

**JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1
STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES**

SOG 508

ROADWAY SAFETY

I. PURPOSE

- A. To define the appropriate guidelines for operational safety of District personnel while operating on or near roadways.

II. SCOPE

- A. These standards apply to all personnel of the District operating on or near roadways.

III. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

- A. It will be the responsibility of the Chief and the Officers to insure that these guidelines are followed.

IV. STANDARDS

- A. The first arriving officer shall insure the apparatus is staged to shield the anticipated work zone from traffic.
 - 1. Block most critical or highest traffic volume first.
 - 2. Location for staging of additional resources should be considered and their safety provided for as well.
 - 3. When needed, staging instructions shall be provide for incoming units.
 - 4. Whenever possible block the lane of operation and the next adjacent lane.
- B. If operations will require the stationing of a personnel at the apparatus for an extended duration the apparatus will be staged with that area in the shadow. Example: pump, or rescue tool operation.
- C. Prior to exiting the apparatus all personnel will don Class II* vests, in conjunction with proper PPE unless doing so would produce a more immediate safety risk. Example: Actively fighting a car fire.
- D. All personnel shall exit the apparatus away from on-coming traffic whenever possible.
- E. **Always assume moving traffic will enter the work zone.**
- F. When needed, an ambulance loading area shall be provided in a protected area down stream from the blocking apparatus.
- G. Establishing initial advance warning shall be paramount to operational safety.

- H. Prior to conducting other duties the Engineer shall deploy cones.
 - 1. When operation of the pump or other task by the engineer is considered to be critical to the incident outcome the officer shall assign deployment of cones to another member of the company for **immediate** completion.
 - 2. Cones shall be deployed at 15 foot intervals with a minimum of six cones placed up-stream from the point of complete blockage of the lane.
- I. **Cones do not block, they suggest traffic should move. Blocking can only be accomplished by a significant piece of apparatus.**
 - 1. Greater than 30,000 lbs GVWR
 - 2. Staged at an angle (30-45 degrees to traffic flow) to deflect a hit away from the work zone.
- J. Establish advanced warning for incidents anticipated to exceed 15 min. in duration or at any time deemed necessary by personnel on scene. This should be coordinated with law enforcement or ODOT.
 - 1. All highways are under ODOT control. (ORS 810.010)
 - 2. All roads not highway or within city limits are county controlled. (ORS 810.010)
 - 3. All roads not highway within city limits are city controlled. (ORS 810.010)
 - 4. When an incident will extend beyond 15 minutes, traffic is moving or conditions warrant an up-stream safety may be assigned to warn working crews of hazard drivers.
 - a. Safety shall have a radio for communicating to crews.
 - b. Safety shall have an adequate escape route established.
- K. All nonessential vehicles shall be staged off the roadway.
- L. Night operations will require additional precautions.
 - 1. All cones shall be illuminated.
 - 2. All white lights not needed for illumination of emergency operations shall be turned off.
 - a. Head lights
 - b. White warning lights
 - c. Opti-com
 - d. Spotlights/floodlights
 - e. "Takedowns"
 - f. White strobe lights
 - 3. Ground lights shall be used at all times.
 - 4. Care shall be taken when illuminating the scene to not blind oncoming drivers.
 - 5. Vehicle hazard lights shall be used in conjunction with warning lights

once on-scene.

6. Once effective traffic control is in place consider turning off the majority of warning lights to reduce distractions to drivers. This decision will be made by Command.

M. In compliance with Oregon Law (ORS 811.265) District personnel will under no circumstances flag or direct traffic through an intersection.

APPROVED:

DATE 09-13-2006

Earl Cordes
Fire Chief

* Until the approval and production of the new ANSI Public Safety Vest