STEEP CREEK

# SAFETY BULLETIN #5

**May 12, 2026**

**Maintenance of Traffic**

## Maintenance of Traffic vs Traffic Control Devices




- ★ What is Maintenance of Traffic? Maintenance of Traffic (commonly called MOT) is the plan or method used to safely guide traffic through or around a work zone.
- ★ Traffic Control Devices are the physical tools used to carry out the MOT plan - signs, cones, drums, flagger paddles, temporary pavement markings, concrete barriers, and similar devices.
- ★ Typically, the engineer or ArDOT provides the MOT requirements. The contractor is responsible for implementing the plan using proper signs and channelizing devices.
- ★ Before implementing traffic pattern changes:
  - All signage must be installed in advance of the workzone
  - The traffic pattern should be driven during both daytime and nighttime hours to ensure signs and channelizing devices are clearly visible and do not conflict with lane shifts or detours.
  - Inspect the work zone daily for damaged or displaced signs, cones, drums, or barricades. High winds and traffic can move or damage devices.

- ★ **<u>Signage & channelizing devices (including cones, drums, barricades, and warning signs)</u>**
  - Place advance warning signs before beginning construction begins
  - All traffic control devices & signs must be crashworthy - no homemade signs or stands
  - Signs must be legible during both day and night operations
  - Do NOT use faded signs or signs with missing letters
  - Do not block sidewalks, driveways, or intersections unless approved
  - Channelizers must be of acceptable quality; minimal scratches/damage (see below)
  - Replace damaged or non-visible devices immediately



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★ **Flaggers & Pilot Cars (more on flaggers in the next safety bulletin)**
- When automatic flagger devices are not available, flaggers and pilot cars may be used together to guide traffic through the work zone.
- Note: Flagger safety will be covered in the next safety bulletin.







★ **Automatic Flagger Devices & Stoplights**
- These are typically rented and often installed by the supplier
- Check battery indicators frequently, if equipped
- If equipped with solar panels, ensure panels receive direct sunlight as much as possible
- Inspect devices daily to ensure proper operation and visibility






## Discussion Points:

★ Are the signs and channelizing devices on our jobsite in acceptable condition?
- If not, what should we do?

★ Who is responsible for inspecting the work zone for damage?

★ What should you do if you notice blown over cones or signs?

**Set it up right. Check it often. Keep everyone safe.**