

Roadway Work Zones

According to OSHA; workers being struck by vehicles or mobile equipment lead to many fatal work zone injuries. Work zones need traffic controls identified by signs, cones, barrels and barriers. Drivers, workers on foot, and pedestrians must be able to see and understand the proper routes. Construction project managers must determine traffic control plans within construction/demolition worksites. Some of OSHA's concerns are:

Work Zone Protections

Various concrete, water, sand, collapsible barriers, crash cushions, and truck-mounted attenuators can help limit motorist intrusions into construction work zones.

Flagging

Flaggers should wear high visibility clothing with a fluorescent background and made of retro reflective material. This makes workers visible for at least 1,000 feet in any direction. Check the label or packaging to ensure that the garments are performance class 2 or 3. Drivers should be warned with signs that there will be flaggers ahead. Flaggers should use STOP/SLOW paddles, paddles with lights, or flags (only in emergencies.)

Training

Flaggers must be trained/certified and use authorized signaling methods.

Lighting and Dust Control

The work area should be illuminated for night work, and if dust is created by the operations, then dust control should be provided. Lights should be positioned in such a manner as to not create glare or blind spots for passing pedestrians and motorists.

