

OG 400.3.1 TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL

ADOPTED: JANUARY 1, 2016

REVISED:

PURPOSE

To provide information and procedures to be used during incidents that affect or impede the normal flow of traffic. This operational guideline does not cover the specifics of setting up traffic control as that is dictated by the type of incident, roadway, and posted speeds. **Please refer to ODOT's 2011 edition of "Temporary Traffic Control".**

PROCEDURE

A. Incident Traffic Control

1. Traffic incidents can be emergencies that are road-related, such as a traffic crash or fuel spill, or non-road-related, such as a wildfire or flood.
2. Responders may use any available devices or equipment to guide traffic through the area until proper equipment is available. ODOT, county or city roads departments, or other traffic control agencies should be contacted as soon as practical.
3. The goal is to provide safe and effective control of traffic through the following objectives:
 - I. Protect responders, victims, and other personnel at the site.
 - II. Provide reasonably safe traffic flow.
 - III. Prevent secondary traffic crashes.
 - IV. Manage impact to the surrounding road system.

B. Incident Types

1. **Major Incident:** Involves closing all or part of a road facility for **more than two hours**.
 - I. Temporary traffic control measures may include:
 - a. Advance warning signs
 - b. Shoulder and/or lane closure devices
 - c. Channelization devices for incident area
 - d. PIO for media updates
 - e. Flaggers and/or uniformed police, as needed
2. **Intermediate Incident:** Affects travel lane operation from **30 minutes to two hours**. Full road closure may be needed for short periods during clearance and clean-up.
 - I. Temporary traffic control measures may include:
 - a. Advance warning signs
 - b. Shoulder and/or lane closure devices
 - c. Channelization devices for incident area
 - d. PIO for media updates
 - e. Flaggers and/or uniformed police, as needed

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3. Minor Incident: Disrupts traffic operations typically **for less than 30 minutes**. On-scene responders typically include law enforcement, EMS, fire units, road and transit authorities, and towing companies.
 - I. Diversion of traffic into other lanes and lane closures are often not needed or needed only briefly.
 - II. Traffic control usually conducted by on-scene responders.

C. Safety

All personnel within the right of way who are exposed to traffic shall wear high-visibility traffic vests meeting ANSI/ISEA guidelines.

A sign spacing and buffer length table as well as an example traffic control model are provided in this operational guideline. Please refer to ODOT's 2011 edition of "Temporary Traffic Control" for further information.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Always operate from a defensive posture.
- Always consider moving vehicles as a threat to your safety. **Think Safety First!**
- See **Operational Guideline, Highway/Roadway Response**.