



Traffic Control Device: **Work Zone**

Date of Revision: **March 15, 2002**

Division:

Subject: **General Guidelines**

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Purpose

The Policies and Standards developed herein establish guidelines to be observed in developing Traffic Management Plans (TMP) for construction and maintenance work zones. These guidelines are directed to the safe and expeditious movement of traffic through construction and maintenance work zones and to the safety of the workforce performing the operations.

The Policies/Standards also sets forth guidelines pertaining to the use, installation, and maintenance of the various traffic control devices required for roadway construction, maintenance, and utility work, and prescribes standards where possible. These guidelines deal with signs, delineators, channelizers, barricades, pavement markings, lighting devices, and flagpersons/flagging equipment. Several typical situations are included in the Policies/Standards that illustrate the proper application of standard traffic control devices.

Policy

The Policies and Standards developed herein must be used as the primary guide in developing Traffic Management Plans for construction and maintenance work zones. The requirements of future Departmental policy directives, statutory/regulatory provisions, and requirements detailed in specifications of work by contract will override these basic guidelines as applicable. The users of these Policies/Standards are responsible for being aware of any special considerations or requirements pertaining to particular situations.

Standard

Since it is not practical to prescribe detailed application standards for all situations that may arise, it is emphasized that **only minimum desirable standards for normal situations are presented**. When unusual or hazardous conditions prevail, Traffic Engineering Branch must be consulted before changes are made to Traffic Management Plans.

RECOMMENDED: _____
Director, Traffic Engineering

APPROVED: _____
Executive Director
Highway Engineering

The general guidelines outlined in the Policies/Standards are applicable to all Provincial Trunk Highways and Provincial Roads. However, the traffic control devices guidelines must be interpreted with respect to the specific traffic characteristics of each location. The level of work zone protection should be based on roadway speed, traffic volume, available sight distance, duration of operation, and hazard exposure. Traffic conditions in urban areas are generally characterized by low speeds, wide ranges of traffic volume, limited manoeuvring room, frequent turns and cross movements, pedestrian traffic, and other obstructions. Rural highways are typically characterized by higher speeds, lower volumes, greater manoeuvring room and less interference from turning vehicles, pedestrians, and encroachments.

Although each situation must be dealt with individually, conformity with the general provisions established herein is required. Whenever possible, identical conditions should be similarly treated. Minor variations may be necessary due to field conditions or other governing factors. In such instances, engineering judgement must be used to select the most appropriate devices.