

**761—115.8(306A) Traffic protection.****115.8(1)** *Traffic control for all work.*

a. When performing work within the rights-of-way, the utility owner is responsible for traffic control operations, including but not limited to providing, installing, maintaining and cleaning warning signs and protective devices; removing warning signs and protective devices when the work is complete; and providing certified flaggers.

b. Traffic control operations shall utilize department standard road plans for traffic control available on the department's website, [www.iowadot.gov/consultants-contractors/design/standard-road-plans](http://www.iowadot.gov/consultants-contractors/design/standard-road-plans).

c. The utility owner shall provide additional protection when special complexities and hazards exist.

**115.8(2)** *Traffic control for construction and maintenance work that is not emergency work.*

a. The utility owner is responsible for ensuring the use of traffic controls that are adequate for the nature, location and duration of work; type of roadway; traffic volume and speed; and potential hazards. The utility owner is to provide a ten-day notice to 511 of any lane restrictions or traffic closures.

b. Where high traffic volumes cause frequent congestion, routine scheduled maintenance and construction should be avoided during hours of peak traffic.

c. Work areas should be occupied for only as long as it is necessary to safely move in, finish the work, remove all utility work signs and move out.

d. Special care should be taken to clearly mark suitable boundaries for the workspace with channelizing devices so that pedestrians and drivers can see the workspace. If any of the traveled lanes are closed, tapers are to be used as required by the MUTCD.

e. Pedestrians should not be expected to walk on a path that is inferior to the previous path. Loose dirt, mud, broken concrete or steep slopes may force pedestrians to walk on the roadway rather than the sidewalk. Pedestrian detours, including those to accommodate persons with disabilities (Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) as amended by the ADA Amendments Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-335), codified at 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.), may be required at the discretion of the district representative. Repairs (temporary or permanent) to damaged sidewalks should be made quickly. This may include bridging with steel plates or good quality wood supports.

f. Work areas involving excavations on the roadway should not exceed the width of one traffic lane at a time. The work should be staged and, if needed, approved bridging should be used. The utility owner should fully coordinate this type of activity with the district representative and, in a city, with the city's traffic or public works office.

**115.8(3)** *Traffic control for emergency work.*

a. The extent of traffic control used for emergency work may be less than that used for longer-term construction or maintenance. However, the utility owner is responsible to provide for the safety of pedestrians, motorists and workers. It may be necessary for the utility owner to contact local law enforcement officials to assist in securing the safety of the traveling public.

b. The work vehicle is to be equipped with an amber revolving light or amber strobe light, portable signs and channelizing devices, and necessary equipment for flagging operations.

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