temporary traffic control enhances traffic safety and efficiency. All modes of traffic need and expect to be guided in a clear and positive manner while approaching and navigating temporary traffic control zones.

The Traffic Control Plans (TCPs) contained in these guidelines are intended to address common highway maintenance work operations. They are typical in nature and not drawn to scale so minor modifications may be needed to accommodate site conditions and specific work operations. An alternate or site-specific plan should be developed if substantial revisions are necessary. In many instances, an appropriate TCP is achieved by combining features from various plans to fit the operation and specific roadway features such as intersections or driveways. Consult the Region Traffic Office staff for assistance.

The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) is adopted by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) as the legal standard. Part 6 of the manual provides standards and guidance for temporary traffic control. The typical applications (TAs) shown in Part 6 may also be used but it is important to remember that they are the minimum national standards and may not meet specific Washington State requirements. Contact the Region Traffic Engineer for approval prior to using these applications.

The plans in this manual are not intended for WSDOT contract use. Typical traffic control plans for contract use can be found at WSDOT - Plan Sheet Library.

1-2 Considerations

1. Always consider the use of positive protection whenever practical. During short-term operations, a truck-mounted attenuator (TMA) should be used when available. Long-term projects (three days or longer) may require the use of temporary concrete barrier.

- 2. Prior to beginning work, consider all aspects of the work and location, including, but not limited to, work duration, work area access, motor vehicle traffic speed and volume, driveways and intersections, presence of all other travel modes, when deciding on a traffic control plan.
- 3. After temporary traffic control devices have been placed per the plan, drive through the installation to determine the effectiveness and make adjustments if appropriate. Additional reviews throughout the work shift are recommended to ensure that traffic control devices remain in place. If devices will be in place over night, they should be reviewed for nighttime effectiveness.
- 4. Whenever the temporary traffic control zone extends more than **2 miles** from the first advance warning sign, the devices need to be moved forward to maintain appropriate advance warning to drivers, especially in urban areas with multiple interchange ramps.
- 5. Contact the region traffic management center (TMC) prior to starting work and after completion when appropriate, based on region polices to notify them of your work operation status. Also coordinate with the region communications manager for public notification and to be included in the weekly region construction activity report.
- 6. Plan ahead for personnel, equipment, and materials that will be needed for the traffic control installation and consider opportunities to combine multiple work operations within a single traffic control installation. This could include region wide and statewide crews that may have a need to work within your maintenance area.
- 7. The Washington State Patrol (WSP) and WSDOT have reimbursement agreement for WSP work zone enforcement and participation in traffic control operations such as rolling slowdowns. Coordinate early with Region Traffic Office staff to complete a task order for WSP use. Refer to *Traffic Manual M* 51-02 Chapter 5, for more information.
- 8. Credibility with the traveling public is established through the proper and consistent use of temporary traffic control devices. Poor work zone credibility has a direct, negative impact on work zone safety by causing driver confusion, frustration, and disrespect.
- 9. Temporary pavement markings must be installed prior to opening the roadway to traffic after paving or chip seal operations. See special detail sheet TCD 8 in Chapter 5 for marking details.
- 10. Traffic delays must be anticipated and addressed with appropriate work hours to reduce impacts. Region Traffic Offices may have developed hourly lane closure charts or will provide allowable closure hours. Traffic should not be allowed to back up past the advance warning signs. Sign locations may need to be adjusted or additional signs added to the sequence to address backups. Use of advance portable changeable message signs (PCMS) and highway advisory radio (HAR) are recommended.

1-3 Work Duration

The categories of work duration and their time at a location shall be:

- 1. Long-term stationary is work that occupies a location more than three days.
- 2. Intermediate-term stationary is work that occupies a location more than one daylight period up to three days, or nighttime work lasting more than one hour.
- 3. Short-term stationary is daytime work that occupies a location for more than one hour within a single daylight period.
- 4. Short duration is work that occupies a location up to 1 hour.
- 5. Very Short Duration is work that will only take a few seconds or minutes to perform.
- 6. Mobile is work that moves intermittently or continuously.

1-4 Personal Attributes

Awareness – Routinely working near traffic can lead to workers becoming complacent to the danger around them. Therefore, it is necessary to continually remind ourselves and those around us of the dangers to which everyone is exposed. *Pre-activity Safety Plans and daily "tail-gate" meetings are required prior to beginning any work operation to ensure everyone is aware of the task to be performed and their respective duties.*

Alertness – There is no place in the work zone for a daydreamer or distracter. Each individual must stay constantly alert and attentive for their own protection and the entire crew.

Attitude – A safety-conscious attitude on the part of each crewmember will contribute greatly to the overall safety for all.

Responsibility – It's everyone's responsibility to understand and comply with all safety standards and practices.

"All WSDOT employees are directed to make the safety of workers and the traveling public our highest priority during roadway design, construction, maintenance, and related activities" (excerpt from Executive Order E 1001.01).

1-5 Personal Protective Wear

Refer to the Safety Procedures and Guidelines Manual M 75-01 for guidance and requirement on personal protective equipment and a pre-activity safety plan (PSP).

For specific questions regarding personal protective equipment, contact the Region Safety Office.

1-6 Traffic Control Devices and Equipment

1-6.1 Crashworthy Requirements

Portable sign stands with signs, type 1, 2, and 3 traffic barricades, and Truck Mounted Attenuators must all be compliant with the federal NCHRP 350 or MASH crash test requirements. Sign stands must have an identifying label on the stand indicating it meets crashworthy requirements.

1-6.2 Condition of devices

All personal protective equipment and traffic control devices must be kept clean and in an "acceptable or marginal" condition as defined in the "Quality Guidelines for Temporary Traffic Control Devices". A sign or traffic control device determined to be "not acceptable" shall be replaced as soon as possible. Limited copies of the Quality Guidelines book may be obtained from the HQ Traffic Office or ordered through the American Traffic Safety Services Association (www.atssa.com).

1-6.3 Signs

All standard temporary warning signs are required to be 48 × 48 inch diamond shape with black letters or symbols on a fluorescent orange reflective background. Refer to the *Sign Fabrication Manual M* 55-05 for standard sign legends. Roll-up signs are allowed for WSDOT maintenance work and short duration utility and developer work by permit. WSDOT contract work requires rigid aluminum signs. Use of double-faced (back-to-back) signs or signs made of plywood substrate are not crashworthy and are not allowed.

Sign supports must be maintained in good condition. When it is necessary to add weight for stability, sand bags or other ballast may be used, but the top of the ballast must not be more than 4 inches above the roadway surface and must not interfere with the breakaway features of the device. Minimum sign mounting height for temporary warning signs is 1 foot above the ground. When a sign is located behind traffic safety drums or temporary barrier, use sign supports that will raise the mounting height to 5 feet to provide additional visibility. Do not block pedestrian and bicyclists access with sign placement.

For the purpose of temporary sign installation, the median barrier is considered to be part of the shoulder and its measurement shall be used to determine the total width of the shoulder. Smaller sign sizes may be used in the median when the median width is between 6.5 feet and 8 feet to provide left sign assemblies on multilane roadways.

Signs that will be in place at one location continuously for longer than three days must be post mounted.

Some roadway impacts might require the use of special, modified, or regulatory signs. Contact Regional Traffic Office for assistance with special signs.

Additional warning signs may need to be added to a plan to address specific work zone conditions when they exist. These signs may be needed during non-working hours if the conditions exist between shifts.

Examples:

- "Motorcycles Use Extreme Caution" followed by, "Abrupt Lane Edge", "Loose Gravel", "Grooved Pavement", "Bump", or "Steel Plates" when conditions apply.
- Traffic Revision Ahead
- Road Narrows
- · Rough Road
- · No Shoulder
- Water Over Roadway

1-6.4 Vehicles

Work Vehicle – All work vehicles within the work zone must be equipped with an approved flashing warning beacon. Consideration must be given to the location of workers in relation to the work vehicles. Worker safety can be jeopardized if the motorists' attention is focused on the work vehicle and beacon. Additional information on vehicle lighting can be found in the *Transportation Equipment Fund Rules* M 3015, Chapter 5 Vehicle and Equipment Warning Light Systems.

Protective Vehicle – Is a vehicle strategically placed in advance of the work area with a proper roll-ahead distance to protect workers if impacted. A TMA is always recommended and may be required in some operations. Refer to the TCPs for specific information on roll ahead distances and TMA requirements.

Shadow Vehicle – Is a vehicle used in a mobile operation to provide advance warning information motorists and to operate as a protective vehicle for the work vehicle. These vehicles often include a truck mounted Portable Changeable Message Sign/Arrow Board to provide temporary traffic control information to the motorists. Consider turning the flashing beacon off to reduce any confusion with arrow board display.

1-6.5 Portable Changeable Message Signs (PCMS)

- Are a supplement to required static signs and shall not be used to replace required signs.
- Shall meet the minimum visibility and legibility standards established in the MUTCD 6F.60.
- A message cycle should consist of no more than two message displays at 2.0 seconds each. Refer to MUTCD Table 1A-2 for a list of acceptable message abbreviations.
 Drivers should be able to read the message cycle twice at the posted speed.
- Consider use of a truck mounted PCMS for protective and shadow vehicles to allow for maximum flexibility.

^{*}Refer to Section 1-8.3 for additional information on motorcycle warning signs.

When locating a PCMS in the field:

- Bottom of sign panel shall be a minimum of 7 feet above roadway.
- Except when the PCMS trailer is being moved, it shall be detached from the towing vehicle. Towing trailer devices with the display active as a mobile operation is not allowed.
- Try to place behind guardrail or barrier.
- Select widened shoulder areas to allow a minimum 4-foot lateral clearance from the edge of the sign panel to the edge of the travelled lane.
- Place a taper of at least three channelizing devices in advance of the PCMS (drums or cones as appropriate).
- Consider the other signing in the area and try to space at least 500 feet from other signs (800 feet is preferred).
- Avoid locations where drivers' attention is focused on decision points like exits and on ramps. Do not place within gore areas and try to place 1,000 feet or more beyond an exit.
- Avoid placing in areas such as the outside of a curve where it is in the natural path of an errant driver.
- A PCMS is to be removed when it's not displaying any messages. (they may remain for short durations with no display for staging purposes or when an intermittent message is needed during work operations)

If the PCMS cannot be placed with the guidelines above, then evaluate the added value versus the risk. Use of permanent message signs, when present, may be considered for high impact operations.

1-6.6 Arrow Boards

- Arrow boards shall meet the minimum size, visibility, legibility distance, number of elements, and other specifications as shown in the MUTCD Section 6F.61.
- Required on multi-lane roads for all lane closure tapers, except during an emergency.
 A separate arrow board is required for each lane being closed.
- Arrow boards shall not be used on a two-lane, two-way roadway.
- Arrow boards shall not be used to laterally shift traffic.
- Arrow boards shall only be used in the caution mode when used for shoulder closures.
- Only the four-corner flash mode shall be used to indicate caution. The Double Diamond or flat bar caution modes are not allowed.
- The arrow board shall be located behind channelizing devices (unless used in mobile operations where it is truck mounted).
- An arrow display mounted on a shadow (early warning) vehicle is allowed on mobile lane closure operations.

Type "C" arrow boards are required for high-speed, stationary lane closures. Type "B" arrow boards are allowed for maintenance and mobile lane closure operations. (See MUTCD Section 6F.61 for additional information on arrow boards.)

 Except when the arrow trailer is being moved, it shall be detached from the towing vehicle. Towing trailer devices with the display active as a mobile operation is not allowed.

1-6.7 Channelizing Devices

Traffic safety cones are the most common devices used to separate and guide traffic in a work zone. The minimum cone size is 18 inches tall. For speeds of 45 mph or higher, or during nighttime operations, cones must be a minimum of 28 inches tall, and have retro- reflective bands. 36-inch cones are also available and are a good option for high speed roadways.

Tall Channelizing devices are a minimum of 42 inches tall, using a tapered cone type shape and are also a good option for use on high speed roadways in lieu of 28-inch cones due to their greater visibility.

Tubular markers having a uniform diameter and at any height, should only be used where space restrictions do not allow for other more dominate devices. A common use for tubular markers is to divide opposing traffic lanes or divide open lanes in the same direction on low speed roads.

Traffic safety drums are 36 inches tall and are the most dominant and preferred device for high-speed high-volume highways because they have the greatest visibility.

Vertical flat panel devices and devices with directional stripe patterns are not allowed due to frequency of placement errors.

Traffic Safety Drums, Tall Channelization Devices or 36-inch cones are required for lane closure tapers on multi-lane highways with posted speeds of 45 mph or greater. If Tall Channelization Devices or 36-inch cones are used, half the maximum spacing is required to increase the taper visibility. Region Traffic Engineer approval is required to use 28-inch cones for this condition.

Maximum device spacing requirements are shown on the TCPs.

1-6.8 Barricades

Generally used for road or ramp closures along with other channelizing devices and appropriate signing. Barricades used in work zone applications are portable devices with three primary types:

- 1. **Type 1 Barricade** Used on lower speed roads and streets to mark a specific hazard or can be used for sidewalk closures as appropriate.
- 2. **Type 2 Barricade** Used on higher speed roadways and has more reflective area for nighttime use to mark a specific hazard.
- 3. Type 3 Barricade Used for road closures.

Signs mounted on Type 3 Barricades shall be per the manufacturers recommendations or per Standard Plan K-80.20.

1-6.9 Positive Protection Devices

Positive protection devices provide a physical separation between traffic and the work area. These devices are not considered channelizing devices because their primary function is to keep errant vehicles out of the work area.

Temporary Barrier

Temporary Barrier is most commonly made of concrete, but steel barriers are also becoming more available, some with castors allowing greater portability and barrier openings for work area access. Temporary barriers are recommended for long-term, stationary work zones.

The transportable attenuator shall have a chevron pattern on the rear of the unit. The chevron pattern shall consist of 4-inch alternating stripes slanted at 45 degrees in an inverted "V" with the "V" at the center of the unit. The alternating stripes shall be made with nonreflective black and retroreflective yellow sheeting, or retroreflective red and retroreflective white sheeting.

Consider the following for use of temporary barriers:

- Work areas where there is a no escape route for workers such as internal lane work, work zones in tunnels, on bridges, next to retaining walls, etc.
- When workers must be within a lane width of high speed and high volume of traffic.
- When traffic needs to be protected from equipment, materials, drop-offs or other conditions that must remain until the work is completed.
- The approach ends of temporary barriers must be adequately protected. If the barrier end cannot be tapered outside clear zone, placed behind guardrail, or buried in the back slope then the end must be fitted with a temporary impact attenuator.

Truck Mounted Attenuators

A truck-mounted attenuator (TMA) is a portable impact attenuator attached to the rear of a host vehicle with a weight range in accordance to the manufacture's recommendations.

The TMA is used as a shield to prevent errant vehicles from entering the work area. During use, the attenuator shall be in the full down and locked position. For stationary operation, the parking brake shall be set, and the tires aligned straight as per manufacturer's direction. A roll ahead distance is required between the TMA and the work area based on the host vehicles weight and the traffic speed.

Considerations for the use of TMAs:

- TMA use is always recommended but may be required on freeway or high-speed highvolume highway work areas.
- Operations requiring personnel in the work zone on foot or lift-bucket truck operations, a TMAs should be strongly considered.
- When placing or removing devices from a road warrior vehicle, a separate TMA shall be used to protect the road warrior. (See Appendix 3)
- See the plans and details for TMA placement and roll ahead distance requirements.

1-6.10 Warning Lights

Warning lights, if used are either flashing (type A or B) when mounted to barricades/ sign installations or, steady burn (Types C, or D) when mounted on channelizing devices. Attach warning lights per the manufacturer's recommendations to be crashworthy. See the MUTCD Section 6F.83 for additional information.

1-6.11 Flares

All work vehicles should carry a supply of flares. Use flares only to alert drivers to emergencies. Emergencies are defined as unforeseen occurrence endangering life, limb, or property. Use caution at incident sites where flammable materials, such as fuel spills, are suspected. Consider carrying electronic flares or orange/red-glow sticks for use instead of incendiary flares where flammable materials are suspected. Electronic flares or light sticks should be removed when the incident has terminated.

1-6.12 Portable Signal Systems

Portable traffic control signals are trailer mounted traffic signals used in work zones to control traffic instead of using a flagger. The maximum distance between signal heads is 1,500 feet to minimize wait time and clearance interval. These versatile, portable units allow for alternative power sources such as solar power, generator, and deep cycle marine batteries in addition to AC power. Portable signals are typically used in work zones to control traffic such as temporary one-way operations along a two-lane, two-way highway where one lane is closed, and alternating traffic movements are necessary. Several regions own portable signal systems, check with your region traffic office and signal superintendent if you have a work operation that would benefit from using a portable signal. TCP 4 is as an example for creating a site-specific plan. Refer to MUTCD Figure 6H-12 for additional information.

1-6.13 Automated Flagger Assistance Device (AFAD)

An AFAD is used instead of a paddle to control the movements of traffic and operated remotely by a flagger located off the roadway and away from traffic increasing flagger safety. When sight distance to the flagging station and/or flagger escape routes will be limited, consider using and AFAD. A pilot car operation is still recommended for longer work areas. Contact the Region Traffic Office for specific guidance and advice on the use of these systems. See TCP 3. Additional information is available in the MUTCD Section 6E.

1-6.14 Portable Highway Advisory Radio (HAR)

A portable trailer mounted roadside radio broadcast system that can provide detailed work zone traffic and traveler related information via AM radio. Many regions own this equipment and may be available for use to supplement temporary traffic control installations. Contact the Region Traffic Office or Region Signal Superintendent for specific guidance, availability, and advice on the use of these systems.

1-7 Flagging

Refer to WAC 296-155-305 for specific flagging requirements.

- Flagging should be employed only when all other methods of traffic control are inadequate to direct, or control, traffic.
- A TCP showing flagger locations, signs and devices is required for any flagging operation no matter the duration.
- Minimum standard flagging paddle size allowed is 18 inches. It is recommended that
 a 24-inch paddle be used to improve visibility and for all high-speed operations.
- The use of a flashing stop/slow paddle is allowed instead of a standard paddle. Follow the guidance shown in the MUTCD Section 6E.03 for additional information.
- In a mobile operation when the flagger is moving with the operation, all signs associated with the flagger shall be moved ahead whenever work advances to more than 2 miles from the first advance warning signs. Also, a flagger ahead sign must be within 1,500 feet of the flagger and the flagger station must be able to be seen from the sign. If terrain does not allow a motorist to see the flagger from the "flagger ahead sign", the distance between the sign and the flagger must be shortened to allow visual contact. The spacing shall not be less than the required distance base on the highway speed.
- During hours of darkness, flagger stations **shall** be illuminated by using a portable light plant or balloon type lights. Mounting height and aim either parallel or perpendicular to the roadway may require adjustment to minimize glare to the drivers. The flagger should be visible and discernable as a flagger from a distance of 1,000 feet.

 Pilot car use is appropriate for long work areas to help maintain traffic speeds and to guide traffic through the work areas. Pilot car operators shall be certified flaggers able to trade off duties with other flaggers. During the pre-activity meeting, discuss any special instructions to ensure everyone understands expectations. Refer to TCP 2 for a pilot car operation.

