



Toolbox Talks

Temporary Traffic Control



A temporary traffic control zone, also known as a TTC zone, is an area of a roadway where the usual driving conditions are changed because of a work zone in the area.

The main function of TTC is to provide for the safe and effective movement of road users, including drivers, cyclists and pedestrians, through or around TTC zones while also protecting workers and equipment in the work zone.

Approach all activities in work zones involving TTC by focusing on these seven fundamental principles:

1. Develop a plan to make sure that motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and workers are safe while the work zone is in place.
2. As much as possible, avoid interrupting the normal flow of traffic through the work zone and in other areas near the work zone.
3. Guide traffic in a clear and positive manner as it approaches the work zone to avoid confusing the drivers, which can lead to incidents.
4. Inspect the work zone both during the day, and again at night, to make sure that the traffic control measures are effective in bright daylight conditions, as well as low light conditions.
5. Maintain all traffic control devices such as lights, barrels, cones, signs, and barriers so that they are clean visible, and effective.
6. Train all members of the team that will be working inside of the work zone, including supervisors, management, and field personnel, on the proper techniques of temporary traffic control.
7. Communicate with the public before, during, and after the work is performed to help ensure that their safety, as well as the safety of the workers, is considered at all times.

MUTCD Standard 6D.03-04 All workers, including emergency responders, within the right-of-way who are exposed either to traffic (vehicles using the highway for purposes of travel) or to work vehicles and construction equipment within the TTC zone shall wear high-visibility safety apparel.

The protection of the public, motorists, and traffic driving by a job site or work zone is the first priority when establishing temporary traffic control.

- By communicating to drivers, the safe way to proceed through or around the work zone, a safer job site is created, and serious hazards can be prevented.
- Before any detour is created, all necessary signs should be in place.
- TTC signs and devices should be used in a way that get the motorist's attention and provide easy to understand direction.

