



Work Zones and Pedestrians: A Dangerous Mix

There's no denying it, construction work zones are here to stay. Although necessary to improve our cities and neighborhoods, work zones create potential safety hazards.

Inevitably, at some point, you will encounter a work zone while on foot—whether walking to the bus or your favorite lunch spot, or out for an evening stroll. To ensure your safety, it's important to follow some simple safety guidelines.

The single, safest option is to avoid the work zone area. However, if you're not able to walk around the work zone, the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration offers the following tips for safe travel through the area:

- Obey ALL work zone signs, pavement markings and personnel.
- Be conscious of moving construction vehicles and other unexpected hazards.
- Watch where you're going and concentrate on safely getting through the work zone. Don't get distracted by construction activity.

Work zone signs and pavement markings provide important safety cues, to both drivers and pedestrians:

- Orange Work Zone Signs: Communicate the situation and how to safely proceed.
- Pavement Markings: Painted or taped lines on the pavement defining vehicle travel lanes and pedestrian paths.

For additional information:

U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway

(<http://www.tfhr.gov/safety/pedbike/issues/workzone.htm>)

National Safety Council (<http://www.nsc.org>)

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