- When flagging at intersections, a best practice to give flaggers better control of traffic movements, is to reduce motor vehicle traffic approaching the intersection to a single lane whenever possible. This may require lane closures and restricting access to turn pockets with channelization devices (remember to address bicyclists access). Flaggers will also need to control pedestrian crossing movements. Traffic signal must be either turned off or set to all red "flash" mode. At no time shall traffic be flagged with an active signal in full operation. Contact region signal superintendent for assistance with signal operation.
- The placement of a single flagger at the center of an intersection to control traffic is not allowed as per WAC 468-95-302. The only person allowed to legally control traffic from the center of an intersection alone is a uniformed police officer. No matter who is performing the intersection flagging, the appropriate advance warning signing is required to be in place.
- A four-sign sequence is required for all flagging on roadways with posted speeds
 of 45 mph or higher. The "one lane road ahead" sign may need to be replaced with
 a more appropriate sign if flaggers are used for short traffic stops for truck crossing,
 tree falling, or other work and traffic will not be alternated in a single lane. Possible
 signs may be:
 - Truck crossing
 - Road machinery
 - Utility work
 - Survey crew
 - Blasting
 - Worker symbol sign or simply a sign saying Workers (this sign could be a very generic yet appropriate solution in many cases)

If the above signs are not available or appropriate for the operation, an acceptable alternative would be to repeat the "Flagger Ahead" symbol sign or the "Be Prepared to Stop" sign. Again, the preferred method is to use the sign that most appropriately describes the roadway condition or work operation.

1-8 Pedestrians, Bicyclists, and Other Roadway Users

Give consideration to pedestrian and bicycle traffic where appropriate. Provide an alternate route when existing facilities must be temporarily interrupted due to work operations. Alternative routes need to be clearly delineated and separated from the work activities. Refer to MUTCD Chapter 6D for additional requirements and TCD 9 of this manual for a typical plan for pedestrian traffic control.

1-8.1 Pedestrians

Existing pedestrian facilities that are accessible to pedestrians with disabilities must remain accessible through the work zone to the maximum extent feasible.

The latest details on accessibility guidelines can be found at: www.access-board.gov/ prowag for more details consider the following when addressing pedestrian issues within and around work zones:

- Pedestrian accessibility through or around the work area must be accounted for prior to starting work. If temporary pedestrian ramps are necessary, see the Work Zone Typical Traffic Control Plan Library.
- Pedestrians should not be led into conflicts with work vehicles and equipment, or with vehicles moving through or around the work site.
- Pedestrians should be provided with an accessible, convenient path that replicates as nearly as practical the characteristics of the existing sidewalks or a footpath.
- If signs or other devices are place in a pedestrians pathway, a minimum 4-foot width must be maintained.
- For sidewalk closures, advance closure direction signs are required at the nearest upstream crossing to minimize pedestrian's need to retrace their steps.
- Escorting or shuttling pedestrian and/or bicyclists through the work zone is an acceptable option to providing a alternate route.

1-8.2 Bicyclists

- Bicycles have a legal right of access to most highway facilities and temporary traffic control provisions are necessary for safe bicycle travel through the work zone.
- Provide for and sign an appropriate alternate route when activities close a designated (signed) bicycle path or shoulder bikeway. Where horizontal separation for bicycles and pedestrians existed prior to work, give consideration to separating during work.
- When laying out alternative bicycle paths, make sure no overhead obstructions present a direct hazard to normal bicycle operation.
- Riding surfaces are important for safe bicycle operation. Loose gravel, uneven surfaces, milled pavement, and various asphaltic tack coats endanger the bicyclist. Consider the condition of the surface the bicyclist will be required to use.
- Bicyclists may be combined with motorist traffic when the speed limit is 40 MPH or less.

1-8.3 Motorcyclists

The driving or roadway surface is also important for motorcyclists safety. The same surfaces that are a problem for bicyclists are also difficult for motorcyclists. Stability at high speed is a far greater concern for motorcycle operations than cars on grooved pavement, loose gravel, milled asphalt, and abrupt edge tapers from existing pavement down to milled surfaces. Signing to warn motorcyclists of these conditions in a work zone is required by RCW 47.36.200 and WAC 468-95-305. See TCD 2 for a typical signing layout example.

1-8.4 Schools

Work zone operations in the vicinity of schools require consideration to ensure that conflicts are kept to a minimum. Issues that should be considered are:

- Student path to and from the school.
- Parent drop off and pickup access.
- Bus movements for loading and unloading students.
- · Coordination with crossing guards.
- Avoiding the beginning and end of school hours to minimize adverse impacts.

1-9 Additional Work Zone Considerations

1-9.1 Work Zone Speed Limits

Roadway surface issues such as loose gravel from chip seal operations, temporary width restrictions or lane shifts, application of a temporary traffic signal are some examples of when a speed limit may need to be reduced. Any proposed regulatory reductions or advisory speed limits require approval through the region traffic engineer. See the *Traffic Manual* Chapter 5 for the approval process. Public notification of a regulatory speed limit reduction is required per RCW 47.48.020.

Speed reduction guidelines and requests are outlined in RCW 47.48.020, Executive Order E 1060, and chapter 5 of the *Traffic Manual M* 51-02. A request to reduce the speed limit in a work zones must be submitted to the Region Traffic Office for approval.

1-9.2 Buffer Space

Buffer space is a lateral and/or longitudinal area that separates traffic flow from the work space providing some recovery space for an errant vehicle.

- Lateral buffer is the space between an open lane of traffic and the adjacent work area, temporary barrier, work vehicle, protective vehicle, shadow vehicle or drop-off.
 A minimum of 2-foot lateral buffer space or more may be recommended.
- Longitudinal buffer is the space from the end of the taper to the protective vehicle.

Channelization devices used to close a lane or shoulder should not encroach into adjacent open lanes. If encroachment is necessary, closing the lane is recommended to provide lateral buffer space to the work zone unless a single open lane is shifted onto the paved shoulder.

In the case of short-term lane closure operations, the adjacent lane may need to be closed or traffic may need to be temporarily shifted onto a shoulder to maintain a lateral buffer space.

1-9.3 Lane Closure Setup/Takedown

Operations to set up and take down traffic control devices often equate to the times when crews are at their greatest exposure. Due to the multiple variations of crew size, available equipment, and location, no one procedure can fit all situations. To provide consistency and guidance on how to best perform the operation, the following steps have been provided. See Appendix 3 for lane closure operations using Road Warrior vehicles.

Prior to the beginning of any operation and before any crewmember is exposed to live traffic, the crew will discuss the daily pre-activity safety plan relative to the planned activity.

Within the pre-activity safety plan, discussion topics prior to implementation may include but not limited to:

- Communication/signaling techniques (e.g. verbal, hand, voice actuated headset) between cone handler and truck operator need to be established.
- Clear instructions detailing channelizing device placement and traffic control plans.
- Driver and cone handler work from safest locations on the road and in, on and around deployment vehicle.
- Utilization of truck-mounted attenuators may be necessary to protect crewmembers while exposed to traffic.

The traffic control plan being implemented for the work operation will be discussed and any modifications to the plan will be noted by the supervisor with the final plan being maintained onsite during work the operation.

1-9.4 Survey Work Zones

Survey crews are required to follow the guidance and plans shown in this manual to accommodate their work area needs. For example, survey work along the centerline of a two-lane two-way road, will require a flagging operation as shown on TCP 1. TCPs more specific to survey operations may be considered. If specific plans are necessary or additional guidance is needed, contact the Region Traffic Office for assistance.

1-9.5 Public Information

Accurate and timely reporting of work zone information to the public is an important element in temporary traffic control. Advance notice of closures and restrictions, web page information and the use of media can greatly improve the public's perception and acceptance of the necessary impacts caused by the work operation. Contact the Region Public Information Office for assistance.

Issues to consider are:

- Emergency services coordination so they are aware of the operation and can make adjustments to routes if necessary when responding to emergencies.
- Transit organizations, they may require adjustments to bus stop locations within project limits.
- Schools and local business, special considerations may be necessary for them to maintain access to their sites.

1-9.6 Roundabout Traffic Control

For work within the roundabout, warning signs are required for each approach leg. If the work operation and all work vehicles are out of the travel lanes and central island apron, a Road Work Ahead sign per approach is all that is required. If any of the road approaches to the roundabout cannot access the intersection due to work operations, then either flagging or possibly a detour is required. If the central island apron will be impacted by the work or equipment, treat it as a shoulder closure for the length of work and consider diverting truck traffic due to large vehicle wheel tracking. For multi-lane roundabouts, if work can be done without closing both travel lanes, flaggers may not be needed. Appropriate signs for lane closure at each entry are required.

A traffic control plan must be developed for each individual roundabout specific to the location since all roundabouts are unique. A generic typical plan has been provided as a guide in developing a plan (see TCP 7).

1-9.7 Road Closures and Detours

Advance notification of the closure is required for planned work operations. Detours should be clearly signed over their entire length so that drivers are returned to the original highway. If the detour route follows non-state routes, local agency approval is required.

Workers should not assume that because a road closure is in place that danger from vehicles does not exist. Even with a posted road closure, the potential may exist for a vehicle to get past a closure point. It is important for workers to remain vigilant and aware of their surroundings at all times and still use protective vehicles prior to the work area.

When it is necessary to close a road, street, or ramp, submit a request to the Region Traffic Office in advance of the need. Per RCW 47.48.010, the Regional Administrator has the authority to close a road, street, or ramp.

1-9.8 Special Events

For any special event (parade, bike event, filming, etc.) affecting a state route, a traffic control plan is required. Event organizers must coordinate with WSDOT to obtain permits and submit a traffic control plan for approval prior to the event. Refer to *Traffic Manual* M 51-02, Chapter 7, for additional information.

Each region has a person that coordinates special event approvals and should be the lead in the event planning. Contact this person for information on special events in your area.

1-9.9 Work Over Traffic

Work above an open lane of traffic is allowed provided that the work can be done by utilizing industry standard safe work practices. Safe work practices must consider the potential risk of falling debris, tools, or equipment onto traffic. Maximum legal load height is 14 feet, with a potential for occasional over-height loads, so vertical clearance to traffic below must be carefully considered if lanes are not closed. Contact Commercial Vehicle Services at least 7 days, when feasible, if vertical clearances are temporarily reduced.

1-9.10 Short & Very short Duration Work Zone Condition

Due to the short work time, simplified traffic control set-ups are allowed to reduce worker traffic exposure. The time it takes to set up a full complement of signs and devices could approach or exceed the time required to perform the work.

A **Short duration work zone** is for work activities that may last up to 60 minutes for:

- loading and unloading equipment.
- · re-lamping.
- pothole patching or other minor repairs.
- bridge inspection.
- sign replacement, etc...

A **Very short duration work zone** is when activities will only take a few seconds or minutes to:

- · remove lost cargo or debris.
- install or remove a work zone device.
- take a survey "shot"
- · provide motorist assistance.
- perform quick maintenance or repairs intended as a partial or temporary response to an issue, etc.

In many cases it is necessary and allowable for workers to walk on a roadway shoulder, cross traffic lanes, or momentarily step into a lane to access work locations or to perform work. These actions can only be accomplished if traffic conditions allow it to be done safely.

Normally, specific TCPs are not required for these very short work zones since the typical example TCPs for very short duration work zones can cover a wide variety of applications.

It is required to provide advance warning to traffic approaching very short duration work zones on freeways and high speed multi-lane highways as shown on TCP 26 when working in a live lane with a spotter or using a very short duration lane closure.

When short duration plans are to be used, the "Work Zone Condition" should be determined. This helps establish a practical application level of traffic control devices to use. The plans provide recommendations for conditions A, B & C:

Condition "A" Represents the lowest level of exposure:

- Low traffic speeds and volume.
- Minimum levels of traffic control devices to place and remove.

Condition "B" Represents a moderate level of exposure:

- Low or high traffic speed with low to moderate volumes.
- Moderated levels of traffic control devices for warning and protection, such as adding a spotter, placing cones or PCMS added to condition "A" devices would be typical considerations.

Condition "C" Represents the highest level of exposure:

- · High traffic speeds and volume.
- All applicable traffic control and safety devices should be considered, such as PCMS, TMA, and signs.

Highway volumes can be identified by the following observations:

low motor vehicle volume

- Vehicles approach randomly.
- Significant gaps in traffic flow.
- Few vehicles visible at any given time.
- Random platoons of vehicles.
- Free flow traffic at the posted speed limit.
- Safe walking pace conditions to cross a two-lane highway or intersection.
- Rough estimate of traffic volume is approximately 1 vehicle per lane every 12 seconds.

· moderate motor vehicle volume

- Random gaps in traffic are present.
- Vehicles are generally present all the time.
- Traffic is constant but still flows freely.
- Safe walking pace conditions to cross a two-lane highway or intersection exist but may require waiting for a gap in traffic.
- Rough estimate of traffic volume is approximately 1 vehicle per lane every 6 seconds.

high motor vehicle volume

- Minimal gaps in traffic.
- Constantly present vehicles.
- Restricted or unstable motor vehicle traffic flow.
- Reduced traffic speeds, as volume starts to approach road capacity.
- A safe walking condition to cross a two-lane highway or intersection may not exist.
- A rough estimate is approximately 1 vehicle per lane every 3 seconds.

1-9.11 Short & Very short Duration Work Zones Rules and Considerations

 Live traffic areas (lanes and intersections) on high speed and high-volume roadways may not be good candidates for short duration work zones. Shoulder or adjacent lane work may be acceptable based on a site assessment and as follows:

- No unprotected work in interior lanes of multi-lane roads and no "island" work areas are allowed.
- Lanes of multi-lane roads may only be accessed from the adjacent shoulder (see TCP 25 and TCP 26).
- Intersections may be accessed following the same manner and consideration should be given to the work areas effect on the intersection signal operations.
 Flash mode or control measures per TCP 5 or TCP 6 may be required.
- A determination of a safe work location must be made. A basic determination can be made by observing multimodal traffic conditions (traffic type, speed, volume, location, visibility, etc.) and assessing the following conditions:
 - Is the work location out of the multimodal traffic paths?
 - Is there sufficient time for a worker to safely walk (not run) to and return from the work location?
 - Are there other conditions at the location that could affect worker safety?
 - Is there an effective contingency or escape plan?
 - Is there adequate sight distance from the work location to approaching traffic (see TCD 10)?
- 3. Consider a rolling slowdown operation for those work operations of a very short duration in which traffic control measures would take more time to install than the actual work. Typically, rolling slowdowns are desirable for difficult access work zones, such as center lanes or closing all lanes at once on multi-lane highways.
- 4. Consider linking several short duration work operations under a stationary lane or shoulder closure with a full complement of signs and devices. Advantages include, reducing exposure of workers to traffic, efficiencies in completing tasks concurrently, and reducing the impacts traffic in the same area.
- 5. In an emergency, personnel are allowed to take action, using good judgment to minimize risk. Traffic control standards do not strictly apply to emergencies but should be considered. It is important to differentiate between an actual emergency and an emergent condition. An emergency requires immediate response to save lives or prevent serious injury or remove debris using whatever resources are available. An emergent condition requires an expedient yet planned response. Most "call outs" or damage reports fall into the emergent condition category allowing time to plan a reasonable short duration work zone response.

1-10 References for Additional Work Zone Information

WSDOT Design Manual Chapter 1010

WSDOT Construction Manual Chapter 1

WSDOT Maintenance Manual Chapter 2

WSDOT Sign Fabrication Manual

WSDOT Standard Specifications Sections 1-07.8, 1-07.23, 1-10, 8-23 & 9-35

WSDOT Traffic Manual Chapter 5

WSDOT Plan Sheet Library

WSDOT Work Zone Safety website

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

Chapter 2 Stationary Work Zones

Stationary work zone operations may include: paving/chip seal, pavement repair, light standard repair, sign installation, and bridge repair. Work operations may move or move from location to location within a stationary work zone.

The following TCPs are typical stationary traffic control setups.

- TCP 1 Typical One-Lane, Two-Way Traffic Control with Flaggers
 For two-lane, two-way roadways with possible intersections
- TCP 2 Typical Pilot Car Operation
 Supplements TCP 1 when additional control of traffic is necessary
- TCP 3 Typical Alternating One-Way Traffic with AFAD

This plan provides an example of the signing and device placement for a flagging operation utilizing an AFAD. Consider use of an AFAD for any flagging operation to increase safety.

- TCP 4 Typical Alternating One-Way Traffic, Portable Temporary Signal Controlled
 This plan provides example of the traffic control signing and device
 requirements for a portable signal operation. Assistance from the Region
 Traffic Office and the Region Signal Superintendent may be necessary
 for signal timing and specific details on the location of the portable signal
 system. 1,500 feet maximum between signal heads.
- TCP 5 Typical Intersection Lane Closure Three-Lane Roadway

 Typical urban location with two lanes and a center turn lane. This plan will most likely need modification or be used as an example in developing a site-specific plan to match actual configurations of lanes and turn pockets.
- TCP 6
 Typical Intersection Lane Closure Five-Lane Roadway
 Typical urban location with two through lanes each direction and a center turn lane. This plan will most likely need modification or be used as an example in developing a site-specific plan to match actual configurations of lanes and turn pockets.
- TCP 7 Typical Roundabout Flagging Operation

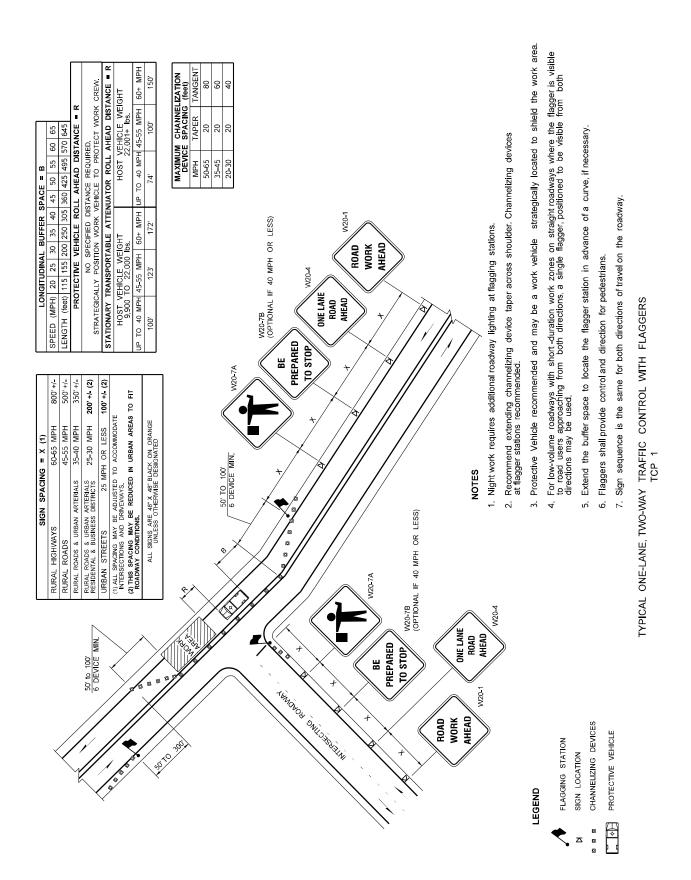
This plan is a basic example for the signing and device placement for work in the vicinity of a roundabout. Each roundabout location is unique, and a site-specific traffic control plan should be developed for the work operation.

