

PAVEMENT EDGE DROP-OFF TRAFFIC CONTROL NOTES

- A. DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT TRAFFIC LANES OR TRAFFIC LANE AND SHOULDER WHERE THE TRAFFIC LANE IS BEING USED BY TRAFFIC, CAUSED BY BASE, PAVING OR RESURFACING:
1. DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT ROADWAY ELEMENTS GREATER THAN 0.75 INCH AND NOT EXCEEDING 2 INCHES:

a. WARNING SIGNS, UNEVEN LANES (W8-11) AND/OR SHOULDER DROP-OFF WITH PLAQUE (W8-17 AND W8-17P), SHALL BE PLACED IN ADVANCE OF AND THROUGHOUT THE EXPOSED AREA. MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN SIGNS SHALL BE 2,000 FEET WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 SIGNS PER EXPOSED AREA. WHERE UNEVEN PAVEMENT IS ENCOUNTERED, SIGNS SHALL BE PLACED ON EACH SIDE OF THE ROADWAY.

b. DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT TRAFFIC LANES BEING UTILIZED BY TRAFFIC CAUSED BY ADDED PAVEMENT SHALL BE ELIMINATED WITHIN THREE WORKDAYS.

c. DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT TRAFFIC LANES BEING UTILIZED BY TRAFFIC CAUSED BY COLD PLANING SHALL BE ELIMINATED WITHIN THREE WORKDAYS.

d. WHEN THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS BETWEEN THE TRAFFIC LANE BEING UTILIZED BY TRAFFIC AND SHOULDER THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION SHALL BE ELIMINATED WITHIN SEVEN WORKDAYS AFTER THE CONDITION IS CREATED.

2. DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT ROADWAY ELEMENTS GREATER THAN 2 INCHES AND NOT EXCEEDING 6 INCHES. TRAFFIC IS NOT TO BE ALLOWED TO TRAVERSE THIS DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION.

a. SEPARATION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED DEVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

(1) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE 50 MPH OR GREATER, SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES SHALL NOT EXCEED 100 FEET.

(2) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE LESS THAN 50 MPH, THE MAXIMUM SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES IN FEET SHALL NOT EXCEED TWICE THE POSTED SPEED IN MILES PER HOUR OR 50 FEET, WHICHEVER SPACING IS GREATER.

b. IF THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS ELIMINATED OR DECREASED TO 2 INCHES OR LESS BY THE END OF EACH WORKDAY, CONES MAY BE USED DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS IN LIEU OF DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED PROTECTIVE DEVICES MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH a, PROVIDED WARNING SIGNS ARE ERECTED. WARNING SIGNS (UNEVEN LANES AND/OR SHOULDER DROP-OFF) SHALL BE PLACED IN ADVANCE OF AND THROUGHOUT THE EXPOSED AREA. MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN SIGNS SHALL BE 2,000 FEET WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 SIGNS PER EXPOSED AREA. WHERE UNEVEN PAVEMENT IS ENCOUNTERED, SIGNS SHALL BE PLACED ON EACH SIDE OF THE ROADWAY.

c. WHEN THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS BETWEEN THE THROUGH TRAFFIC LANE AND THE SHOULDER AND THE ELEVATION DIFFERENCE IS LESS THAN 3.5 INCHES, THE CONTRACTOR MAY USE WARNING SIGNS AND/OR PROTECTIVE DEVICES AS APPLICABLE AND APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER. SEE PARAGRAPH a REGARDING USE OF DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED PROTECTIVE DEVICES. WARNING SIGNS (UNEVEN LANES AND/OR SHOULDER DROP-OFF) WILL BE PLACED IN ADVANCE OF AND THROUGHOUT THE EXPOSED AREA. MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN SIGNS SHALL BE 2,000 FEET WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 SIGNS PER EXPOSED AREA. WHERE UNEVEN PAVEMENT IS ENCOUNTERED, SIGNS SHALL BE PLACED ON EACH SIDE OF THE ROADWAY.
- IN THESE SITUATIONS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL LIMIT HIS OPERATIONS TO ONE WORK ZONE NOT EXCEEDING 2 MILES IN LENGTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THE PLANS OR APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER. ONCE THE CONTRACTOR BEGINS WORK IN A WORK ZONE, A CONTINUOUS OPERATION SHALL BE MAINTAINED UNTIL THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS ELIMINATED. SIMULTANEOUS WORK ON SEPARATE ROADWAYS OF DIVIDED HIGHWAYS WILL BE CONSIDERED INDEPENDENTLY IN REGARD TO RESTRICTION OF WORK ZONE ACTIVITY.
3. DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT ROADWAY ELEMENTS GREATER THAN 6 INCHES BUT NOT EXCEEDING 18 INCHES, THE CONTRACTOR, WITH THE ENGINEER'S APPROVAL, MAY UTILIZE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

a. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL ACCOMPLISH SEPARATION BY DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED DEVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

(1) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE 50 MPH OR GREATER, SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES SHALL NOT EXCEED 100 FEET.

