



Highway Worker Safety

Slow For The Cone Zone Campaign

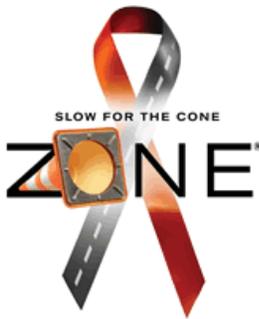
FACT SHEET

GOALS

Save the lives of Caltrans highway workers, contractors and motorists, and increase public awareness about driving safely in highway construction zones.

FACT

In the past 20 years, more than 50 highway workers have been killed on the job by out-of-control motorists.



Department of Transportation
 4050 Taylor Street
 San Diego, CA 92110
 Ph: (619) 688-6670
 Fax: (619) 688-3695
www.dot.ca.gov/dist11



A RISKY SITUATION

Traffic on state freeways is steadily increasing, making the challenge of building and maintaining roads more difficult. As the system ages, the workload increases, exposing thousands of workers to more dangers as they work alongside speeding traffic. Orange cones, safety vehicles and message signs are placed in construction zones to alert motorists, but none of these things can stop a speeding vehicle from injuring or even killing highway workers.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Motorists need to do their part in keeping workers safe. Maintenance and Construction crews take measures to ensure safety, such as participating in training workshops and posting road closures in advance of construction areas -- but this is only half the battle.

The Slow For The Cone Zone public awareness campaign outlines these simple guidelines for motorists:

- Pay attention. Don't talk on the phone or change radio stations when approaching work zones.
- Be patient. Slow down, relax and merge early, and don't brake suddenly or tailgate other drivers.
- Plan ahead. Check the Caltrans website before your trip to see if there are any construction areas along the way.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

It's not only Caltrans workers who risk their lives along the freeway, but countless contractors' employees have been killed during the past several years.

Every year, more than 1,000 workers and motorists die in highway work zone crashes and more than 40,000 are injured.

Fines of \$1,000 or more can be given for work zone violations.

MOVE OVER AND SLOW DOWN

Beginning this January a new law requires motorists to use caution and to move into an available lane, if possible, when approaching an authorized emergency vehicle that is stopped on the highway and displaying flashing amber lights.