- TCP 8 Short Term Traffic Stop with Flaggers
 For two-lane, two-way roadways when short traffic stops are needed
- TCP 9 Typical Shoulder Closure Low Speed (40 mph or Less)

Chapter 2 **Stationary Work Zones**

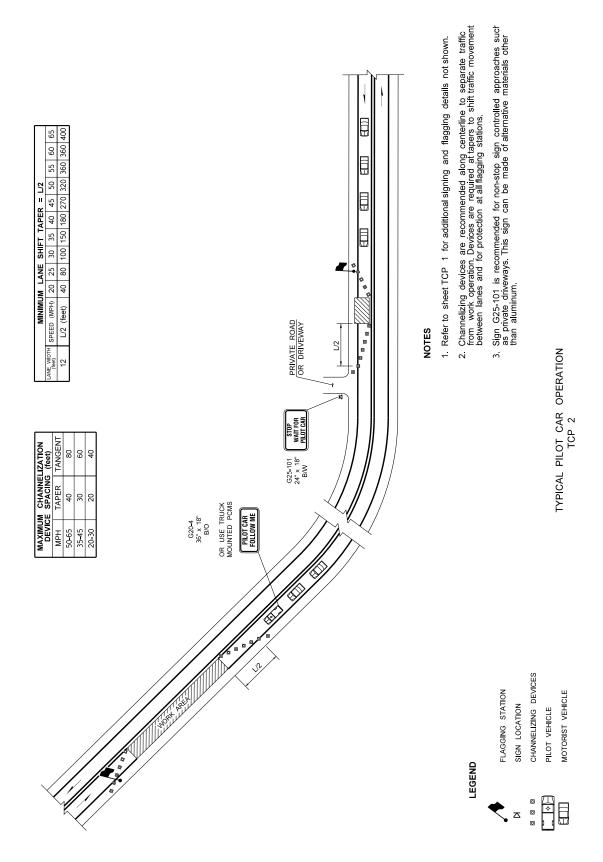
TCP 10	Typical Shoulder Closure – High Speed (45 mph or higher)
TCP 11	Typical Single-Lane Closure for Multi-Lane Roadways
TCP 12	Typical Double-Lane Closure for Multi-Lane Roadways
TCP 13	Typical Temporary Off-Ramp for Multi-Lane Roadways Details an off-ramp connection during a short-term lane closure
TCP 14	Typical Temporary On-Ramp for Multi-Lane Roadways Details an on-ramp add-lane connection during a short-term lane closure
TCP 15	Typical Temporary On-Ramp for Multi-Lane Roadways Details an on-ramp merge connection during a short-term lane closure
TCP 16	Typical Short-Term Ramp Closures This plan details both off-ramp and on-ramp closures at interchanges
TCP 17	Typical Right Lane Closure with Shift - 5 Lane Roadway For an urban setting using the two-way left turn lane for through traffic in one direction
TCP 18	Typical Left Lane and Center Turn Lane Closure - 5 Lane Roadway For an urban setting creating an inside lanes work area with through traffic maintained in the outside lanes in each direction
TCP 19	Outside Lane Closures - Five-Lane Roadway Typical urban location with two through lanes each direction and a center turn lane. This plan may be used when work will require short traffic stops for both directions of traffic.
TCP 20	Typical Lane Shift - Three Lane Roadway This plan details maintaining one lane in each direction in truck lane sections
TCP 21	Typical Lane Shift with Two Way Left Turn Lane This plan details maintaining one lane in each direction using the TWLTL

TCP 1 Typical One-Lane, Two-Way Traffic Control with Flaggers

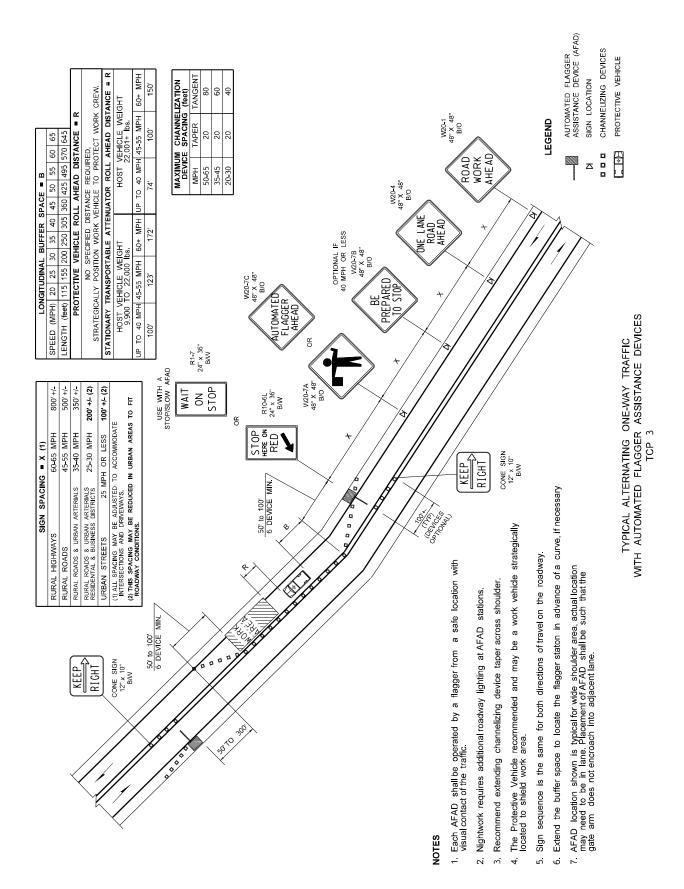


Chapter 2 Stationary Work Zones

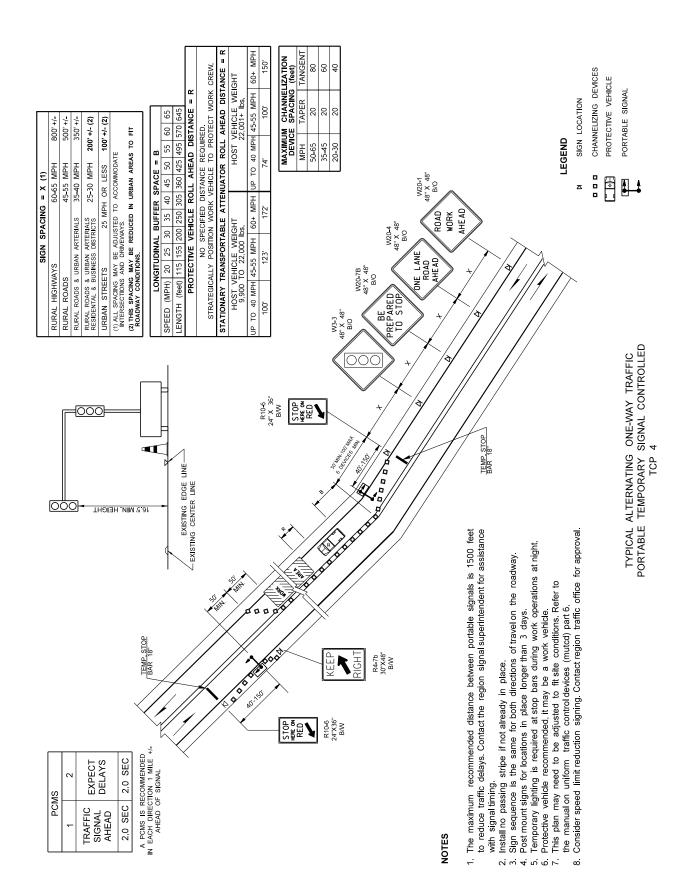
TCP 2 Typical Pilot Car Operation



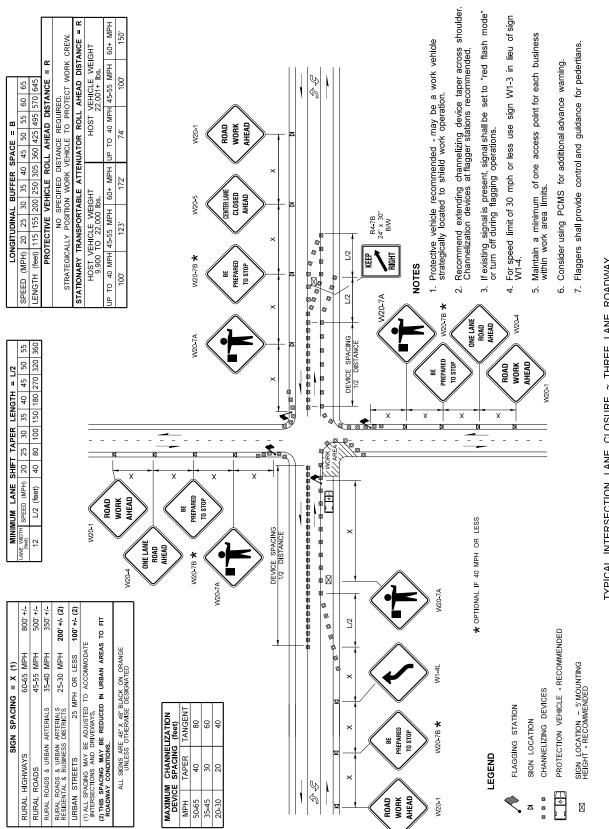
TCP 3 Typical Alternating One-Way Traffic with Automated Flagger Assistance Devices



TCP 4 Typical Alternating One-Way Traffic Portable Temporary Signal Controlled

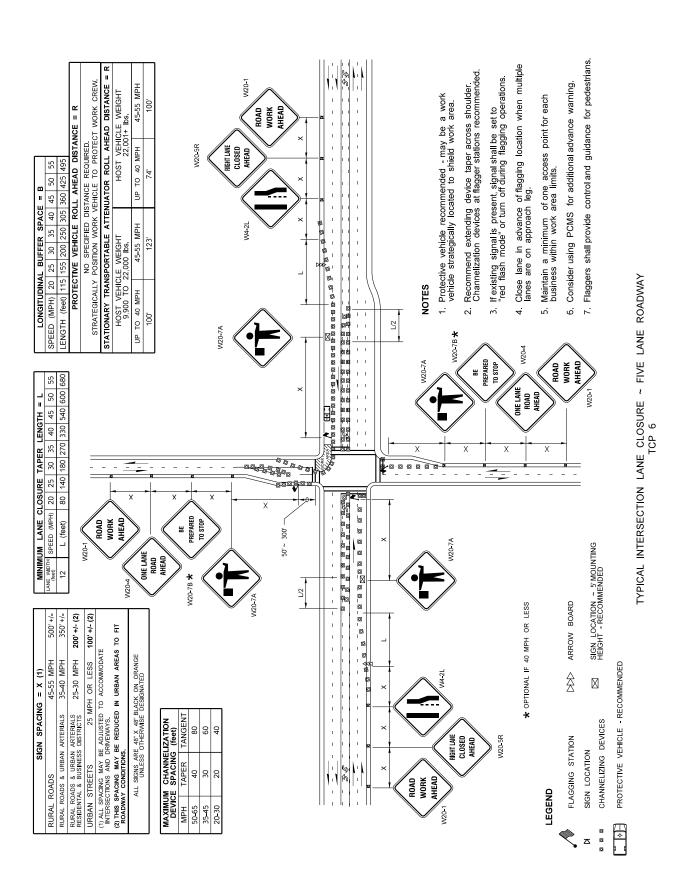


TCP 5 Typical Intersection lane Closure - Three Lane Roadway

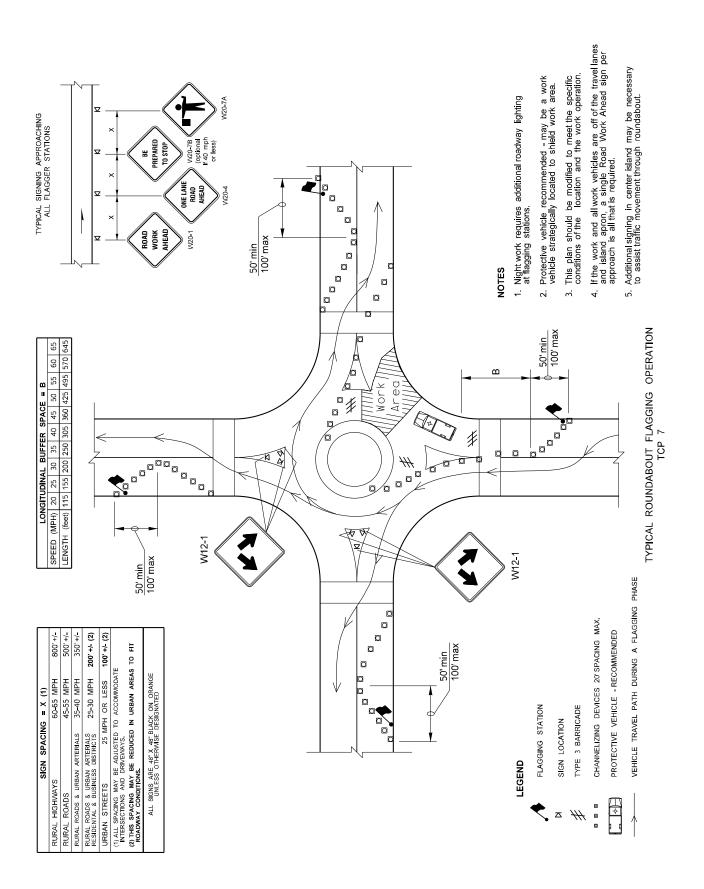


TYPICAL INTERSECTION LANE CLOSURE ~ THREE LANE ROADWAY TCP 5

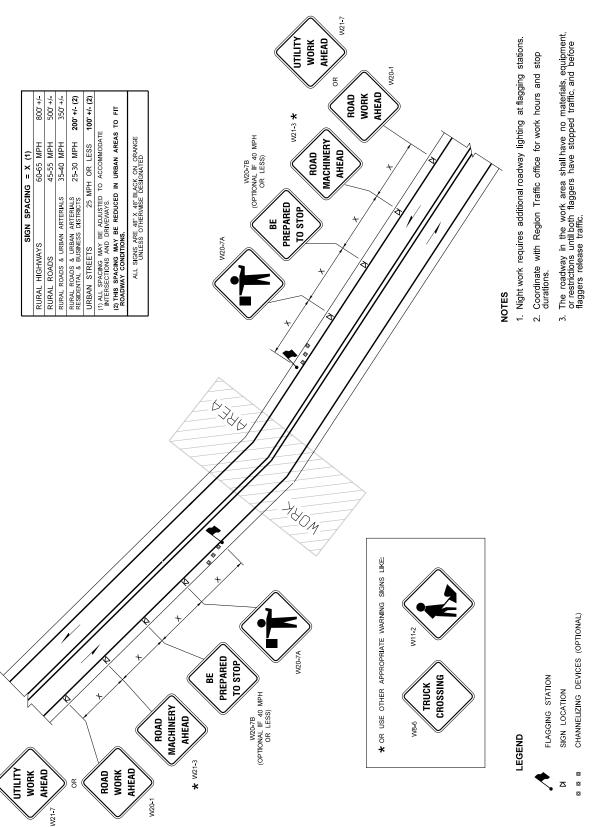
TCP 6 Typical Intersection Lane Closure - Five Lane Roadway



TCP 7 Typical Roundabout Flagging Operation

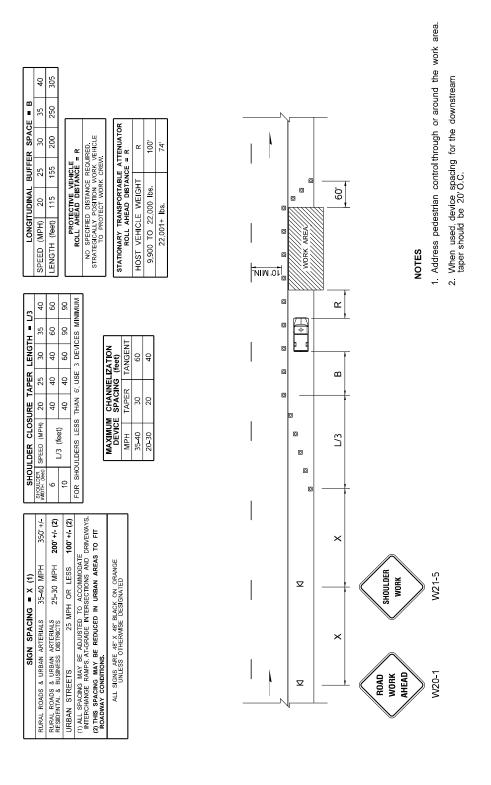


TCP 8 Typical Traffic Stop with Flaggers



TYPICAL SHORT TERM TRAFFIC STOP WITH FLAGGERS TCP 8

TCP 9 Typical Shoulder Closure – Low Speed (40 MPH or Less)



TYPICAL SHOULDER CLOSURE - LOW SPEED (40 MPH OR LESS)
TCP 9

PROTECTIVE VEHICLE - RECOMMENDED

CHANNELIZING DEVICES

SIGN LOCATION

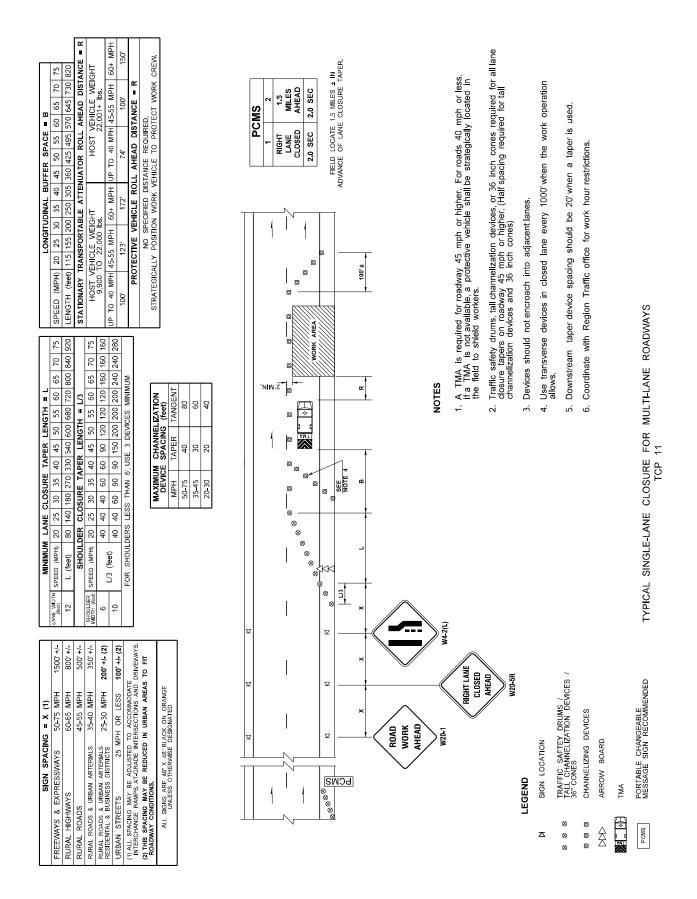
LEGEND

TCP 10 Typical Shoulder Closure - High Speed (45 MPH or Higher)

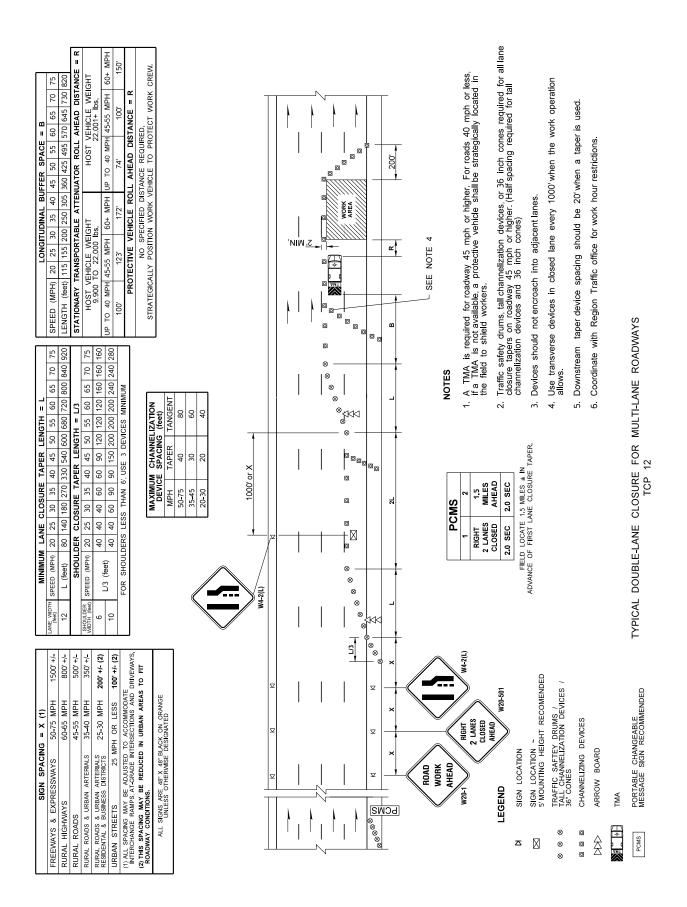
If shoulder is used for traveled lanes at certian times, use full L taper and TMA. TMA required for freeways.	3. If shoulder is used for traveled lanes at certian times, use full L taper and TMA. 4. TMA required for freeways.

