NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
POLICY

TITLE
Flagger and Uniformed Officer Use in Work Zones

SUBJECT
Flagger and Uniformed Officer Use for Temporary Traffic Control and Safety

NUMBER
402.06

DATE
05/29/2009

RESPONSIBLE BUREAU

Authority: The State Legislature has delegated the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation with full authority to control traffic in highway/bridge construction work zones on Class I, II, III highways; RSA 228:21, 236:1, and 228:37.

Definitions:

Flagger: A person trained in flagger operations who actively controls the flow of vehicular traffic into and/or through a temporary traffic control zone using hand-signaling devices or an Automated Flagger Assistance Device. (MUTCD 6E.01)

Uniformed Officer: A certified law enforcement officer who has the legal authority to enforce traffic laws on the roadways within the work zone.

Dynamic Traffic Control is traffic control that can be continuously adjusted to meet changing work zone needs and traffic demands. Dynamic Traffic Control can be at a fixed location or mobile and requires either human intervention or automated/intelligent electronic devices. Dynamic Traffic Control is typically implemented using flaggers and/or uniformed officers.

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe work zone through the prudent and consistent use of flaggers and/or uniformed officers in dynamic traffic control operations and traffic law enforcement. This policy provides guidance and consistency statewide with regards to the use of flaggers and uniformed officers, while ensuring efficient use of construction funding. This policy was initiated to comply with the requirements of the Federal Highway Administration, 23 CFR Part 630, Subpart K, 630.1106(c) Uniformed Law Enforcement Policy.

Policy: It is the policy of the Department of Transportation to take appropriate measures to reduce the likelihood of injuries and fatalities to workers and road users in NHDOT work zones. The use of appropriately trained flaggers and uniformed officers for the purpose of dynamic traffic control, presence, enforcement, and emergency assistance will be part of the safety measures taken.

Flaggers will be the primary means for providing dynamic temporary traffic control operations in work zones. Uniformed officers will be utilized for their specific authority for operations beyond that of a flagger, such as assistance in speed control and traffic law enforcement as necessary. The use of flaggers and uniformed officers in work zones is to be consistent with the NHDOT Flagger and Uniformed Officer Use in Work Zones Guidelines.

A Municipal Work Zone Agreement (MWZA) outlining the Department of Transportation's authority and responsibility for controlling traffic within the work zone is to be signed by each municipality as detailed in the NHDOT Flagger and Uniformed Officer Use in Work Zones Guidelines prior to construction of applicable project.

Responsibility: The Chief Engineer is responsible for the development, oversight and updating of the NHDOT Flagger and Uniformed Officer Use in Work Zones Guidelines.

Approved:

[Signature]

Date: 06/10/09

George N. Campbell, Jr.
Commissioner

References: 23 CFR Part 630 Subpart K, RSA 228:21, RSA 236:1, RSA 228:37, RSA 188-F:23, RSA 265:3-b, RSA 265:4, MUTCD