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PROJECT TITLE

Temporary Traffic Control Handbook for Local Agencies

SPONSORS

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The mission of SUDAS is to develop and maintain urban design standards and standard specifications for the State of Iowa that will be recognized, adopted, and used by state and local government, contractors, and consulting engineers as the acceptable standards for construction of urban public improvements.

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
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Temporary Traffic Control Handbook for Local Agencies

tech transfer summary

The handbook provides a broad, easy to understand reference for temporary traffic control in work zones, addressing the safe and efficient accommodation of all road users.

Background

The previous temporary traffic control handbook used by Iowa's local transportation agencies, entitled *Work Zone Safety for Iowa*, was last issued in January 2005. It was based on the 2003 edition of the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)*, while the current state standard for Iowa is the 2009 edition of the *MUTCD*.

The Iowa Statewide Urban Design and Specifications (SUDAS) program staff initiated a review of the 2005 handbook to identify the updates that were needed, starting with the differences between the 2003 and 2009 editions of the *MUTCD*.

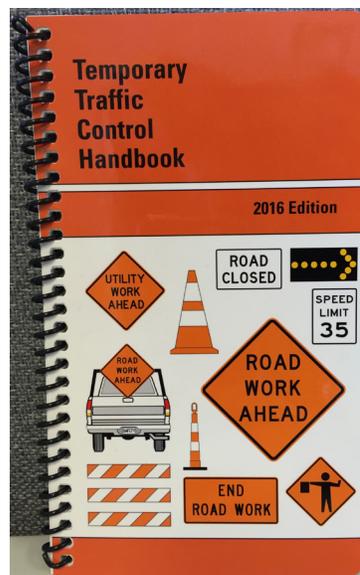
Handbook Development Process

A technical advisory committee (TAC) was formed to assist in the review of the handbook. City, county, Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT), and utility representatives met on multiple occasions to provide input on the text and drawings within the handbook. The TAC also provided final input on the draft document.

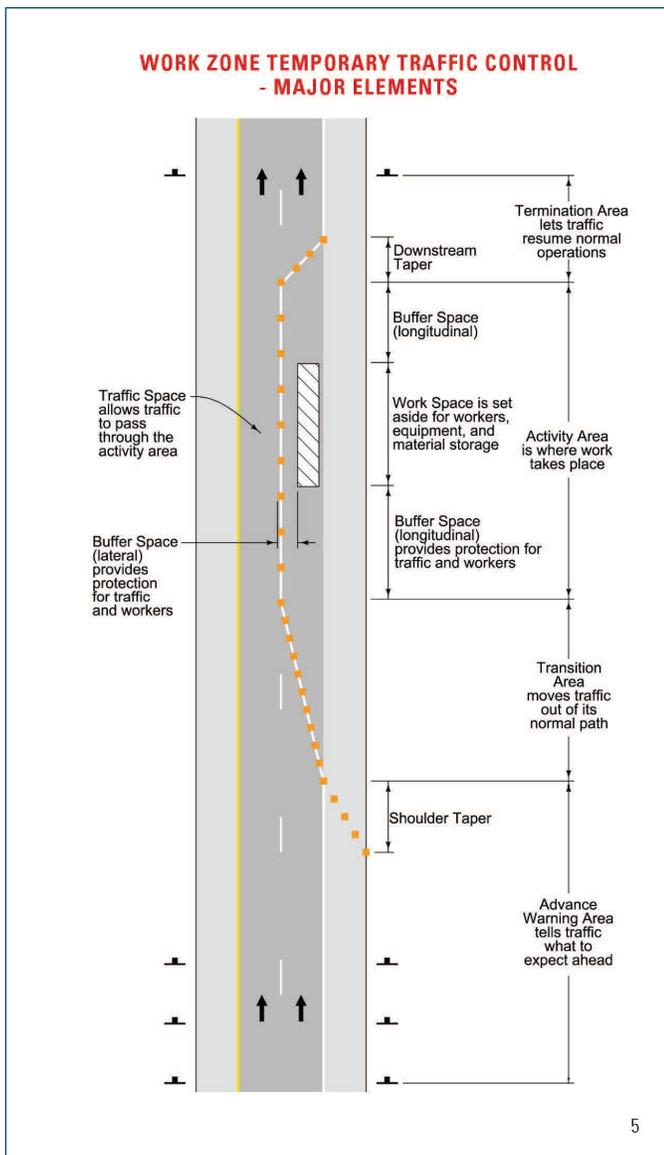
Benefits

The updated handbook provides local agencies with uniform standards for temporary traffic control. The handbook includes sample layouts that can be used on various projects. Having sample layouts will provide a cost savings to agencies because the designer or contractor will not need to develop new plans for each situation.

Following uniform standards will increase safety in work zones. Providing uniformity among communities will also help the public to safely traverse through work zones.



An electronic version of the handbook is available at www.iowasudas.org/TTC_Handbook_2016.pdf



Page from the handbook (reduced in size to fit)

Implementation and Technology Transfer

The new pocket-sized *Temporary Traffic Control Handbook* will be used by the Iowa Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) in their Work Zone Safety training workshops as well as during other training opportunities. Staff from cities, counties, and utilities attend these annual workshops. Attendance approaches 500 people annually.

In addition, direct mailings of the handbook went to all county engineers and public works offices in cities with populations of more than 1,000 people.

Iowa SUDAS staff will distribute the handbook at all six of its district committee meetings, which are attended by 80 to 100 engineers and public works employees. SUDAS staff will also work to incorporate many of the drawings into a new section on temporary traffic control for the *SUDAS Standard Specifications*.

A link to an electronic version of the handbook is included on the SUDAS and Institute for Transportation (InTrans) websites at www.iowasudas.org/TTC_Handbook_2016.pdf.

The *Temporary Traffic Control Handbook* will also be available to local agencies that want to distribute copies to their contractors, and to contractors that want to distribute copies to their work crews.

Acknowledgments

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- Scott Hamlin, City of Cedar Rapids
- Mary Ann Kinkade, Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities
- Pam Olson, Jasper County
- Dan Sprengler, Iowa DOT

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Finally, the authors would like to thank Steve Klocke of Snyder & Associates for providing the computer drafting expertise for the various drawings and example layouts.