

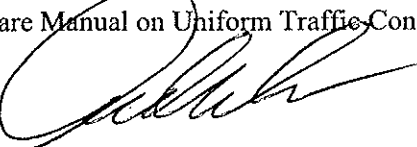



STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

To: All Users of the Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

From: Donald D. Weber, P.E.
Chief Traffic Engineer 

Via: Adam Weiser, P.E., PTOE
Safety Programs Manager 

Date: June 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Interim Guidance; Part 6, Temporary Traffic Control
Rolling Road Blocks

This Interim Guidance to the Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) provides a new section to Part 6G, entitled "6G.22 Rolling Road Blocks" and provides a new Typical Application to Part 6H entitled "Typical Application 35H – Rolling Road Blocks on a Limited Access Multilane Divided Highway"

Should you have questions concerning the information contained in this interim guidance, please contact my office at (302) 659-4060.

New Language

Section 6G.22 Rolling Road Block Operations

Support:

- 01 (DE Revision) Figure 6H-35H is an example of a rolling road block for limited access multilane divided roadways.
- 02 (DE Revision) Activities which may warrant the use of a Rolling Road Block operation include, but are not limited to: setting of bridge beams, pulling wires or cables across the roadway, placing overhead or cantilever signs and sign structures and performing traffic switches from one half of the roadway to the other half.

Standard:

- 03 (DE Revision) Any rolling road block operation used on state maintained roadways shall be approved by DeIDOT's Traffic Section prior to use and shall be performed as outlined in this Section and in Typical Application 35H.



- 04 (DE Revision) Rolling road block operations shall only be performed during non-peak travel periods and must be planned to not exceed periods of 15 minutes in duration.
- 05 (DE Revision) Prior to utilizing a rolling road block operation, a coordination meeting shall be held with all entities involved in the operation to discuss each entity's role.
- 06 (DE Revision) The performance of rolling road block operations shall include the use of Delaware State Police (DSP) or local police depending upon jurisdiction. Police vehicles shall be placed as shown in Figure 6H-35H.
- 07 (DE Revision) At a minimum, a portable changeable message sign (PCMS) shall be used a minimum of 1 mile and 2 miles in advance of the beginning of the rolling road block operation with the following message: STOPPED VEHICLES AHEAD; BE PREPARED TO STOP.
- 08 (DE Revision) A control vehicle shall occupy each travel lane of the route affected by the rolling road block operation. All entrance ramps within the rolling road block operation shall be temporarily closed. A drive through of the route shall be performed prior to beginning the rolling road block operation.
- 09 (DE Revision) Determining where to begin a rolling road block operation shall include an evaluation of all factors unique to the road system in question. At a minimum, the following items shall be considered in the evaluation:
- A. The time lapse expected for the last uncontrolled vehicle to pass by the site of the planned work.
 - B. The assumed maximum time needed for the work operation to be completed.
 - C. The projected travel time of the rolling road block. For example, a travel speed of 10 MPH will cover 1 mile in six minutes.
 - D. The number of entrance ramps requiring closings at interchanges.
 - E. The starting point for the rolling road block operation shall be in a tangent section (both horizontal and vertical) of the approach roadway with adequate sight distance.
- 10 (DE Revision) Upon a sufficient gap in traffic, each slow roll vehicle will pull out and occupy a travel lane with their warning lights, hazard lights and arrow board operating and with truck-mounted attenuator in the crash attenuating position. Each vehicle will travel at a minimum of 10 miles per hour. A chaser vehicle shall follow the last motorist vehicle traveling in advance of the rolling road block operation to notify the work crew when the roadway is closed and free of approaching motorists.
- 11 (DE Revision) The lead vehicle in the rolling road block operation shall have radio/telephone communication with the work crew. Once the need for the road closure is complete, the work crew shall notify the lead control vehicle who in turn will notify the other control vehicles. The rolling road block vehicles shall gain speed and pull over to the right side of the roadway; starting with the control vehicle occupying the left lanes first.
- 12 (DE Revision) If the rolling road block operation vehicles reach the work site before receiving notification that the operation has been completed, they shall slow down and/or stop until signaled that the roadway is safe to release traffic.

13 **(DE Revision) Once the rolling road block operation is complete and free flow travel conditions have been re-established, the PCMS messages shall be removed by blanking the message boards or turning them away from traffic.**

Option:

14 (DE Revision) For emergency situations, truck mounted attenuators may be omitted from control vehicles and law enforcement personnel may be omitted from the rolling road block operation.

Support:

15 (DE Revision) Emergency situations include but are not limited to removing debris from the roadway, removing a disabled vehicle from the roadway or other similar type of event.

Section 6H.01

Insert Typical Application 35H – Rolling Road Blocks on a Limited Access Multilane Divided Highway (see attached).

Notes for Figure 6H-35H—Typical Application 35H
Rolling Road Blocks on a Limited Access Multilane Divided Highway
(Delaware Revision)

Standard:

- 1. Rolling Road Block operations shall be approved by DelDOT's Traffic Section prior to use and shall be performed as outlined in Section 6G.22.**
- 2. Arrow boards on the "control" vehicles and "chaser" vehicle shall, at a minimum, be Type B, with a size of 60 x 30 inches and shall be operated in the four-corner caution mode.**
- 3. "Control" and "chaser" vehicles shall display high-intensity rotating, flashing, oscillating, or strobe lights.**
- 4. When a side road or entrance ramp intersects the highway within the TTC zone, additional TTC devices shall be placed as needed.**

Guidance:

- 5. Vehicles used for these operations should be made highly visible with appropriate equipment, such as signs or arrow boards.*

Standard:

- 6. All "control" vehicles shall be equipped with truck-mounted attenuators for rolling road block operations.**

Option:

- 7. A truck-mounted attenuator may be omitted from the "chaser" vehicle for rolling road block operations.*

Standard:

- 8. Law enforcement vehicles used for the Rolling Road Block operation shall display full emergency lighting and shall be equipped with an external light bar on the roof of the vehicle.**

Figure 6H-35H. Rolling Road Blocks on a Limited Access Multilane Divided Highway (Delaware Revision)

