

WORK ZONE SAFETY

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON WORK ZONE SAFETY

Performing work in a temporary traffic control (TTC) or work zone is the most fatal work done by CSEA members. Over 50 CSEA members have been killed on the job since 1983 and over half of those fatalities were caused by the traveling public.

The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) is the regulatory guide on how work zones must be planned, set up and what devices must or should be used. Planning is required to be completed by a knowledgeable person and is based upon the objective to provide for safe & expeditious movement of traffic through a TTC zone by:

Alerting drivers.

- Clearly, telling them what to do.
- Guide them through and around the zone.
- Protecting workers, equipment & property.

The elements of a temporary traffic control zone can be easily remember with the acronym **ATBAT**. **A**dvanced Warning, **T**ransition Area, **B**uffer Space, **A**ctivity Area and **T**ermination Area.

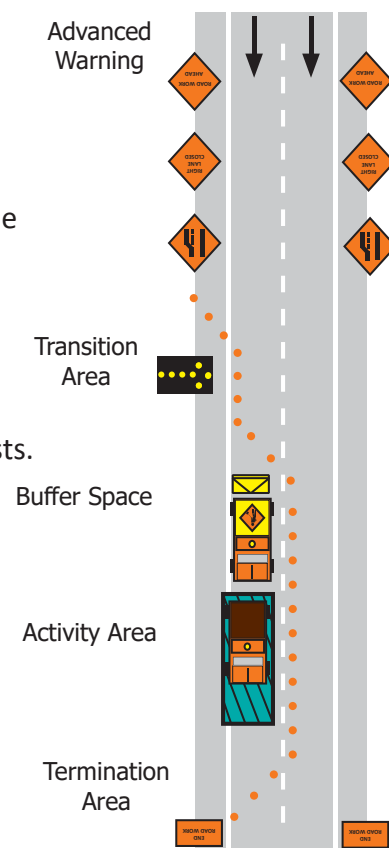
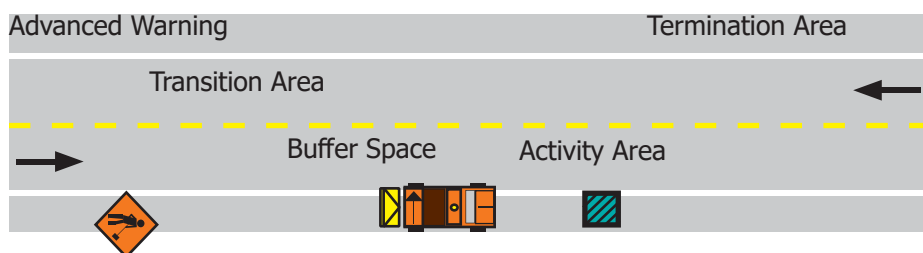
Advanced Warning: A sign system that alerts the drivers as to what is coming.

Transition Area: Guides drivers into a new path.

Buffer Area: Latitudinal and longitudinal space between the workers and motorists.

Activity Area: Where work is being performed.

Termination Area: Guides drivers back to regular path.



Though the MUTCD combines the Buffer and Activity Areas, CSEA knows the importance of the buffer space to our members working on the roadway and singles it out due to its life saving significance.

WHAT EMPLOYERS MUST/SHOULD DO

- Employers performing work zone related work must use of the US DOT FHWA Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD).
- Provide safe & efficient movement of road users through or around TTC zones while protecting road users, workers, equipment and property.
- Planning for the safety of motorists, pedestrians and workers is a high priority and essential part of TTC plan which must be understood by all responsible parties.
- Road user movement should be inhibited as little as practical.
- Motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians should be guided in a clear and positive manor as they approach and travel through a work area.
- Should provide for routine inspection of traffic control elements.
- Attention and consideration should be given to the affected road-side.
- All affected workers with TTC responsibilities should be trained appropriate to the job function.
- Maintain good public relations, keep all informed.
- A TTC plan must be created.
- Should use Flaggers only as a last resort.
- Must provide high visibility apparel and personal protective equipment when appropriate.
- Plan for not only motorists, but pedestrians as well.

For more information and resources visit:

<https://cseany.org/safety>



Follow the CSEA Safety Net on:

CSEA has been winning the fight for safe and healthy working conditions for over 100 years, yet there is more to be done. Hazards old and new- from Asbestos to Zika- remain a threat to workers every day. CSEA will not back down from the fight and nothing is more important than saving lives and keeping workers free from injury. Your help is needed now more than ever.

The life you save could be YOUR OWN.

