

WORK VEHICLES

When work vehicles operate within travel lanes open to traffic, the work vehicles shall travel in the same direction of roadway traffic.

When work vehicles operate within a closed travel lane or a closed shoulder area, they may travel in either direction as necessary. However, when operating within a closed travel lane or a closed shoulder area during the hours of darkness, the work vehicles should minimize travel in the opposite direction of roadway traffic due to visibility limitations of motorists due to darkness and the unpredictable reactions motorists may have from seeing opposing headlights in an area where opposing traffic is not anticipated by motorists.

On primary and secondary routes, when work vehicles are required to cross from one side of a roadway to the other side of the roadway, utilize flaggers to control the work vehicles entering or crossing the travel lanes of the roadway. Consider sight distance, vertical and horizontal curves of the roadway, prevailing speeds of traffic, frequency of the work vehicles entering or crossing the roadway and other site conditions that may impact the safety of the workers and motorists when determining the necessity of these flaggers. Ensure these flaggers do not stop traffic, cause traffic to change lanes or affect traffic in any manner. The work vehicles may not disrupt the normal flow of traffic or enter the travel lane of the roadway until a sufficient gap is present.

When working within the rights-of-way of controlled access roadways such as interstate highways, work vehicles should only change direction of travel at interchanges. These vehicles should not cross the roadway from the right side to the median or vice versa. Use a flagger to control the work vehicles when these vehicles attempt to enter the roadway from a closed lane or a closed shoulder. Ensure the flagger does not stop traffic, cause traffic to change lanes or affect traffic in any manner. The work vehicles may not disrupt the normal flow of traffic or enter the travel lane of the roadway until a sufficient gap is present.