TYPICAL SHOULDER CLOSURE - HIGH SPEED (45 MPH OR HIGHER) TCP 10

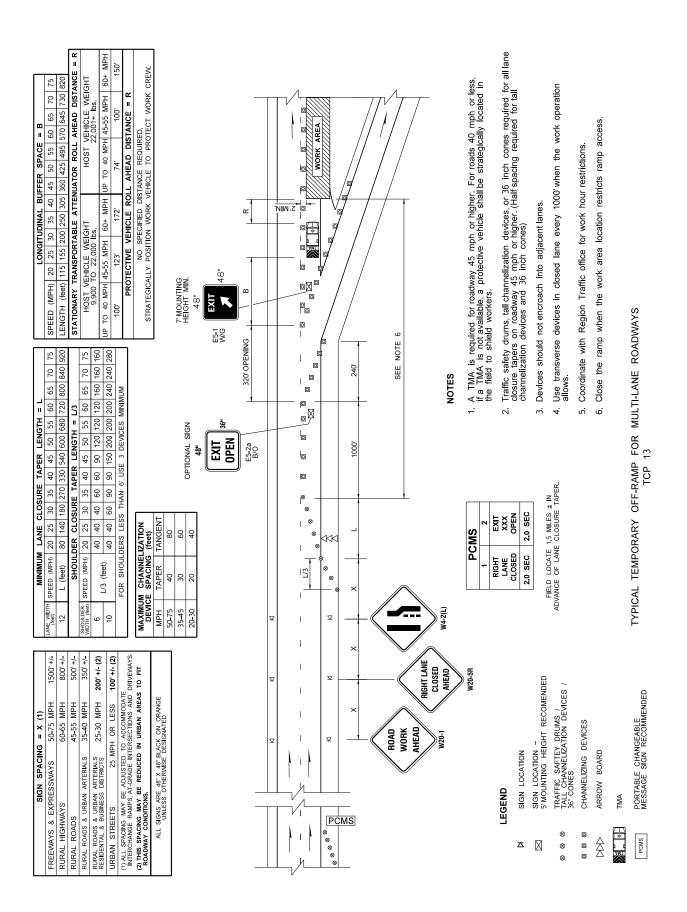
TCP 11 Typical Single-Lane Closure for Multi-Lane Roadways



TCP 12 Typical Double-Lane Closures for Multi-Lane Roadways

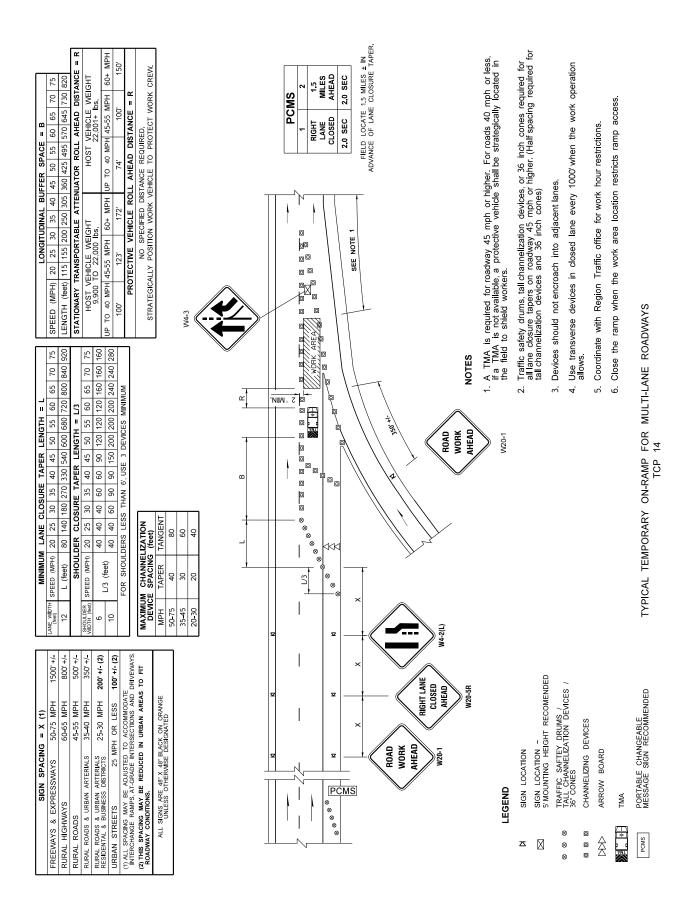


TCP 13 Typical Temporary Off-Ramp for Multi-Lane Roadways

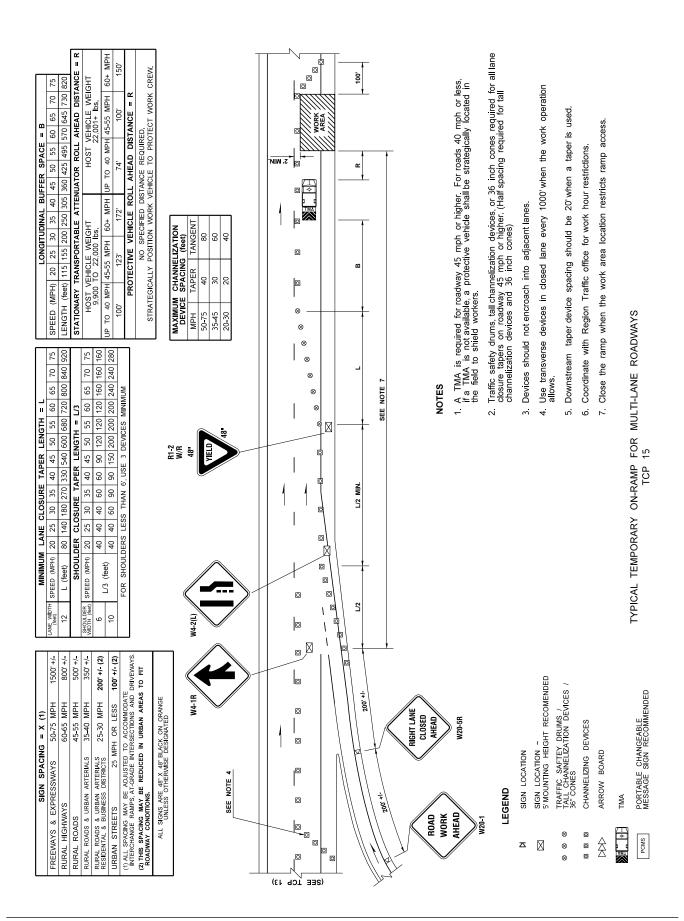


Chapter 2 Stationary Work Zones

TCP 14 Typical Temporary On-Ramp for Multi-Lane Roadways

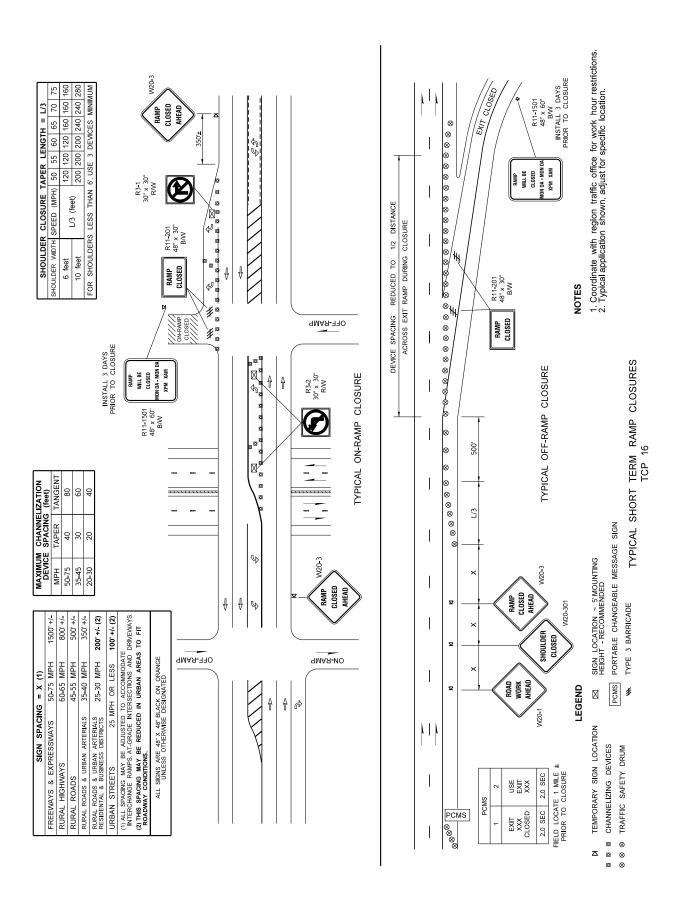


TCP 15 Typical Temporary On-Ramp for Multi-Lane Roadways



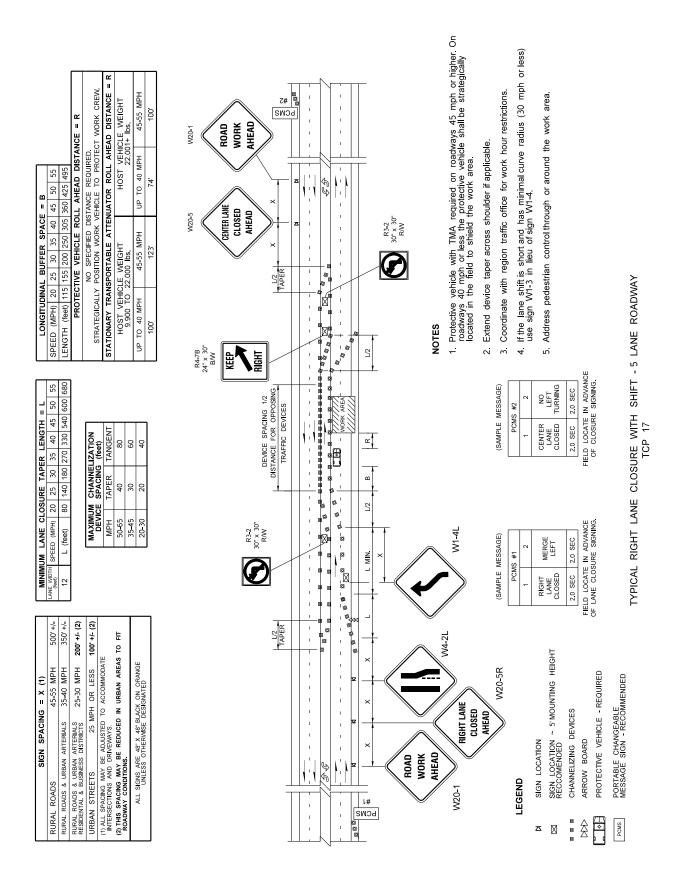
Chapter 2 Stationary Work Zones

TCP 16 Typical Short-Term Ramp Closures

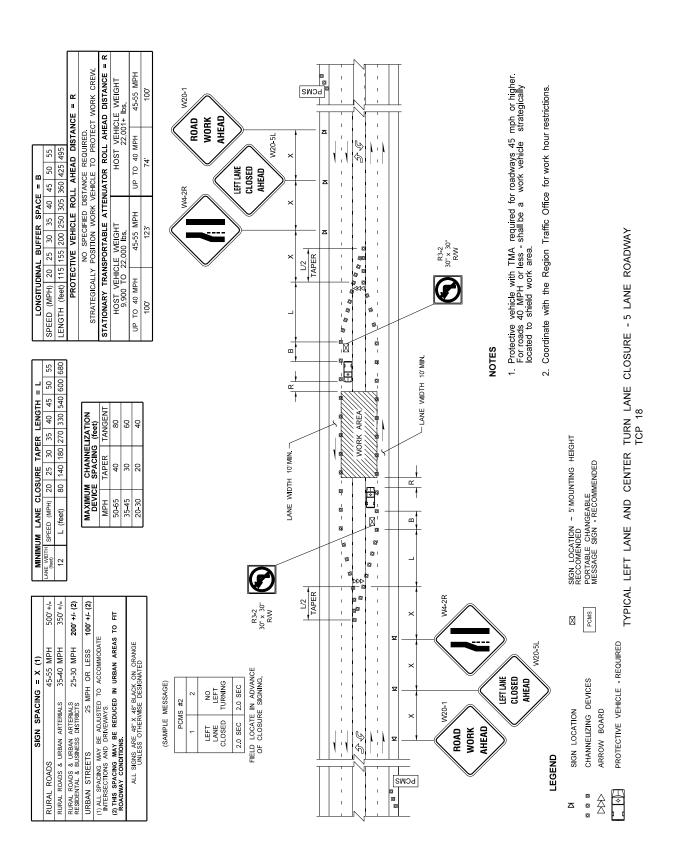


Stationary Work Zones Chapter 2

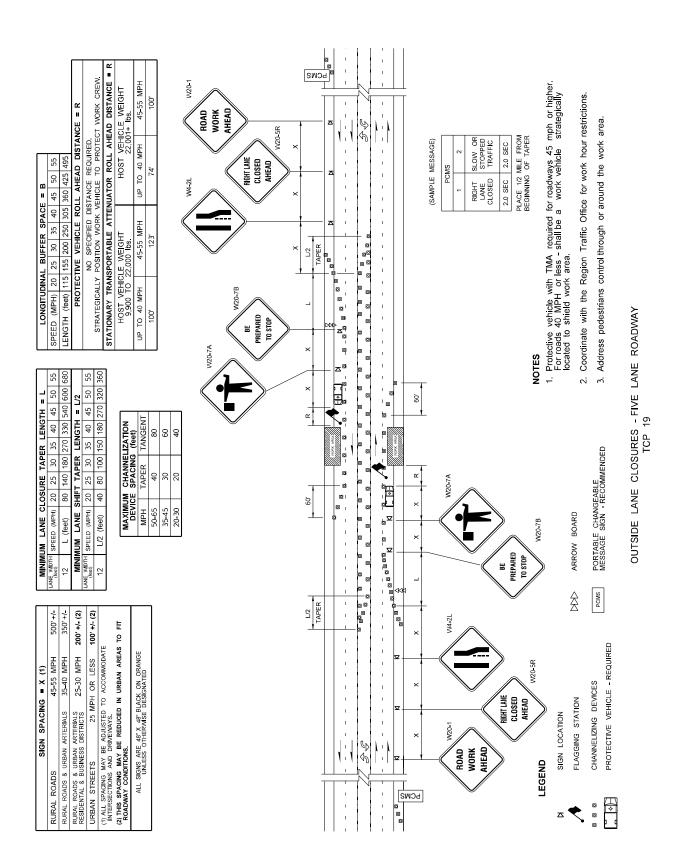
TCP 17 Typical Right Lane Closure with Shift – 5 Iane Roadway



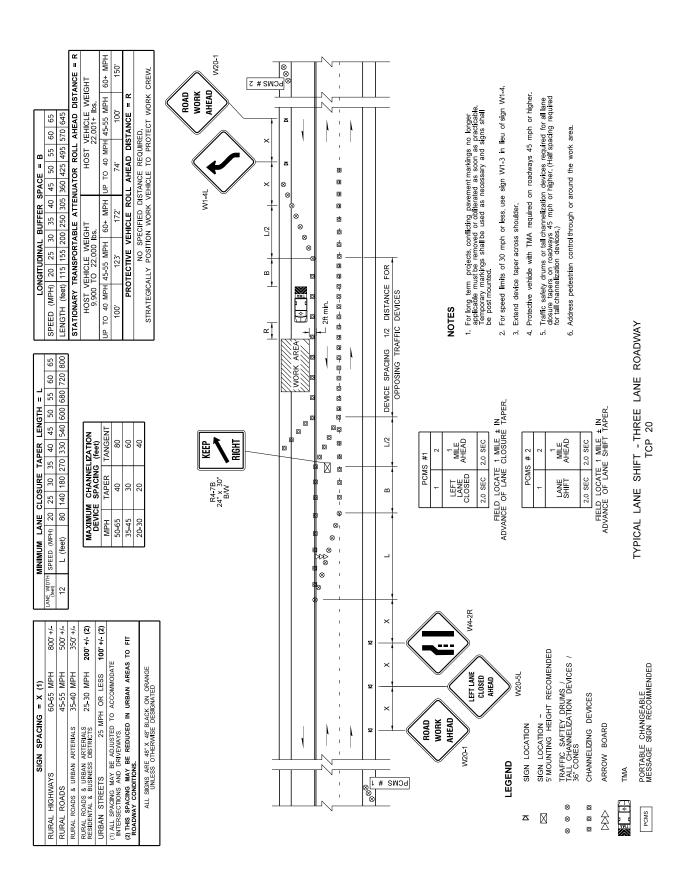
TCP 18 Typical Left Lane and Center Turn Lane Closure – 5 Lane Roadway



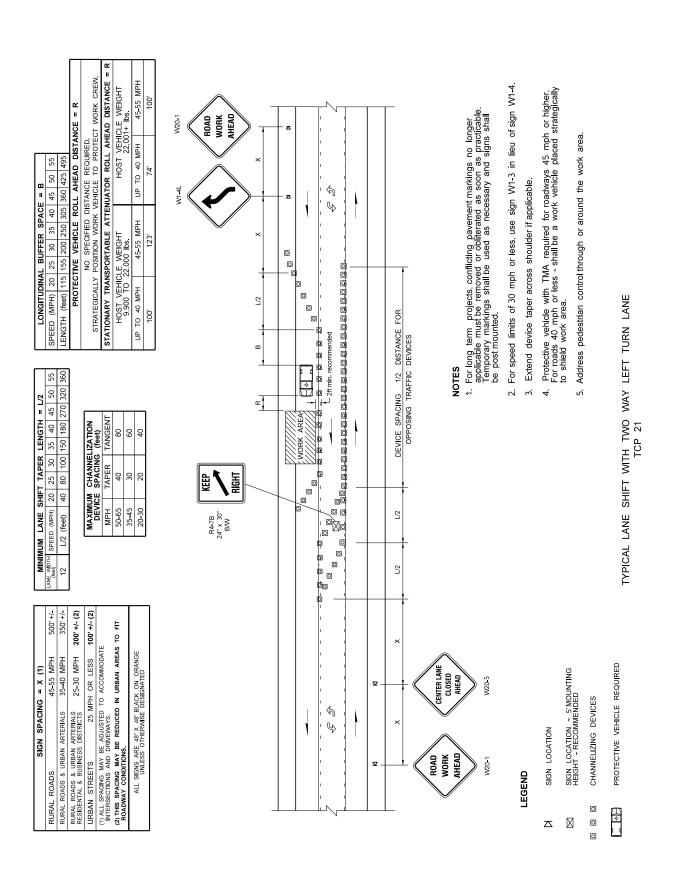
TCP 19 Outside Lane Closures - 5 Lane Roadway



TCP 20 Typical Lane Shift - 3 Lane Roadway



TCP 21 Typical Lane Shift with Two Way Left Turn Lane



Chapter 2 Stationary Work Zones

Chapter 3 Short Duration Work Zones

The following typical TCPs are a generic and are not drawn to scale. It is encouraged to modify these plans to fit your specific location and operation.

See Section 1-9.10 and 1-9.11 For condition guidance.

