

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES

Box 700, Frankfort, IL 60423

815-464-0200

Vol. 23

No. 24

Week of 6/13/2022

Company Name _____ Job Name _____ Date _____

WORKING SAFELY NEAR TRAFFIC

Whenever we mix workers with traffic we have a recipe for danger. In these situations we all have a responsibility to protect ourselves and the public. There are two steps we can take to prevent catastrophes: 1) plan ahead so that we can recognize, understand, and control as many of the hazards as possible; and 2) pay attention every minute to our surroundings and the traffic nearby. Remember that most of those drivers are focused on getting somewhere, they aren't necessarily focused on safety; therefore, we have to double our efforts to keep everyone safe.

When making plans to work near traffic you need to think about the following considerations. Will barricades be necessary? Will a flag person be necessary? Is a permit required from the local authorities? Is the traffic high speed or low speed? Is it heavy or light? Will the character of the traffic change during the operation? Will the work interfere with a crosswalk, school crossing, bus stop, fire station, etc.?

Many states require that warning signs be displayed at appropriate places where work is being done which creates a possible hazard to the public. You have a responsibility to see that approved and appropriate warning devices are properly installed to protect the work area. In congested areas or where traffic is heavy, a flag person may be necessary. Try not to surprise motorists. If you are using warning devices like signs, cones, flags, barricades, revolving lights, or strobe lights, make sure they are placed far enough ahead of the work area to provide adequate warning. When choosing locations for signs, barriers, and flaggers consider how fast the traffic is moving, how long it will take vehicles to slow or stop, and how far traffic is likely to get backed-up. Hills and curves obstruct the motorists' view of signs, flaggers, and backed-up traffic. Plan your work with these obstructions in mind.

Be sure to wear an orange vest, preferably one with reflective stripes. Next, do your best to stay as far away from traffic as possible. Whenever you can, work inside an area protected by concrete barriers. Try not to turn your back on traffic, especially if you are a flagger. If you are paying attention, you might have a chance to get out of the way of a driver who's **not** paying attention to you. If you have your back to that driver, you'll never know what hit you.

**Prevent accidents in work zones by planning ahead
and paying attention to your surroundings.
No one wants to become a hood ornament!**

SAFETY REMINDER

Special Topics For Your Project _____

Employee Safety Recommendations _____

Reviewed MSDS # _____ Subject _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____

These instructions do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations.