

HIGHWAY WORK ZONE AHEAD! 5 KEY AREAS

1 Advance Warning Area



The **Advance Warning Area** tells drivers what to expect ahead and relays upcoming conditions.

- Reduce your speed.
- Increase your following distance.
- Safely change or prepare to change lanes.
- Watch for slowed or stopped traffic.

2 Transition Area



The **Transition Area** is used to physically channel the traffic into the correct flow or a new area to travel.

- Continue to reduce speed to current posting or lower, depending on worker presence and traffic conditions.
- Continue safe following distance.
- Complete the merge with proper techniques, including mirror checks, use of turn signals and alertness to your surroundings.

3 Buffer Area



The **Buffer Area** is the non-work zone area between the Transition Area and the Work Zone Area.

- Workers, vehicles and equipment may be staged in this area.
- Stay alert and beware of potential and sudden movement of these vehicles and equipment onto or near your travel area.

4 Work Area



The **Work Area** is the actual area of construction and the reason for your increased alertness, decreased speed and increased following distance.

- Aim high in your line of sight to get the big picture.
- Keep your eyes moving to be aware of changes in front of and behind you.
- Avoid changing lanes and maintain or further reduce your speed.
- Expect the unexpected and do not tailgate.

5 Termination Area



The **Termination Area** is designed to provide a short distance for traffic to clear the work area and resume a normal traffic pattern.

- Signal your intention to change lanes.
- Ensure that vehicles behind you are a safe distance from your equipment before merging.

The first two areas are where most major work zone collisions can and do occur.

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