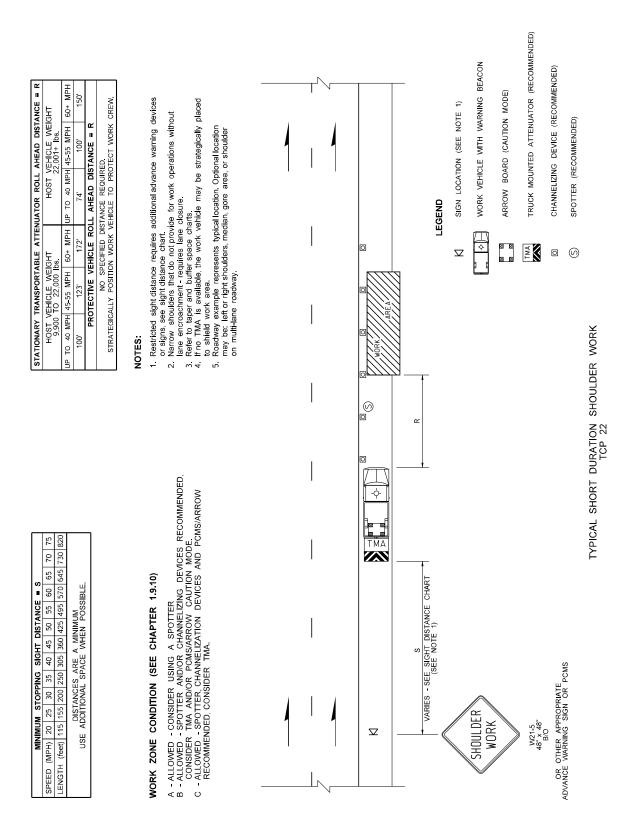
TCP 22 Typical Short Duration Shoulder Work Encroachment into the adjacent live lane or the vertical clearance above the live lane is not allowed with this plan. **TCP 23** Typical Short Duration Work Operation (Intersection Application) For intersections that have traffic signals, flagging may be required depending on the work location. A flagging plan with full signing would be required. **TCP 24** Typical Very Short Duration Work Operation (Outside Traveled Way) It is preferable to park the work vehicle on the same side of the roadway as the work area. **TCP 25 Typical Very Short Duration Work Operation** (Multi-Lane Application, Low Speed, 40 mph or Lower) Work shall not actually close or block the lane. As vehicles approach it is incumbent upon the worker to move back to the shoulder. **TCP 26** Typical Very Short Duration In-lane Work (Multi-Lane Freeway and Highway Application, High Speed, 45 mph or Higher) Work shall not actually close or block the lane. **TCP 27** Typical Very Short Duration Lane Closure (Two-Lane Highway) The spotter method to alert the worker to move back to the shoulder as traffic approaches. Work that cannot allow traffic to pass through the work location will need to use the lane closed method or consider a short duration or stationary lane closure.

Typical Very Short Duration Work Operation (Intersection Application)

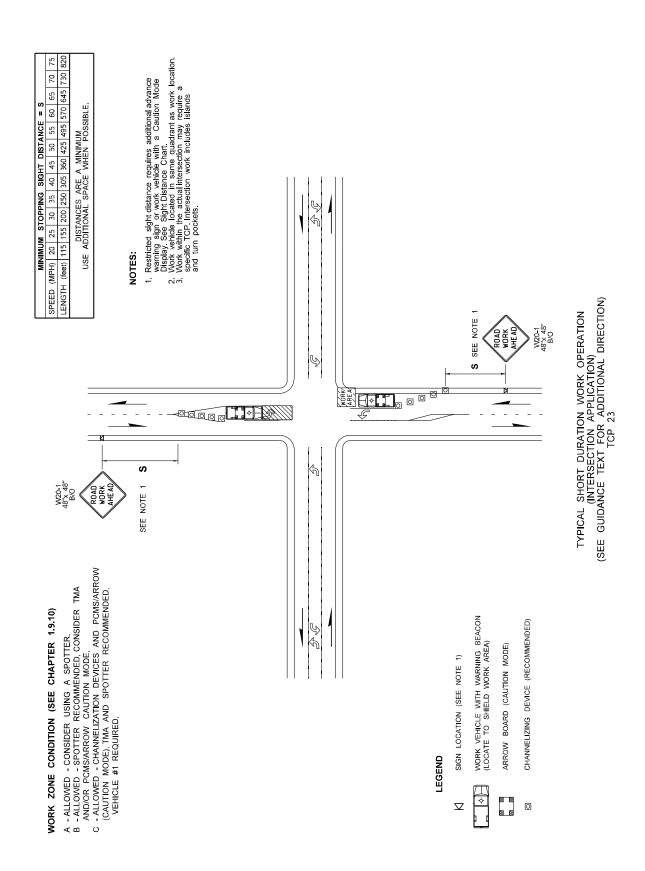
TCP 28

Chapter 3 Short Duration Work Zones

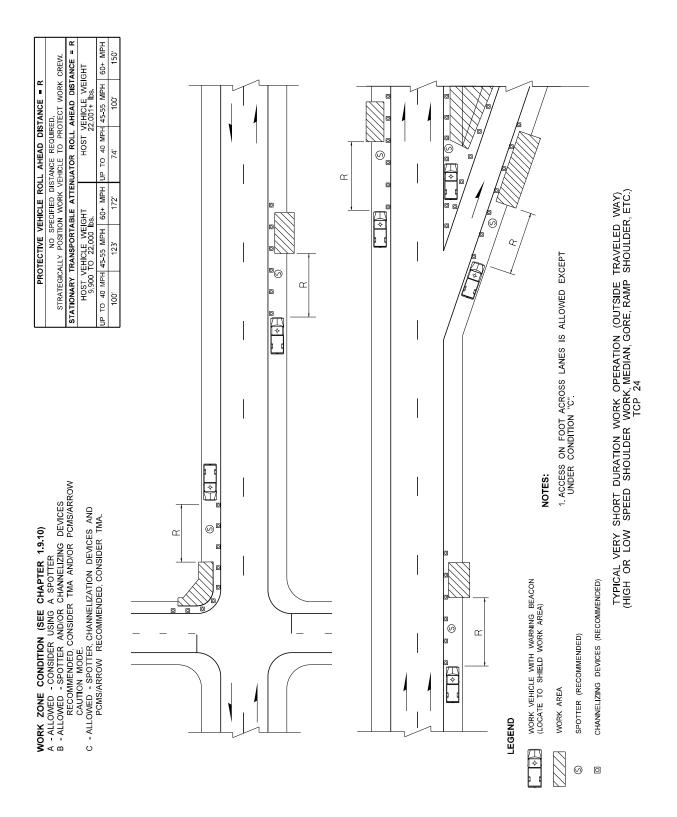
TCP 22 Typical Short Duration Shoulder Work (Multi-Lane Application)



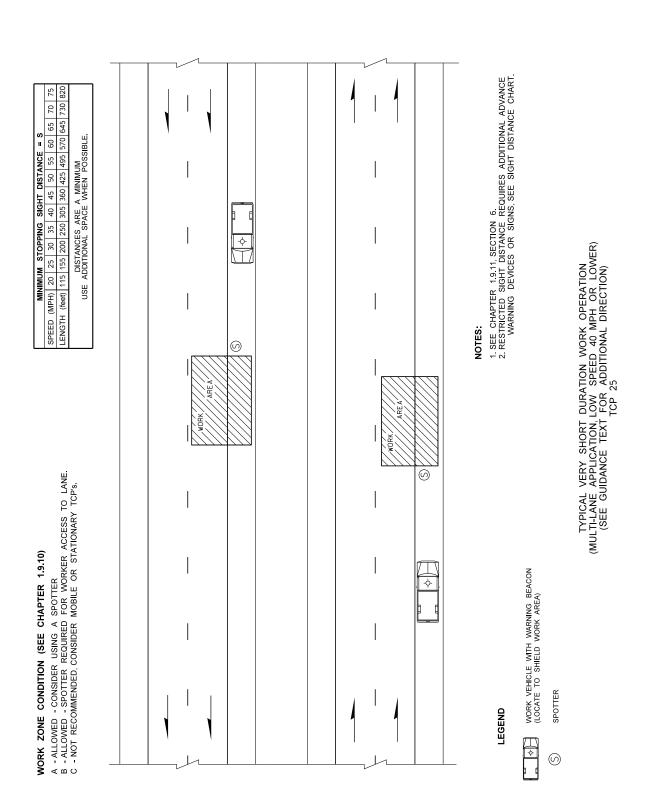
TCP 23 Typical Short Duration Work Operation (Intersection Application)



TCP 24 Typical Very Short Duration Work Operation (Outside Traveled Way)

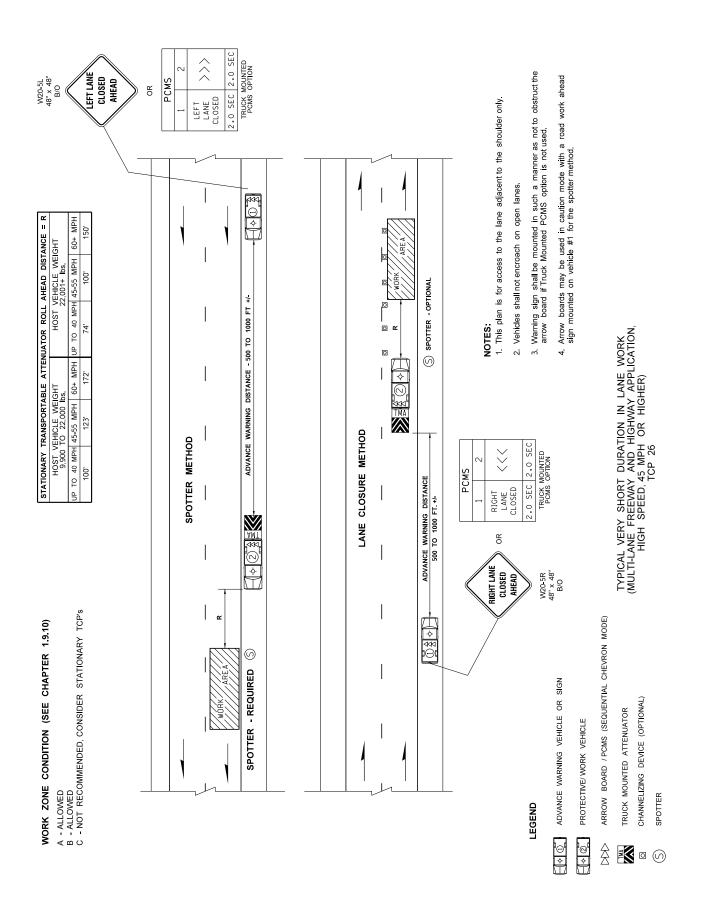


TCP 25 Typical Very Short Duration Work Operation
(Multi-Lane Application, Low Speed, 40 mph or Lower)

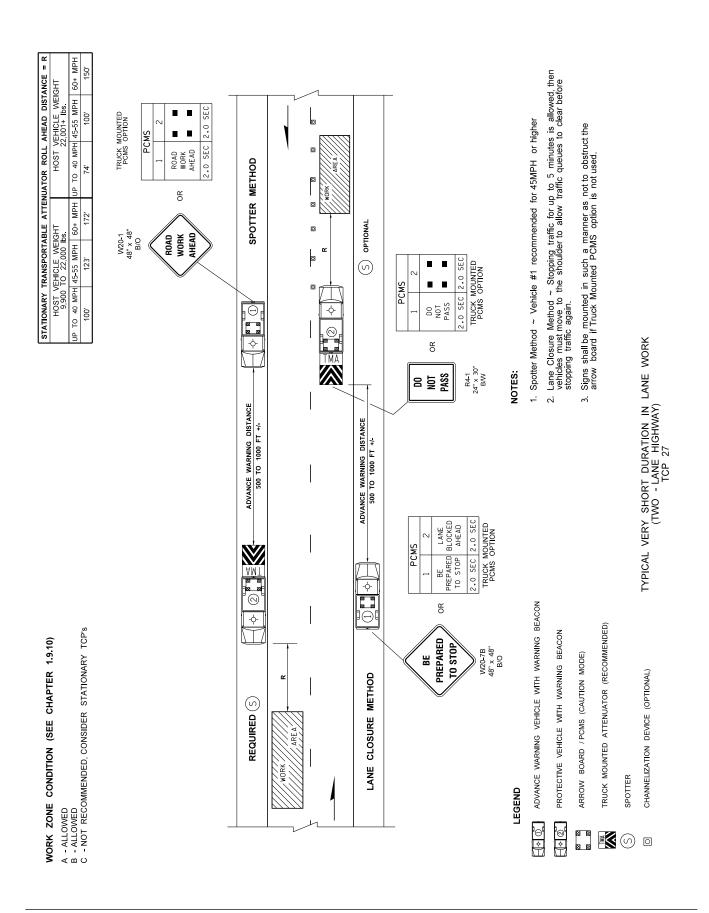


Chapter 3 Short Duration Work Zones

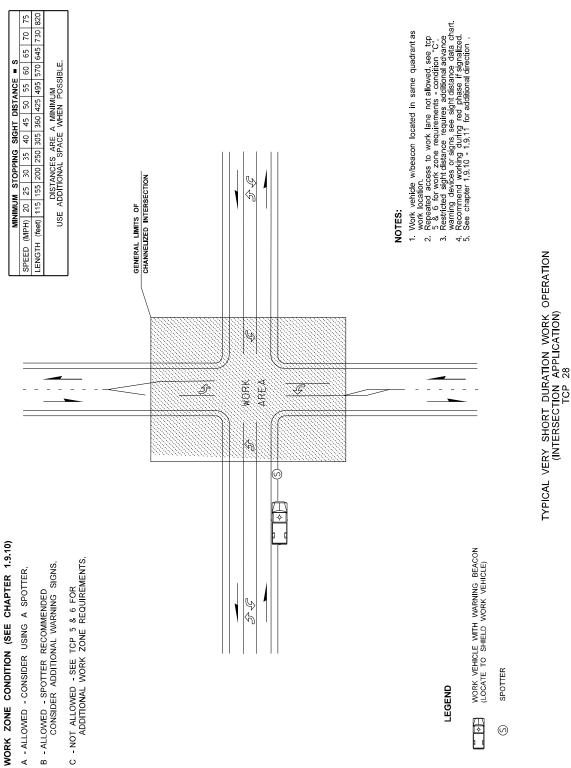
TCP 26 Typical Very Short Duration In-lane Work (Multi-Lane Freeway



TCP 27 Typical Very Short Duration Lane Closure (Two-Lane Highway)



TCP 28 Typical Very Short Duration Work Operation (Intersection Application)



Chapter 4 Mobile Operations

Mobile work zones are for work activities that move along the road continuously (sweeping, mowing, pavement marking applications) or intermittently with short stops for pothole patching, litter bag pickup, herbicide spraying, lane marker replacement or other similar operations.

An advanced warning PCMS is recommended and warning signs move ahead with the work, usually mounted on a shadow vehicle. Truck mounted PCMS, attenuators, and warning lights are some of the devices that may be used for moving operations. Contact the Region Traffic Office Staff for assistance selecting appropriate PCMS messages.

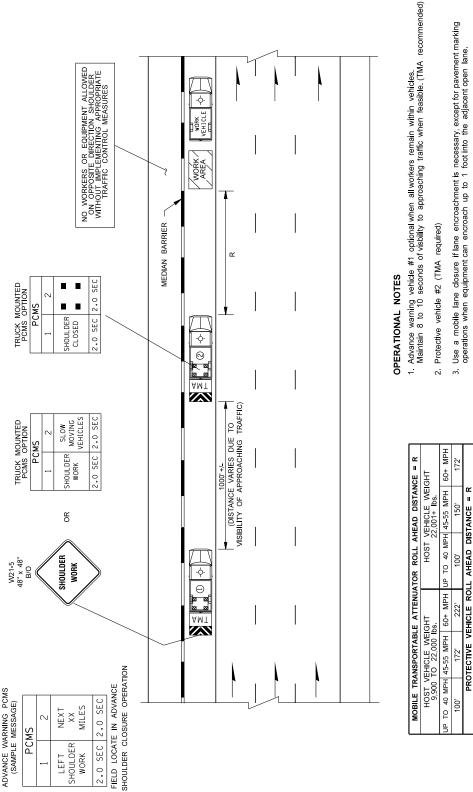
Mobile work zones are well suited to many maintenance operations and can be an efficient way to accomplish many types of work, but due to the moving nature of these operations and lack of channelization devices when closing a lane, careful consideration of traffic and roadway conditions as they relate to the specific operation must be done prior to using this type of traffic control.

The following TCPs depict typical examples of mobile work zones:

TCP 29	Typical Mobile Freeway Operation, Left Shoulder Closed For work operations that can be accomplished on the shoulder without encroachment into the adjacent lanes.
TCP 30	Typical Mobile Freeway Operation, Left Lane Closure For work operations on the left shoulder or in the lane.
TCP 31	Typical Mobile Freeway Operation, Middle Lane Work Area For multi-lane freeway applications where the work takes place in the middle lanes, this plan depicts a mobile double left-lane closure operation.
TCP 32	Typical Mobile Operation, Two Lane Roadway Lane Closure For mobile operations on a rural two-lane, two-way roadway with "in lane" work.
TCP 33	Typical Mobile Operation, Two Lane Roadway Shoulder Closure For mobile operations on a rural two-lane, two-way roadway with no encroachment.

Chapter 4 **Mobile Operations**

TCP 29 Typical Mobile Freeway Operation Left Shoulder Closed



- Use a mobile lane closure if lane encroachment is necessary, except for pavement marking operations when equipment can encroach up to 1 foot into the adjacent open lane.
- Contact Region Traffic Management center prior to work begin and end.

NO SPECIFIED DISTANCE REQUIRED. STRATEGICALLY POSITION WORK VEHICLE TO PROTECT WORK CREW.

- Right shoulder dosure operations use the same operation, Interchange ramps need additional consideration. As necessary, use a vehicle with warning beacon to hold on-ramp traffic until the operation passes the on-ramp merge area.
- Advance warning PCMS is recommended.
- 7. Warning sign shall be mounted in such a manner as not to obstruct the arrow board if Truck Mounted PCMS option is not used.

