



Company Name: _____ Job Site Location: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____ Foreman/Supervisor: _____

Topic 82: Temporary Traffic Control (Shoulder Work Part A)


Introduction: Shoulder work can be dangerous when the proper safety precautions are not taken before beginning work. To avoid accidents or injury, shoulder work signs and channelizing devices should be erected to warn of maintenance, reconstruction, or utility operations. Following are safety guidelines for temporary traffic control where work is done on roadway shoulders:

Shoulder Work Signs: The Shoulder Work sign should have the wording **SHOULDER WORK RIGHT (Left), SHOULDER CLOSED, or RIGHT (Left) SHOULDER CLOSED X FEET (m)** ahead.

- **The shoulder work sign** may be used in advance of the point on a non-limited access highway where there is shoulder work. It may be used singly or in combination with a **ROAD WORK NEXT X MILES (km)** or **ROAD WORK AHEAD** sign.
- **On freeways and expressways**, the **RIGHT (Left) SHOULDER CLOSED X FEET (m)** or **AHEAD** sign followed by **RIGHT (Left) SHOULDER CLOSED** sign, should be used in advance of the point where the shoulder work occurs and should be preceded by a **ROAD WORK AHEAD** sign.
- **Except** for short duration and mobile operations, when a highway shoulder is occupied, a **SHOULDER WORK** sign should be placed in advance of the activity area. When work is performed on a paved shoulder 8 feet (2.4 m) or more in width, channelizing devices should be placed on a taper having a length that conforms to the requirements of a shoulder taper. Signs should be placed such that they do not narrow any existing pedestrian passages to less than 48 inches (1200 mm). If work vehicles are on the shoulder, a **SHOULDER WORK** sign may be used.



Short-Duration or Mobile Operation on Shoulder: In those situations where multiple work locations within a limited distance make it practical to place stationary signs, the distance between the advance warning sign and the work should not exceed 5 miles (8 km).

- **In those situations** where the distance between the advance signs and the work is 2 miles (3.2 km) to 5 miles (8 km), a Supplemental Distance plaque should be used with the Road Work Ahead sign.
- **The ROAD WORK NEXT X MILES (km)** sign may be used instead of the **ROAD WORK AHEAD**  sign if the work locations occur over a distance of more than 2 miles (3.2 km).
- **Warning signs** may be omitted when the work vehicle displays high-intensity rotating, flashing, oscillating, or strobe lights when the distance between work locations is 1 mile (1.6 km) or more, and if the work vehicle travels at traffic speeds between locations.
- **Vehicle hazard warning signals** may be used to supplement high-intensity rotating, flashing, oscillating, or strobe lights. Vehicle hazard warning signals should not be used instead of the vehicle's high-intensity rotating, flashing, oscillating, or strobe lights.
- **When an arrow panel** is used for an operation on the shoulder, the caution mode should be used.

Road Closure with Diversion: Signs and object markers are shown for one direction of travel only.

- **Pavement** markings no longer applicable must be removed or obliterated as soon as practicable.
- **Temporary** barriers (cones, drums, barricades, etc.) and end treatments must be crashworthy.
- **If the tangent** distance along the temporary diversion is more than 600 feet (180 m), a **REVERSE CURVE** sign, **LEFT** first, should be used instead of the **DOUBLE REVERSE CURVE** sign, and a second **REVERSE CURVE** sign, **RIGHT** first, should be placed in advance of the second **REVERSE CURVE** back to the original alignment.
- **When the tangent** section of the diversion is more than 600 feet (180 m), and the diversion has sharp curves with recommended speeds of 30 mph (50 kph) or less, **REVERSE TURN** signs should be used.
- **Where the temporary** pavement and old pavement are different colors, the temporary pavement should start on the tangent of the existing pavement and end on the tangent of the existing pavement.
- **Flashing** warning lights and/or flags may be used to call attention to the warning signs.
- **On sharp curves**, large arrow signs may be used in addition to other advance warning signs.
- **Delineators** or channelizing devices may be used along the diversion.



Conclusion: Retrain all workers periodically. Follow these Temporary Traffic Control safety guidelines for safe shoulder work.

Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: _____

Personnel Safety Violations: _____

Employee Signatures:

(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

Foreman/Supervisor's Signature: _____

These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.