

Regulating Traffic for the Installation of Temporary Orange Rumble Strips on a Two-Lane Two-Way Roadway

On Tuesday, June 6, 2023 a PK crew installed Temporary Orange Rumble Strips on a two-lane two-way section of M40 with posted speeds of 50 & 55 mph in Allegan County. The crew was using a cone taper and an arrow-board to close the lane without advanced signing or a Traffic Regulator. An MDOT inspector, out of concern for overall safety, stopped the crew and required the crew to use a Traffic Regulator (Flagger) to maintain traffic before continuing work.

This Tool Talk / Work Zone analysis is conducted to identify corrective action and eliminate a repeat occurrence.

Project Notes:

1) The project proposal requires two-way traffic to be maintained at all times on M40 using Traffic Regulator Control. See P.27-28, f.1 Traffic Regulator Control found in the Maintaining Traffic Section of the project proposal.

2) The installation of Temporary Orange Rumble strips is a Short-Term Stationary operation and a Traffic Regulating (flagging) sequence should be used when taking a lane on a two-lane two-way roadway. See MDOT Maintaining Traffic Typical 4110A-M-TR-NFW-2L.

Corrective Action:

1) Use a Traffic Regulator, as called for in the proposal, when installing or removing Temporary Orange Rumble Strips on the project.

2) Ensure that all workers are trained and understand when, and how to operate a flagging sequence on a two-lane two-way roadway.

Recommendations:

1) Request the prime contractor to provide traffic regulator “flagger” control on jobs where traffic control is the prime’s responsibility.

2) Each division have a set of temporary roll-up signs and a set of Stop-Slow Paddles on hand.

3) Use an Automated Flagging Assistance Device (AFAD) for Traffic Regulator setups that could then be submitted for payment as an extra if not already set up on the contract.