TYPICAL MOBILE FREEWAY OPERATION LEFT SHOULDER CLOSED TCP 29

TRUCK MOUNTED ARROW BOARD/ PCMS (CAUTION MODE)

TRUCK MOUNTED ATTENUATOR

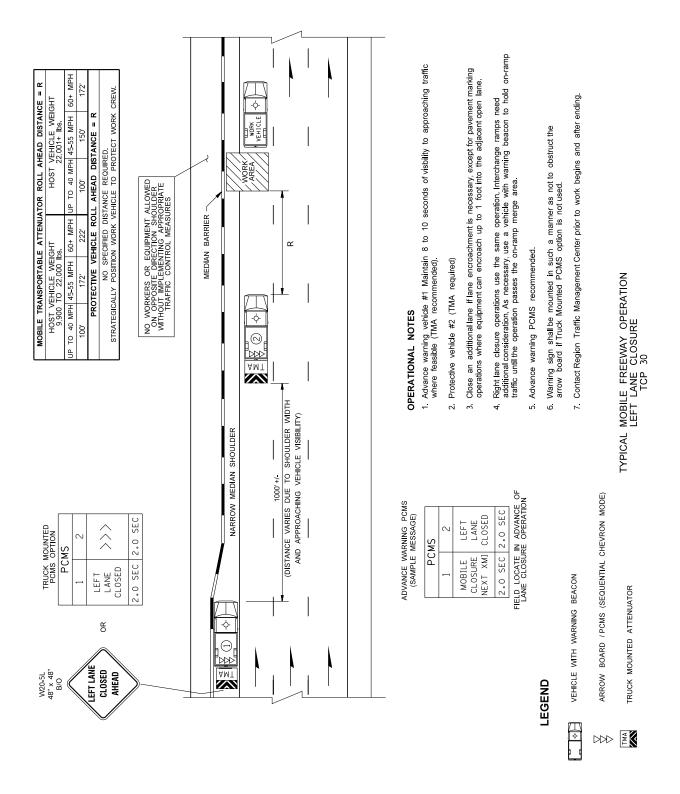
TMA 22 22 23 22

VEHICLE WITH WARNING BEACON

LEGEND

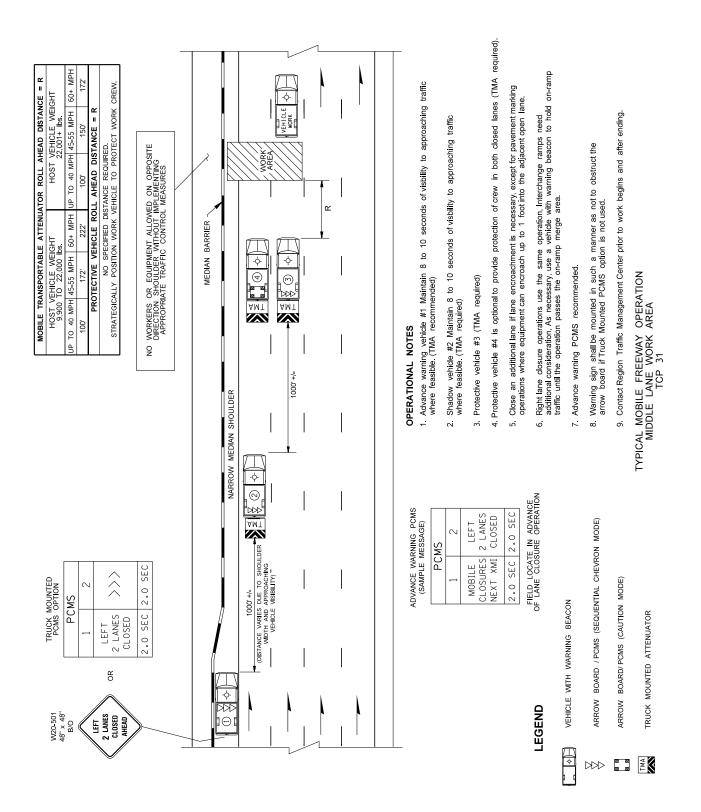
Ы

TCP 30 Typical Mobile Freeway Operation Left Lane Closure

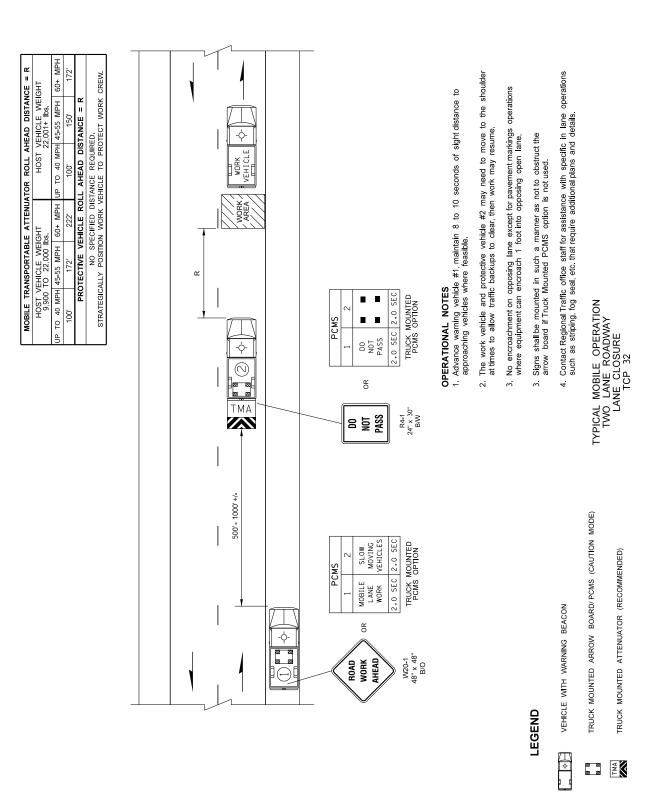


Chapter 4 Mobile Operations

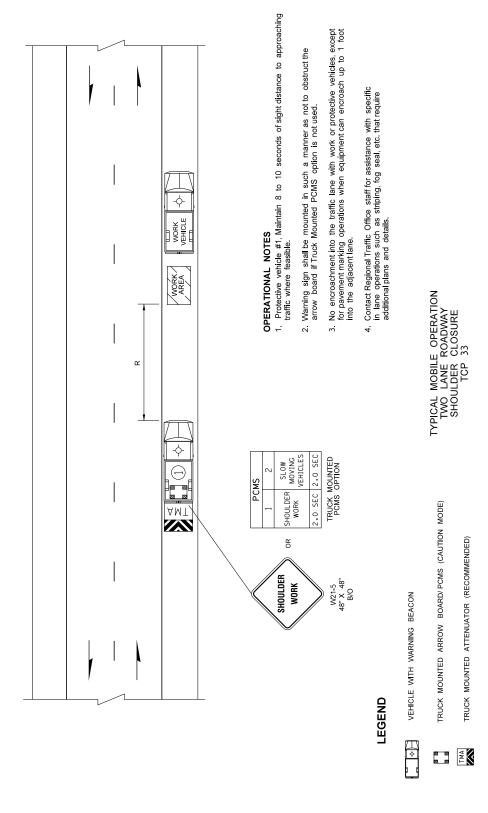
TCP 31 Typical Mobile Freeway Operation Middle Lane Work Area



TCP 32 Typical Mobile Operation Two Lane Roadway Lane Closure



TCP 33 Typical Mobile Operation Two Lane Roadway Shoulder Closure



MOBILE TRANSPORTABLE ATTENUATOR ROLL AHEAD DISTANCE = R

+09

TO 40 MPH 45-55 MPH 60+ MPH PROTECTIVE VEHICLE

HOST VEHICLE WEIGHT 22,001+ lbs. JP TO 40 MPH 45-55 MPH NO SPECIFIED DISTANCE REQUIRED. STRATEGICALLY POSITION WORK VEHICLE TO PROTECT WORK CREW.

Chapter 5 Special Details

The following detail plans show examples which are difficult to show on other traffic control plans or where additional guidance is necessary.

TCD 1 Shoulder Excavation Protection

This detail provides guidance to drop-off protection and providing a recoverable slope if a vehicle were to drive off the edge of the roadway in a work zone during non-work hours.

TCD 2 Typical Motorcycle Signing Detail

This detail provides examples for sign placement in using the Motorcycles Use Extreme Caution sign in coordination with specific warning signs.

Place the warning sign in advance of the Motorcycle warning sign. (See RCW 47.36.200 and WAC 468-95-305.

TCD 3 Typical Speed Zone Detail for Chip Seal Project

Guidance for the signing requirements in chip seal projects with reduced work zone speed limits.

TCD 4 Typical Work Beyond the Shoulder

Typical example taken from MUTCD application that details minimum signing requirements for work within 15 feet of the edge of roadway.

TCD 5 Typical Long-Term Shoulder Closure on High Speed Roadway

Typical example taken from the MUTCD, this plan depicts the signing and channelizing device requirements for shoulder closure operations, particularly operations with barrier.

TCD 6 Typical Rolling Slowdown

See detailed operational guidance that accompanies this plan.

TCD 7 Example Warning Signs for Emergencies

See detailed operational guidance that accompanies this plan.

TCD 8 Temporary Pavement Marking Details

This detail sheet provides descriptions and typical layouts as needed.

TCD 9 Typical Intersection Pedestrian Traffic Control

This plan depicts typical signing examples for closing of a sidewalk during work zone operations. Specific pedestrian needs must be considered prior to any work beginning that impacts pedestrian pathways. Special attention must be given to pedestrian ADA accommodations. Consult with Region Traffic Office for assistance with specific issues or needs to provide the appropriate pedestrian controls.

Chapter 5 Special Details

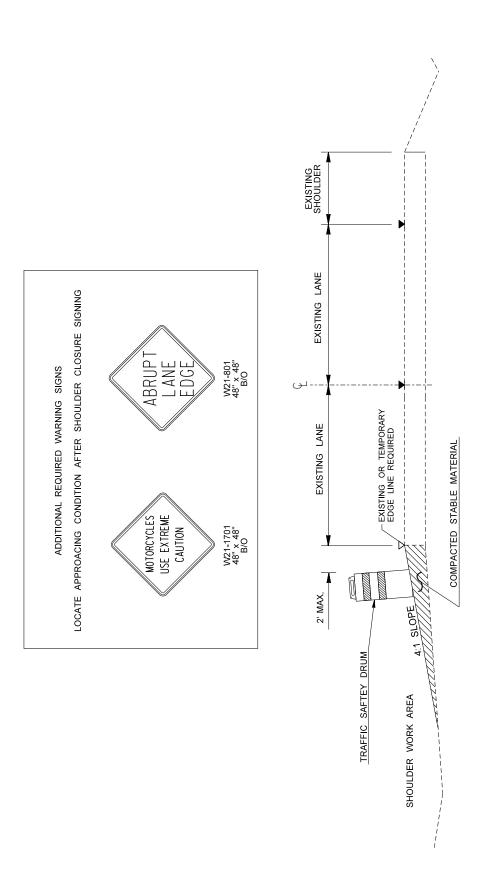
TCD 10 Typical Mobile Shoulder Operation with Lane Encroachment

For mobile operations on a rural two-lane, two-way roadway with lane encroachment and limited sight distance.

TCD 11 Typical Exit Gore Channelization Details

This example is for use during paving operations in the vicinity of an exit gore, the existing pavement markings are commonly covered by new pavement and the markings are not visible, so this detail shows a method to create a temporary physical gore for use until the permanent pavement marking is installed.

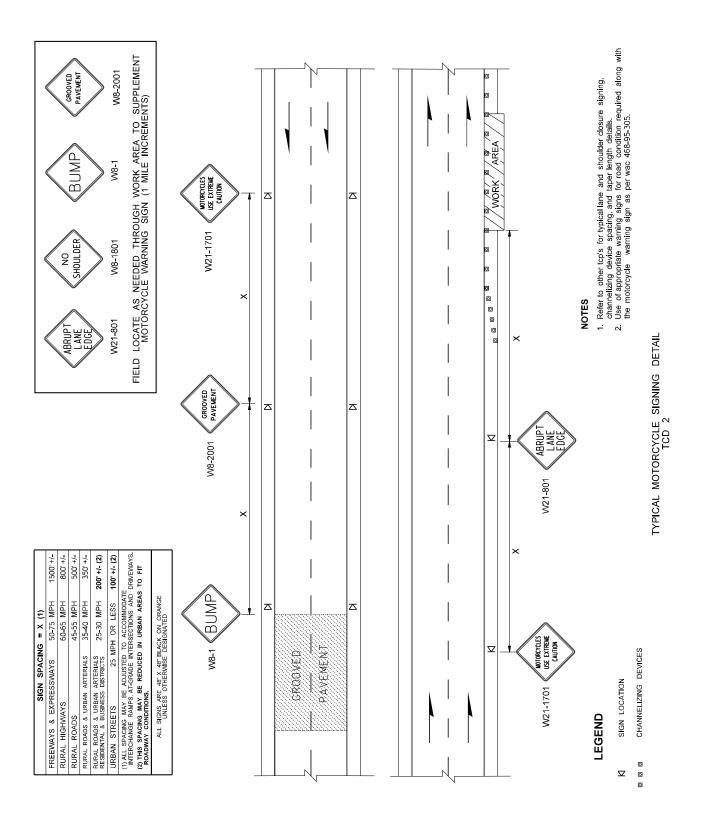
TCD 1 Shoulder Work Area Protection



SHOULDER EXCAVATION PROTECTION TCD 1

Not allowed on freeways. Conduct all operations to minimize any drop-offs
(abrupt changes in roadway elevation) left exposed during nonworking hours.
 Shoulder excavation shall be limited to one side of roadway at a time, less
than 2 feet and not remaining for more than three days.
 Other channelizing devices may be used in lieu of a drum at 40 MPH or less.
 Refer to TCP 9 or 10 for shoulder closure requirements and information.

TCD 2 Typical Motorcycle Signing Detail



Special Details Chapter 5

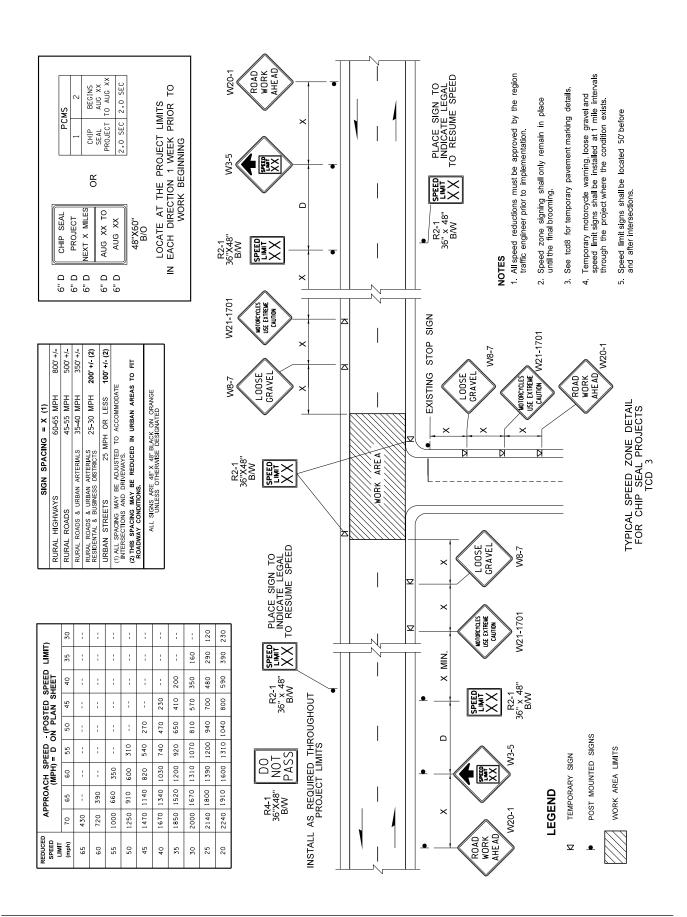
TCD 3 SPEEDZONE DETAIL FOR CHIP SEAL PROJECTS

Speed limit reductions must be approved by the Region Traffic Engineer prior to installing speed reduction signing. See the *Traffic Manual Appendix 5B* for the approval process and request forms.

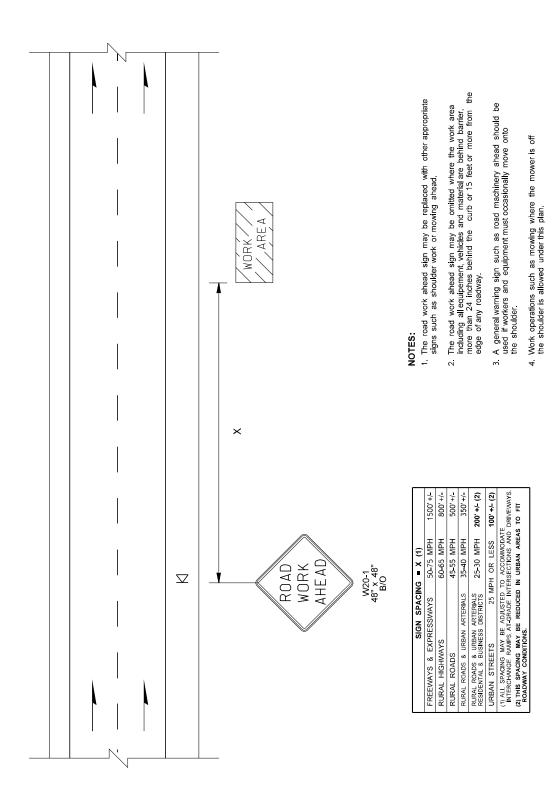
The regulatory speed may be reduced as low as 25 MPH during initial rock application and brooming. After the final brooming, the speed limit reduction shall be removed or moved ahead with operation.

Traffic Control Plan shown on next page

TCD 3 Typical Speed Zone Detail for Chip Seal Project



TCD 4 Typical Work Beyond the Shoulder



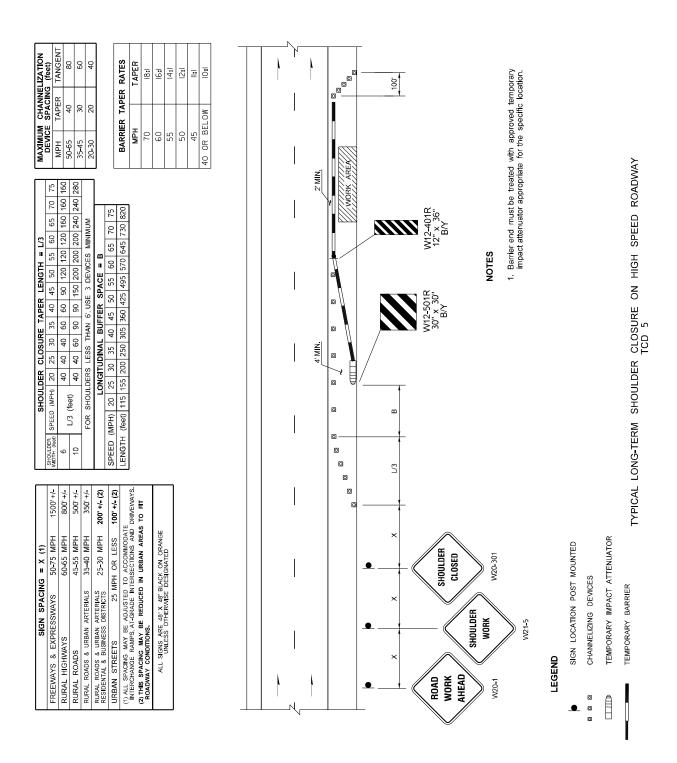
TYPICAL WORK BEYOND THE SHOULDER TCD 4

SIGN LOCATION

 ∇

LEGEND

TCD 5 Typical Long-Term Shoulder Closure on High Speed Roadway



Special Details Chapter 5

TCD 6 Rolling Slowdown

A rolling slowdown is a legitimate form of traffic control commonly practiced by the WSP and highway maintenance crews. This use is valuable for emergency, or **very specific** short duration closures (e.g. to pick debris from the roadway, to push a blocking disabled to the shoulder, or to pull power lines across the roadway). The traffic control vehicles form a moving blockade across all lanes, which reduce traffic speeds and create a large gap in traffic, or clear area, allowing very short-term work to be accomplished **without completely stopping the traffic**.

Other traditional forms of traffic control such as lane closures should be considered first and as the primary choice when possible. If the slowdown is to be a scheduled operation, then the Regional Traffic Office needs to be contacted with a work request so a site specific traffic control plan (TCP) can be developed and/or reviewed and approved. The gap in traffic created by the rolling slowdown, and other traffic issues, should be addressed on an approved TCP. Also, use of WSP is encouraged whenever possible, at a minimum coordination with WSP is necessary.

In the event of debris in the roadway, a blocking disabled vehicle, or other **emergency**, the use of experience and resources at hand, along with sound judgment and common sense, will suffice in lieu of an approved, site specific, TCP. TCD 6 has been developed as a guideline to represent the basic requirements for performing a safe and effective rolling slowdown. Site specific TCPs can be developed based on this plan.

Equipment availability is a prime consideration. Before starting this operation, ensure there is at least one protective/blockade vehicle (TMA recommended) per each lane, and one work vehicle to cover every point of access (on-ramp) into the "rolling slowdown" segment of roadway and one more to serve as the chase vehicle. (Only during emergencies should less than protective/blockade vehicle per lane be considered.) Truck mounted PCMS boards are very beneficial in helping drivers understand the operation. Be sure that every crewmember participating is well briefed and knows what is needed from them. Good communications for this operation are essential!

