

ROADWAY INCIDENT CUE CARD FOR WILDFIRE RESPONSES

FOR ROADWAY INCIDENTS OR OPERATIONAL AREAS ALONG ROADWAYS

Prior to commencing operations, establish a traffic incident management area at every roadway incident and where operations abut or impinge on roadways.

BLOCKING:

Set an angled block with the first arriving apparatus to protect the scene, victims, and emergency personnel.

- Block at least the affected lane(s) and one additional lane as a buffer against passing traffic.
- Block so the pump panel is downstream (not exposed to the flow of traffic).
- Block the most crucial or highest traffic volume direction first.
- Consider requesting law enforcement DOT, DPW, and other roadway assistance or resources.
- Personnel operating in proximity to moving traffic must wear ANSI/ISEA 107-compliant high visibility vests, helmets, and eye protection at all times. Wear full PPE when required. If directly exposed to flame, fire, heat, and/or hazardous materials, retroreflective turnout gear that is specified and regulated by other organizations, such as the National Fire Protection Association, is a permitted substitute for high visibility apparel.



ADVANCE WARNING DEVICES AND PLACEMENT: Factors like road topography and weather conditions determine the length of the Advanced Warning Area. The Transition Area should use a cone taper of at least 5 MUTCD-compliant cones to close the Activity Area lane(s). At major incidents (duration > 24 hours) like wildfires, law enforcement and the Department of Transportation should set up a full work zone, be engaged at the incident management level, and implement appropriate plans, resources, and oversight to manage traffic flow. Use traffic radio, variable message signs, and media communications to warn drivers away from the affected area.

COMMUNICATIONS: Establish incident command. Keep lines of communication open, relaying incident status changes or needs and changing conditions.

FOR LIMITED ACCESS OR HIGH SPEED HIGHWAY IMPACTS:

- Establish initial angled block upstream of the affected area.
- Block at least lane +1. Also block the shoulder if the far left or far right lane is affected.
- Set a cone taper with at least five MUTCD-compliant cones (preferably illuminated by flares) upstream of the blocking vehicle(s) with the beginning of the taper at least 200 ft. upstream of the blocking vehicle.
- Assign personnel to monitor approaching traffic and sound an emergency signal like the air horn if a vehicle is approaching in a hazardous manner.
- Use law enforcement vehicles for blocking until larger vehicles arrive then use small vehicles for advance warning as needed.
- Ensure unified incident command is established.
- When operations are over or the hazardous roadway condition has dissipated, terminate the incident response quickly according to SOP, but not at the risk of compromising safety.
- During apparatus backing, use a backer/spotter or two to ensure safe movement.

AMBULANCE PLACEMENT:

- Park ambulances in the shadow of a larger, blocking apparatus.
- Position in an angled posture (“block to the right” or “block to the left”) with patient loading doors facing away from the closest lane of moving traffic.
- All patient loading into medic units is done within a protected zone.

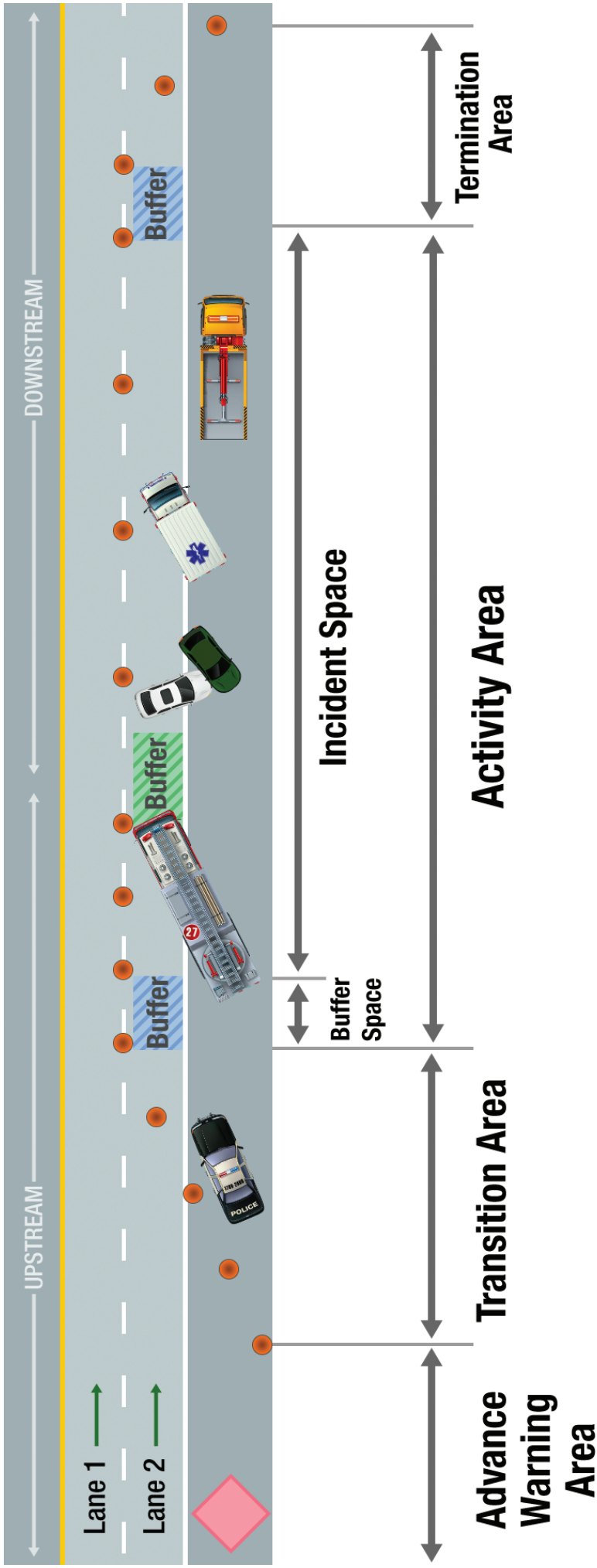
NIGHT OR REDUCED VISIBILITY CONDITIONS:

- Turn off vehicle headlights.
- Turn off traffic light control devices, e.g., Opticom.
- Deploy scene lighting aimed down at the work area.
- Illuminate cones with flares (electronic flares, if available).
- Consider additional vehicles to block where needed.
- Lengthen the advance warning area to give more time for drivers to react.



Traffic Incident Management Area (TIMA)

also known as a Temporary Traffic Control Zone (TTC)



COMMUNICATE COORDINATE COOPERATE

TRAFFIC CONTROL BASED ON INCIDENT MAGNITUDE AND DURATION

INCIDENT MAGNITUDE	EST. RESPONSE DURATION	TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES
Minor	Less than 30 minutes	Notify traffic operations if the roadway is one where a minor delay can impact traffic or road closure is needed.
Intermediate	30 minutes to 2 hours	Notify traffic operations, establish a TIMA, consider DOT-DPW response to assume longer-term traffic control duties.
Major	More than 2 hours	Notify traffic operations, request DOT-DPW response early, establish a full work zone/close roadway.

