

Pedestrian and Worker Safety

Pedestrian Safety

If pedestrian travel paths (sidewalks or footpaths) are closed or disrupted by a construction, maintenance, or utility operation, then pedestrian traffic control is needed. This includes the use of signs, channelizing devices, flags, etc. to direct pedestrian movement through or around the work site.

- 🚧 To separate work zones from the disabled and the vision impaired use solid rails or rigid plastic netting around the work zone. The rails or netting must be within 6 inches of the foot path and at least as high as the channeling devices.
- 🚧 Pedestrians need protection from potential injury. Obstructions should be clearly marked, especially at night.
- 🚧 Pedestrians should not be led into direct conflict with work site vehicles, equipment, or with mainline traffic moving through or around the work site.
- 🚧 Pedestrians should be provided with a safe, convenient travel path that replicates as nearly as possible the most desirable characteristics of sidewalks or footpaths.

Worker Safety

The safety of workers in a work site is just as important as the safety of the public traveling through the work zone. The best protection for both is good work zone traffic control.

- 🚧 All workers should be trained in how to work next to traffic in a way that minimizes their vulnerability. In addition, workers with specific traffic control responsibilities should be trained in traffic control techniques, device usage, and placement.
- 🚧 Workers exposed to traffic should be attired in bright, highly visible clothing such as vests, shirts, or jackets. For daytime work, these garments may be orange, yellow, strong yellow green or fluorescent versions of these colors. Flaggers shall be attired in similar bright, highly visible clothing. Other specific agency requirements for garments may also apply, such as OSHA requirements for private sector employees.
- 🚧 For nighttime work, similar outside garments shall be retro-reflective and shall be designed to identify clearly the wearer as a person and be visible through the full range of body motions (i.e. retroreflective material on the front, back, and both sides of the garment).