The traffic control vehicles leading the rolling slowdown must enter the roadway far enough upstream from the work operation site to allow a clear area in front of them to develop. The traffic control vehicles will work into position so that each lane is controlled. As in every other form of traffic control, sight distance is important, so that drivers are not surprised. While traveling at a fixed and reduced rate of speed, a gap in traffic must be created which is long enough to provide the estimated time needed for the work to be done.

Chapter 5 Special Details

A separate traffic control vehicle, "chase vehicle," shall follow the slowest, or last, vehicle ahead of the blockade. When that last vehicle passes, the crew can begin the work operation.

All ramps and entrances to the roadway between the moving blockade and work operation must be temporarily closed using traffic control equipment and personnel.

Each of those ramps must remain closed until the crew doing the work gives the "all clear" signal, or until the front of the moving blockade passes the closed on-ramp(s).

Radio communications between the work crew and the moving blockade are required so the speed of the blockade can be adjusted, if necessary, to increase or decrease the closure time. Release traffic only after you have confirmation that all workers and their vehicles are clear of the roadway.

Rolling Slowdown Calculations

Rolling Slowdown Equations

Known Variables:

T_{CLEAR} = Clear time needed to complete all work [minutes]

 V_{RS} = Rolling slowdown target speed [mph]

V_{TRAFFIC} = Slowest Traffic Vehicle Speed Expected [mph]

Variables to be Determined:

 D_{RS} = Minimum rolling slowdown distance ahead to starting point [miles] T_{RS} = Rolling slowdown duration [minutes]

Equations:

$$D_{RS} = \frac{T_{CLEAR} \times V_{RS} \times V_{TRAFFIC}}{60 \times (V_{TRAFFIC} - V_{RS})} \qquad T_{CLEAR} = \frac{60 \times (V_{TRAFFIC} - V_{RS}) \times D_{RS}}{V_{RS} \times V_{TRAFFIC}}$$

$$T_{RS} = \frac{60 \times D_{RS}}{V_{RS}} \qquad V_{RS} = \frac{60 \times D_{RS}}{T_{RS}}$$

Special Details Chapter 5

Example Rolling Slowdown Calculations

On a posted 60 MPH freeway you need 10 minutes of clear time to perform a maintenance operation or temporary repair.

Known Variables:

 $T_{CLFAR} = 10$ minutes

$$V_{RS} = 60 - 40 = 20 \text{ mph}$$

Note: Rolling slowdown target speed is 40 mph less than 60 mph speed limit.

$$V_{TRAFFIC} = 60 \text{ mph}$$

Note: Traffic speed based on 60 mph speed limit. Use truck speed limits if present and consider steep grades effect on speeds.

Equations:

$$D_{RS} = \frac{T_{CLEAR} \times V_{RS} \times V_{TRAFFIC}}{60 \times (V_{TRAFFIC} - V_{RS})} \rightarrow D_{RS} = \frac{10 \times 20 \times 60}{60 \times (60 - 20)} = \frac{12000}{2400} = 5.00 = 5.0 \text{ miles}$$

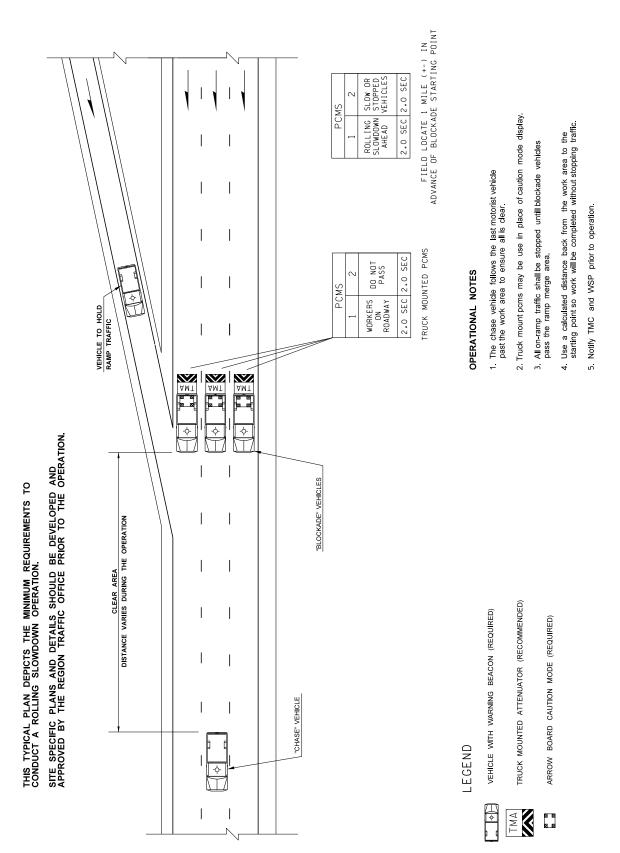
$$T_{RS} = \frac{60 \times D_{RS}}{V_{RS}} \rightarrow T_{RS} = \frac{60 \times 5.00}{20} = \frac{300}{20} = 15 \text{ minutes}$$

The slowdown operation will need to start a minimum of 5 miles in advance of the work area and will take approximately 15 minutes to reach the work area. Work can begin once the chase vehicle clears all traffic past the work area.

Approximately 10 minutes of clear time will remain. All on-ramp traffic from the start point to the work area will need to be held until the slowdown operation completely passes the on-ramp.

Chapter 5 Special Details

TCD 6 Typical Rolling Slowdown Plan



TYPICAL ROLLING SLOWDOWN TCD 6

Special Details Chapter 5

TCD 7 Emergency Operations

The immediate response to an emergency must, by necessity, make use of whatever devices and equipment are available. Assistance from the Washington State Patrol and WSDOT Incident Response Team may be appropriate. The use of flares is allowed unless flammable material is present, electronic flares or glow sticks are an option for this condition.

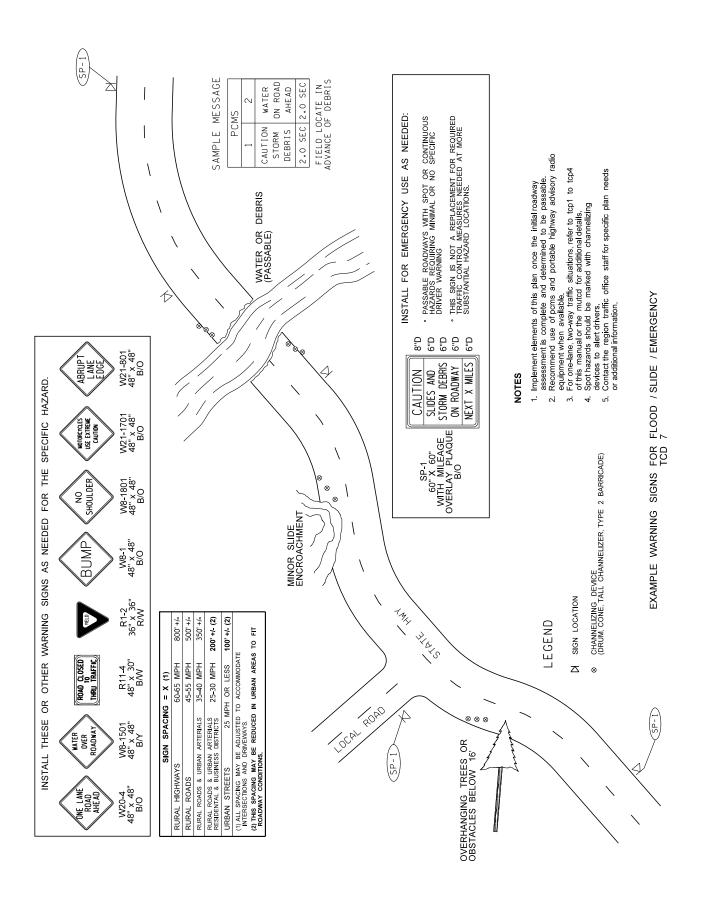
Implement the appropriate traffic control plan (lane closure, etc.) if the situation is expected to last longer than 60 minutes. This allows for a short duration operation, until traffic control assistance arrives.

It is important to differentiate between an actual emergency and an emergent condition. An actual emergency requires an immediate response to save lives or prevent serious injury using whatever resources are available, usually in response to a crash or incident. An emergent condition requires an expedient yet planned response to a situation that may have the potential to cause a crash, but the crash has not yet occurred or a crash or other event has caused damage needing repair after the crash event. Most "call outs" or damage reports fall into the emergent condition category and although serious to varying degrees, still allow some period of time to plan a reasonable short duration work zone response, even if additional resources are needed once the condition is evaluated on site.

TCD 7 reflects various conditions and measures that might be applied as part of an emergency response for a natural disaster. More commonly, emergencies are those caused by vehicle crashes, breakdowns or spilled or lost cargo. Response to these types of emergencies is urgent and not specifically addressed by work zone standards. Refer to WSDOT Incident Response Program for guidance.

Response to an emergency is inherently more dangerous than planned situations. Do not expose yourself to a life-threatening situation. Always wait for assistance and protect yourself.

TCD 7 Example Warning Signs for Emergencies



TCD8 **Temporary Pavement Marking Details**

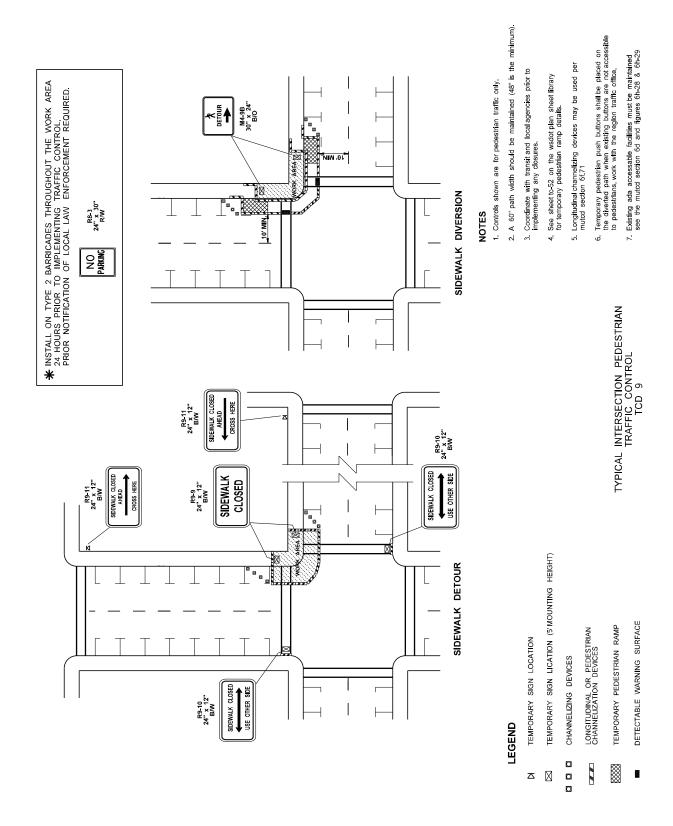
WORK OPERATIONS THAT REMOVE OR OBSCURE EXISTING PAVEMENT MARKINGS MUST PROVIDE FOR TEMPORARY MARKINGS UNTIL THE PERMANENT MARKINGS. THE MARKINGS ARE APPLIED. TEMPORARY MARKINGS MAY BE USED UNTIL IT IS PRACTICAL AND POSSIBLE TO INSTALL PERMANENT MARKINGS. THE DETAILS BELOW SHOW VARIOUS COMMON APPLICATIONS. CONTACT THE REGION TRAFFIC OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE WITH MORE COMPLEX SITUATIONS.

"PASS WITH CARE" AND "DO NOT PASS" SIGNS SHALL BE INSTALLED IN CONJUNCTION WITH TEMPORARY PAVEMENT MARKINGS. RPM'S CHANNELIZING DEVICES SPACED AT 200'+/- ON TANGENTS 100'+/- ON CURVES TAPE YELLOW TEMP 4" YELLOW TEMP OR PAINT LINE 2 LANE ROADWAYS CHIP SEALED SURFACE ASPHALT PAVEMENT CHIP SEALED SURFACE TAPE LINES TEMP MULTI-LANE ROADWAYS WHITE ASPHALT PAVEMENT TEMP YELLOW CHANNELIZING DEVICES — SPACED AT 200°+/- ON TANGENTS 100°+/- ON CURVES O 4" WHITE TE TAPE OR PAINT LINE ASPHALT PAVEMENT 0 0

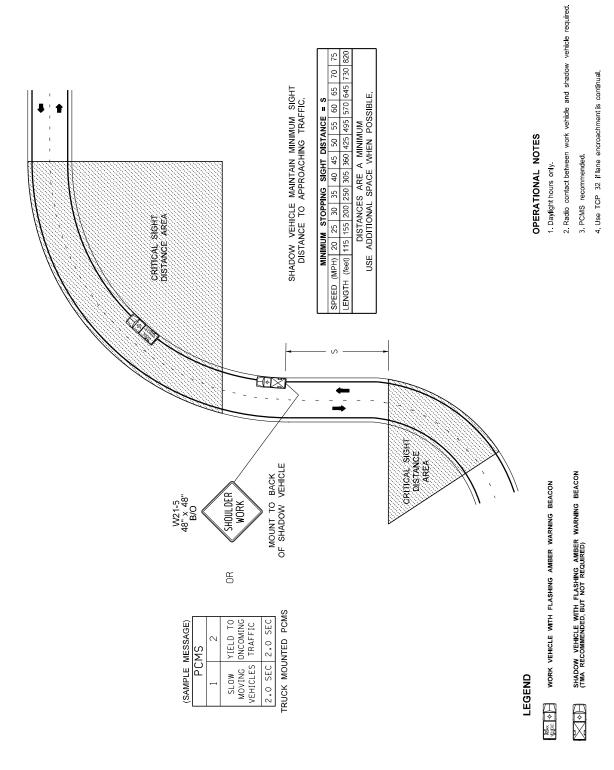
TEMPORARY PAVEMENT MARKING DETAILS TCD 8

1. Temporary edge lines are not required, if used, place temporary rpm's at 5'spacing to simulate a solid line. 2. The edge line delineation with channelizing devices should be considered, but are optional. 3. For long term projects, a temporary pavement marking plan should be developed.

TCD 9 Typical Intersection Pedestrian Traffic Control

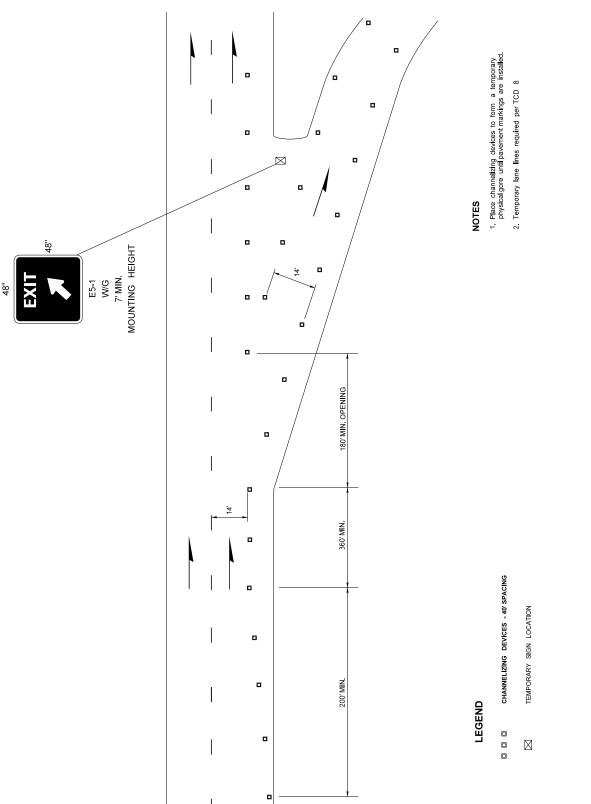


TCD 10 Typical Mobile Shoulder Operation with Lane Encroachment



MOBILE SHOULDER OPERATION WITH LANE ENCROACHMENT TCD 10

TCD 11 Typical Exit Gore Channelization Plan



Appendices

Appendix 1	Checklist for Establishing a Temporary Traffic Control Zone
Appendix 2	Taper/Channelizing Device Table
Appendix 3	Road Warrior Operations
Appendix 4	Freeway lane closures with shoulder driving and speed limit reductions
Appendix 5	Litter Crew Plans

Appendix 1 Checklist for Establishing a Temporary Traffic Control Zone*

Completed	Item
	Determine the duration of work (Stationary, Short-Duration, very short duration or Mobile)*
	Select an appropriate TCP for the work based on location, duration, type of roadway, motor vehicle traffic volume and speed. (See volume considerations in Section 1-9.10).
	Make any necessary modifications to the TCP to address site specific conditions like intersections, driveways or sight distance restrictions. Document these modifications.*
	Make accommodations for pedestrians and ADA needs as appropriate.
	Accommodate all travel modes such as bicyclists, transit and school operations as dictated by context and presence of these modes.
	Determine work hours avoiding peak traffic times (refer to a region work hour chart or contact the Region Traffic Office for assistance)*
	Check the condition and availability of devices (refer to Quality Guidelines Booklet).
	Install devices in the direction of traffic beginning with the first device or sign the driver will see. Follow spacing and layout as per the TCP or modified TCP.
	Allow for buffer space free of obstructions.
	Conduct a drive through to check for problems. Make adjustments as appropriate. Document these adjustments.
	Continuously maintain devices while in place.
	Remove devices as soon as the work is completed, beginning with the last device placed.

^{*}Utilize the Region Traffic Office staff for assistance to address specific concerns and questions.

Appendix 2

Taper/Channelizing Device Table

Merging, Shifting, and Shoulder Taper Lengths and Number of Channelization Devices Used

(All minimums)

Ξ.															
	oers oulders)			Devices	ε	ო	က	4	4	9	9	9	9	7	7
	Shoulder Tapers (Assumes 10' Shoulders)		(ft)	Length	52	35	90	70	06	150	170	185	200	220	235
	Sho (Assum			MPH	20	25	30	35	40	45	20	22	09	92	70
		1/2 L		Devices	3	4	2	2	9	10	6	6	10	11	12
	12 Feet	1/2		Shifting	40	9	06	125	160	270	300	330	360	390	420
	121			Devices	9	7	10	6	12	19	16	18	19	21	22
		_		Devices Merging	08	125	180	245	320	540	009	099	720	780	840
(21112111111111111111111111111111111111		1/2 L		Devices	3	4	2	2	9	6	ω	6	6	10	11
	11 Feet	1/		Shifting	40	09	85	115	150	250	275	305	330	370	385
	11 6			Devices	9	7	6	6	11	18	15	16	18	19	20
				Merging	75	115	165	225	295	495	220	909	099	715	770
		1/2 L		Devices	3	4	2	2	9	6	∞	∞	6	6	10
	10 Feet	1/		Shifting	35	55	75	105	135	225	250	275	300	325	350
	101	لب		MPH Merging Devices Shifting Devices Merging Devices	9	9	∞	∞	10	16	14	15	16	17	19
		_		Merging	0/	105	150	205	270	450	200	550	009	650	700
		Lane Width		MPH	20	25	30	35	40	45	20	52	09	9	70

Device Spacing Chart

shoulder taper equals Shoulder Width x Speed / 3

1J 08	1J 09	40 ft
40 ft	30 ft	20 ft
50/70 mph	35/45 mph	25/30 mph
	40 ft	40 ft 30 ft

* The number of channelizing devices listed is the minimum required. Use of more devices should be considered if additional delineation is desired.

Appendix 3 Road Warrior Operations

This appendix addresses the proper operations for WSDOT employees that are working from a Road Warrior setting/retrieving traffic control devices. The intent of this procedural document is to ensure that these operations across the state are performed in a like manner.

