

Identification of Traffic Control Devices for Mobile and Short Duration Work Operations

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The objective of this research project was to study mobile and short duration work zone safety with particular attention to the identification of work zone safety devices, information systems for the reduction of safety and congestion, and implementation of innovative techniques to reduce delays and crashes due to work zones. The specific objectives were to:

- Identify state-of-the art work zone safety technologies to improve worker safety in mobile work zone and short term maintenance operations,
- Identify information systems for work zone traffic control to reduce delays and crashes,
- Identify “best practices” for the use of law enforcement to improve work zone safety,
- Identify key issues to be considered from public outreach and information systems.



The research approach included a literature search to identify potential technologies and information systems. The literature search was conducted by two groups: Institute for Transportation Research and Education, North Carolina State University and the Region 2, University Transportation Research Center, City College of New York. It looked at a number of sources such as the NJDOT New Technologies and Products database of approved and under evaluation products, Transportation Research Board and National Cooperative Highway Research Program reports, other State DOT correspondence, and manufacturers and vendors.

In addition to the literature search, some products were also evaluated which may be applicable to mobile and short term work zones. Recommendations were made to fabricate and implement the Balsi Beam with the assistance of Caltrans and the FHWA on selected short duration work zones and implement “Bright Zone Signs and Beacon Wear Safety Vests” to improve work safety and visibility in work zones.

Sponsors: U.S. Department of Transportation
New Jersey Department of Transportation

Completion Date: 2005