1. References:

- WAC 296-880 Unified Safety Standards for Fall Protection
- WAC 296-865 Safety Standards for Motor Vehicles
- DOSH Directive 6.55 Channelizing Device Placement and Operations

2. Operations:

- Road Warriors are designed to set and retrieve traffic control devices in work zones which involves vehicle movement while employees are on the rear deck of the vehicle.
- Employees are only allowed to work on the deck of the road warrior when it is in a closed lane or when it is shadowed by another vehicle equipped with a truck-mounted attenuator (TMA) with the appropriate roll ahead distance. When installing or removing a lane closure, the lane is considered closed when all the advance warning signs and PCMS (if used) are in place and the lane closure channelizing device taper with associated arrow board are in place.
- In a flagging operation, (TCP 1), or a pilot car operation, (TCP 2), the road warrior may be utilized without the aid of an additional TMA to set delineation devices if traffic is stopped at the flagger station in the direction of its travel.
- The speed at which these operations occur shall not exceed 20 mph.
- The driver of the vehicle shall maintain constant communication with the
 employees on the vehicle. In high speed and/or high volume traffic it may be
 required to have an electronic communication system between the driver and the
 employee in the well of the vehicle. The communication method used shall be
 described in the Pre Activity Safety Plan, (PASP), for the operation. All employees
 in the operation shall understand what communication procedures are in place.
- Employees shall not be transported while on the deck of the road warrior at
 any speed unless they are setting/removing traffic control devices. Sign setting
 operations shall be accomplished by employees exiting/entering the cab or
 the employees must be restrained on the deck/well of the road warrior. When
 restrained employees are setting signs from the deck/well, the road warrior shall
 not travel more than 20 mph between signs.

Road Warrior Operations Appendix 3

3. Employees working from the well of the vehicle:

When employees are setting or removing traffic control devices while in the well of the road warrior a fall restraint system shall be utilized at all times. All anchorages and fall restraint equipment in use shall meet the minimum requirements of WAC 296-880 Unified Fall Protection. These are the current methods of accomplishing this for the employees:

- The employee in the well shall be in a seated position and seat belted in place to restrict their ability to exit the vehicle. The seat and seat belts shall be secured to structural members of the vehicle.
- The employee in the well shall be secured to the vehicle with a fall restraint system designed to prevent the workers center of gravity from reaching the fall hazard. This can be accomplished two ways:
 - This can be accomplished by utilizing a short, (approximately two foot), lanyard that is attached to the hip "D" rings of the full body harness and secured to the recessed anchorage point in the deck of the vehicle. This allows the employee enough movement to perform their job function but eliminates the potential fall hazard.
 - This can also be accomplished by securing the employee to an overhead anchorage point that is in a location that will prevent the employee from reaching the fall hazard with their center of gravity. (This shall be accomplished with an adjustable length positioning lanyard that has been adjusted to the appropriate length based on the anchorage location and the worker height.)
- Supervisors and other employees on the deck shall ensure that all employees are keeping the restraint lanyards as short as possible while allowing them the ability to complete the work at hand.

4. Employees working from the deck of the vehicle:

When any employee is setting or removing traffic control devices while on the deck of the road warrior a fall restraint system shall be utilized at all times. All anchorages and fall restraint equipment in use shall meet the minimum requirements of WAC 296-880 Unified Fall Protection.

- To accomplish this, overhead anchorage points are provided that are designed
 to meet the requirements of WAC 296-155-24615 Fall Restraint Specifications,
 (WAC 296-880-220 Personal Fall Restraint Requirements). These anchorage
 points, shall at a minimum, have the ability to support four times the intended
 load that they could be subjected to.
- The employees shall attach directly to these anchorages with an adjustable length, positioning lanyard that is attached to the dorsal "D" ring of their harness. These shall be kept at the minimum length necessary for them to be able to accomplish the work at hand while not having the potential to reach a fall hazard.
- The well cover opposing the cone/barrel setting operation is to be in the lowered/closed position at all times.

Appendix 3 Road Warrior Operations

5. Completion of the cone/barrel setting operation:

After all cones/barrels are set up in the work zone, the employees will vacate the rear of the vehicle and be seated in the cab of a vehicle wearing the appropriate seat belts to travel out of the work area.

6. Training:

All employees that are working on the deck or in the well of the road warrior shall be trained on these procedures. They shall also be trained in the proper selection, use and inspection of the fall restraint system in use. This training shall be provided by the Regional Safety Office, the Regional Maintenance Trainer, or other authorized employees.

Appendix 4 Freeway Lane closures with Speed Limit Reductions

This appendix provides typical plans when a single open freeway lane is partially shifted onto the shoulder, allowing the work area to extend laterally over the lane line.

This shoulder shift configuration is necessary whenever the work area extends over the lane line, and a buffer lane closure is not available, to complete work operations occurring across the entire lane (such as HMA paving, concrete paving, or expansion joint rehabilitation). This occurs on two-lane freeways, but also for work in the middle lane on three-lane freeways.

Both work zone variable regulatory speed limit and advisory speeds listed in Table 4-1 are **required** and must be approved through Region Traffic Operations.

Table 4-1 Freeway Variable Regulatory Work Zone Speed Limit and Advisory Speed Policy

Single Op	en Freeway Lane Shifted onto	Shoulder
Existing Speed Limit	Variable Regulatory Work Zone Speed Limit	Advisory Speed At Work Crew
70 mph	55 mph	40 mph
60 mph	45 mph	40 mph

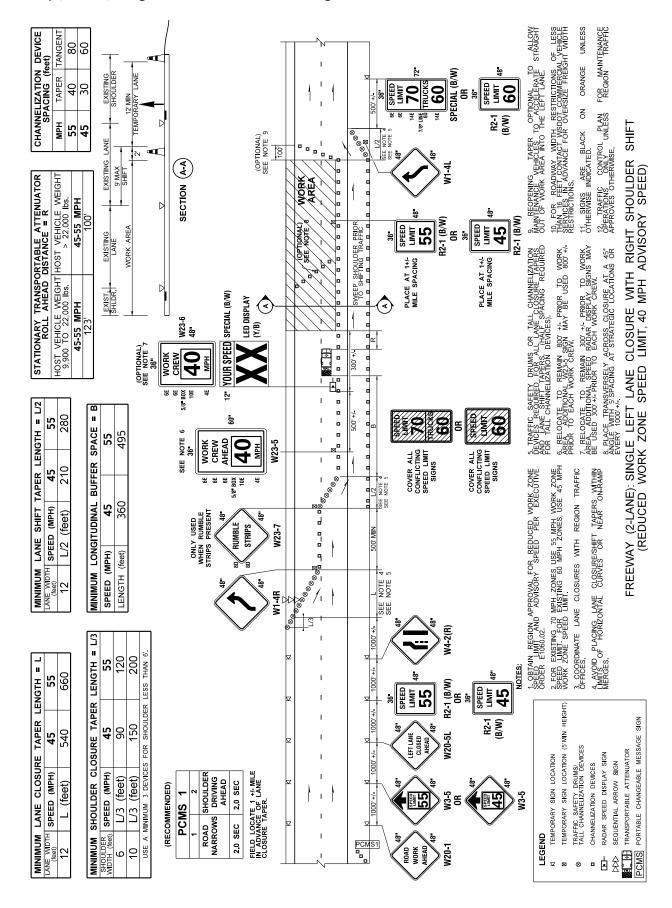
Notes:

- Maintaining the existing posted speed limit is prohibited
- Advisory speeds are required in advance of work crews, W23-5 and W23-6 signage shall be used in advance
- Radar Speed Display Sign, with W23-6, is recommended for Maintenance.

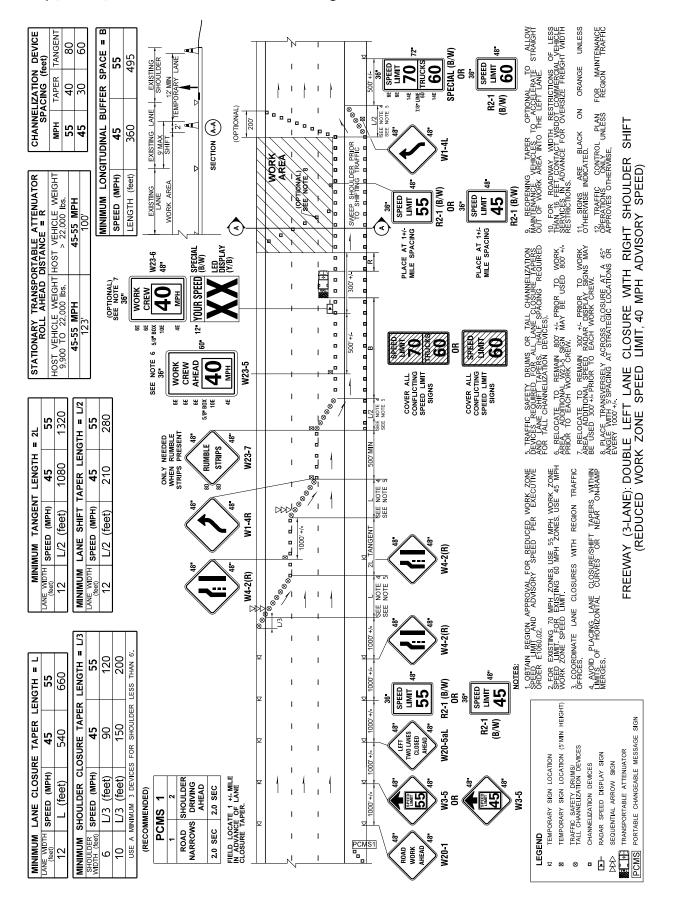
It is understood there will be unique situations that may warrant adjustments to values listed in Table 4-1 based on engineering judgement, but these adjustments are limited to 5 +/- mph to maximize consistency statewide.

See Section 5-18 the *Traffic Manual* for additional information and work with your Region Traffic Engineer for work zone speed limit reduction approvals and notifications.

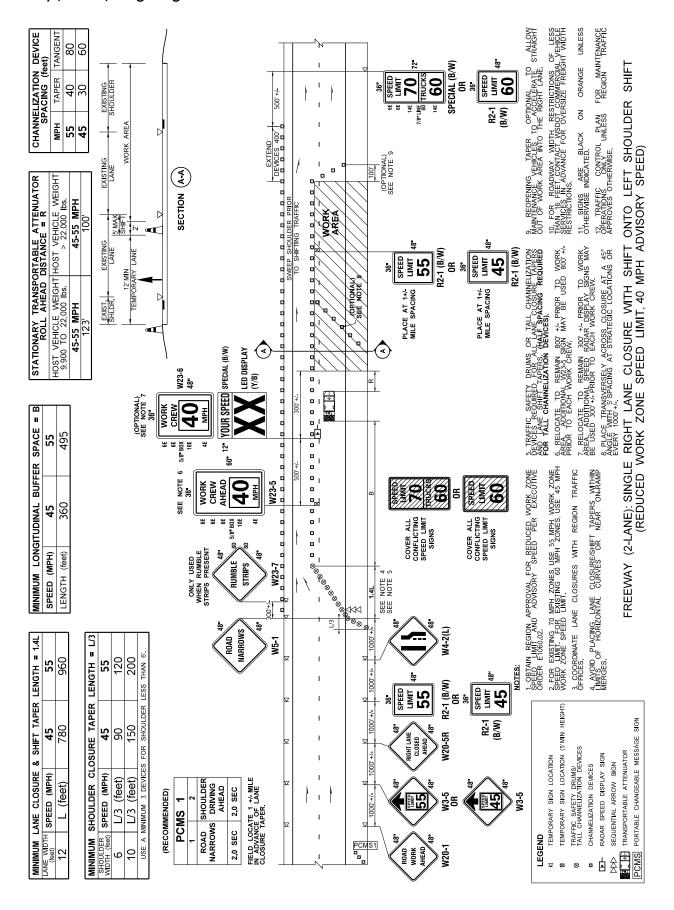
Freeway (2-Lane): Single Left Lane Closure with Right Shoulder Shift



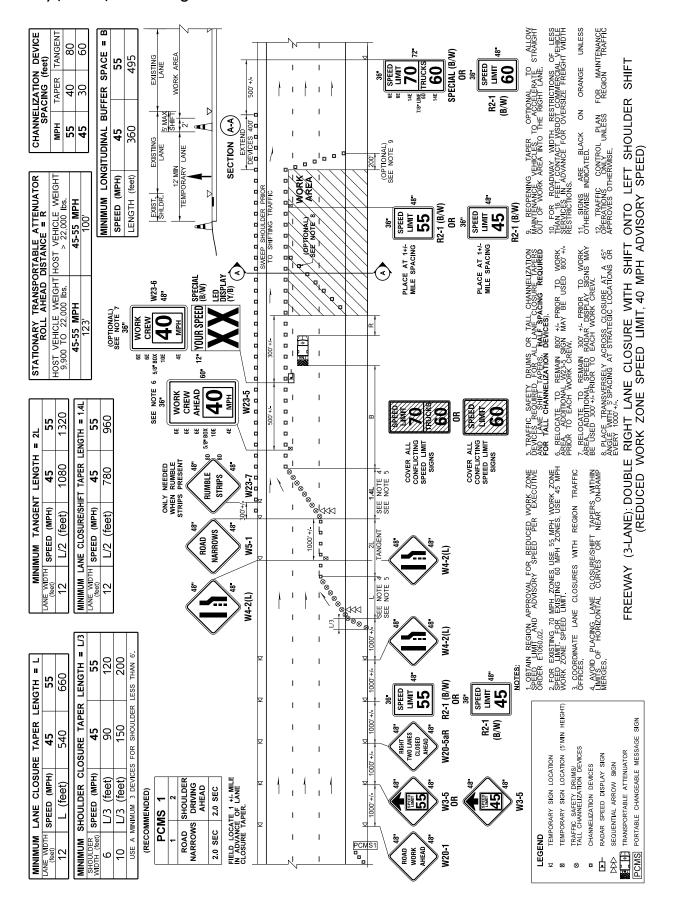
Freeway (3-Lane): Double Left Lane Closure with Right Shoulder Shift



Freeway (2-Lane): Single Right Lane Closure with Left Shoulder Shift



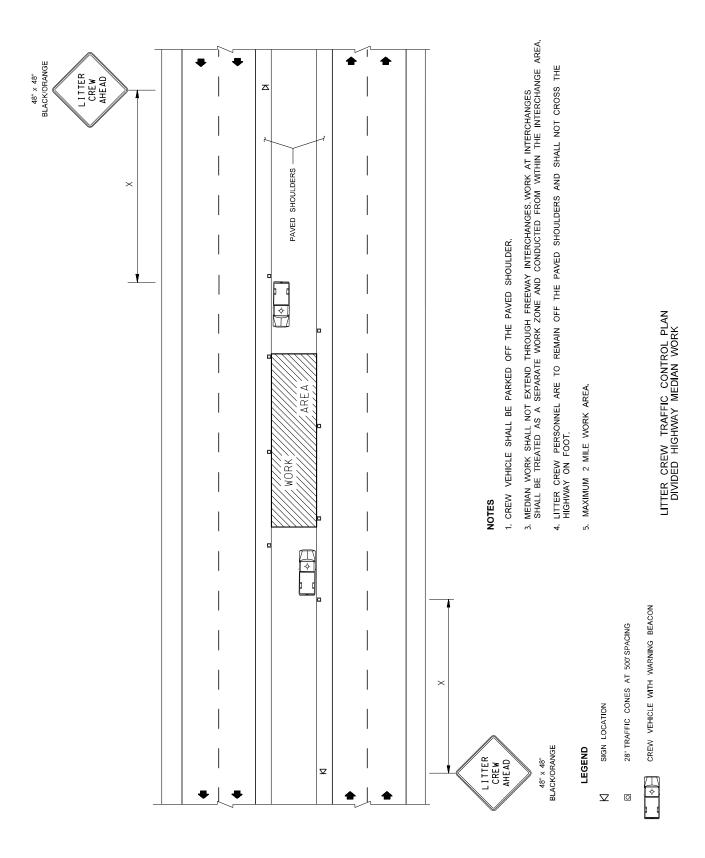
Freeway (3-Lane): Double Right Lane Closure with Left Shoulder Shift



Appendix 5 Litter Crew Plans

This appendix provides minimum traffic control requirements for litter crews working along State Highways.

Litter Crew Traffic Control Plan - Divided Highway Median Work

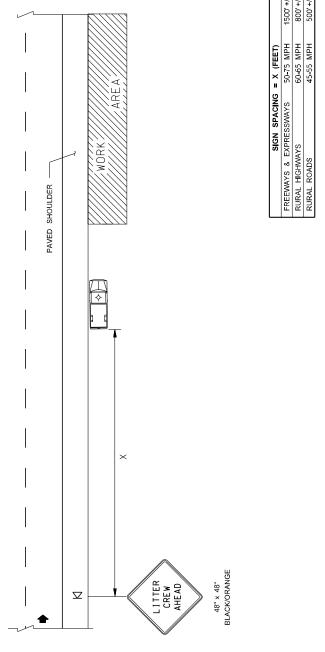


Litter Crew Traffic Control Plan - High Speed Roadway

1. CREW VEHICLE SHALL BE PARKED OFF THE PAVED SHOULDER.

CREW PERSONNEL ARE TO REMAIN OFF THE PAVED SHOULDERS AND SHALL NOT CROSS THE HIGHWAY ON FOOT. 2. LITTER

3. MAXIMUM



SIGN SPACING = X (FEET)	= X (FEET)	
FREEWAYS & EXPRESSWAYS	50-75 MPH	1500' +/-
RURAL HIGHWAYS	60-65 MPH	800, +/-
RURAL ROADS	45-55 MPH	-/+ ,005

LITTER CREW TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN HIGH SPEED ROADWAY

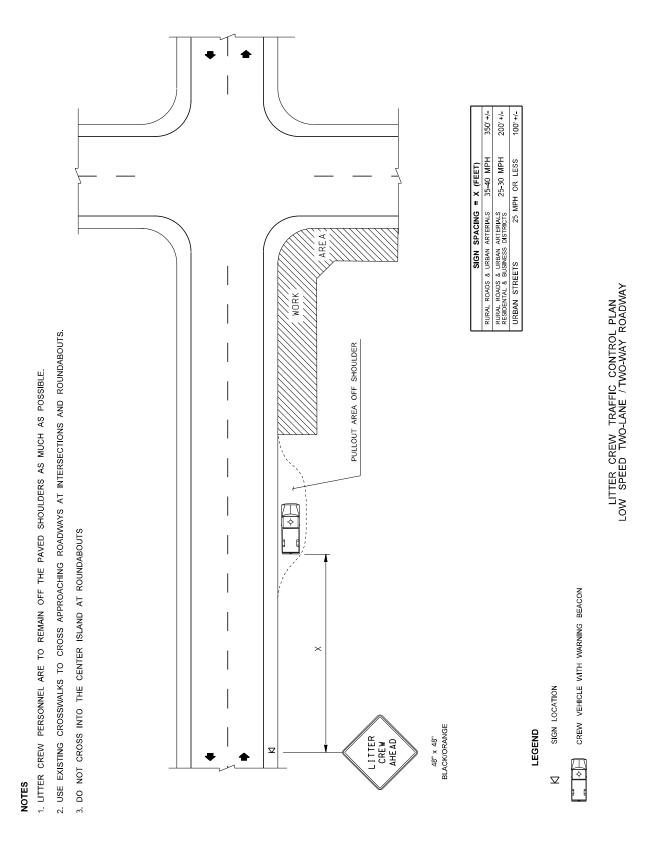
VEHICLE WITH WARNING BEACON

SIGN LOCATION

LEGEND

Litter Crew Plans Appendix 5

Litter Crew Traffic Control Plan - Low Speed two-lane, Two-Way Roadway



Appendix 5 Litter Crew Plans