(2) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE LESS THAN 50 MPH, THE MAXIMUM SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES IN FEET SHALL NOT EXCEED TWICE THE POSTED SPEED IN MILES PER HOUR OR 50 FEET, WHICHEVER SPACING IS GREATER.

IN ORDER TO USE THIS METHOD, THE CONTRACTOR MUST REDUCE THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION TO 6 INCHES OR LESS BY THE END OF THE WORKDAY THAT THE CONDITION IS CREATED.

b. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED SEPARATION DEVICES AS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH a, AND CONSTRUCT A STONE WEDGE WITH A 4:1 SLOPE, OR FLATTER, TO ELIMINATE THE VERTICAL OFFSET IF THE LOWER ELEVATION IS AT OR BELOW SUBGRADE AT THE END OF EACH DAY.

c. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED SEPARATION DEVICES AS SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH a AND IF THE LOWER ELEVATION IS BASE STONE OR ASPHALT PAVEMENT, PLACEMENT OF SUBSEQUENT LAYERS OF PAVEMENT MUST BEGIN THE NEXT WORK DAY AND PROGRESS CONTINUOUSLY UNTIL THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS ELIMINATED OR REDUCED TO SIX INCHES OR LESS.

d. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE SEPARATION BY PORTABLE BARRIER RAIL.

FOR PRECEDING CONDITIONS a, b, AND c, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL USE THE SHOULDER DROP-OFF WARNING SIGN WITH PLAQUE (W8-17 AND W8-17P). IT SHALL BE PLACED IN ADVANCE OF AND THROUGHOUT THE EXPOSED AREA. MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN THE SIGNS SHALL BE 2,000 FEET WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 SIGNS PER EXPOSED AREA. IN THESE SITUATIONS, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL LIMIT HIS OPERATIONS TO ONE WORK ZONE NOT EXCEEDING 1 MILE IN LENGTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THE PLANS OR APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER. ONCE THE CONTRACTOR BEGINS WORK IN A WORK ZONE, A CONTINUOUS OPERATION SHALL BE MAINTAINED UNTIL THE DIFFERENCE IS ELIMINATED. SIMULTANEOUS WORK ON SEPARATE ROADWAYS OF DIVIDED HIGHWAYS WILL BE CONSIDERED INDEPENDENTLY IN REGARD TO RESTRICTION OF WORK ZONE ACTIVITY.

4. FOR DIFFERENCES IN ELEVATION BETWEEN ADJACENT ROADWAY ELEMENTS GREATER THAN 18 INCHES.

SEPARATION WILL BE PROVIDED BY USE OF PORTABLE BARRIER RAIL.

IN THIS SITUATION THE CONTRACTOR SHALL LIMIT HIS OPERATIONS TO ONE WORK ZONE NOT EXCEEDING 1 MILE IN LENGTH UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ON THE PLANS OR APPROVED BY THE ENGINEER. ONCE THE CONTRACTOR BEGINS WORK IN A WORK ZONE, A CONTINUOUS OPERATION SHALL BE MAINTAINED UNTIL THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS ELIMINATED. SIMULTANEOUS WORK ON SEPARATE ROADWAYS OF DIVIDED HIGHWAYS WILL BE CONSIDERED INDEPENDENTLY IN REGARD TO RESTRICTION OF WORK ZONE ACTIVITY.

B. IF THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS WITHIN 30 FEET OF THE NEAREST TRAFFIC LANE BEING USED BY TRAFFIC CAUSED BY GRADING, EXCAVATION FOR UTILITIES, DRAINAGE STRUCTURES, UNDERCUTTING, ETC.:

1. IF THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS WITHIN 8 FEET OF THE NEAREST TRAFFIC LANE WITH DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION GREATER THAN 3/4 INCH AND NOT EXCEEDING 2 INCHES.

WARNING SIGNS (UNEVEN LANES AND/OR SHOULDER DROP-OFF) SHALL BE PLACED IN ADVANCE OF AND THROUGHOUT THE EXPOSED AREA. MAXIMUM SPACING BETWEEN SIGNS SHALL BE 2,000 FEET WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 SIGNS PER EXPOSED AREA. WHERE UNEVEN PAVEMENT IS ENCOUNTERED, SIGNS SHALL BE PLACED ON EACH SIDE OF THE ROADWAY.

2. IF THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS WITHIN 8 FEET OF THE NEAREST TRAFFIC LANE WITH DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION GREATER THAN 2 INCHES AND NOT EXCEEDING 6 INCHES:

a. SEPARATION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED DEVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

(1) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE 50 MPH OR GREATER, SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES SHALL NOT EXCEED 100 FEET.

(2) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE LESS THAN 50 MPH THE MAXIMUM SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES IN FEET SHALL NOT EXCEED TWICE THE POSTED SPEED IN MILES PER HOUR OR 50 FEET, WHICHEVER SPACING IS GREATER.

3. IF THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS WITHIN 8 FEET OF THE NEAREST TRAFFIC LANE WITH DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION GREATER THAN 6 INCHES:

a. SEPARATION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED DEVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

(1) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE 50 MPH OR GREATER, SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES SHALL NOT EXCEED 100 FEET.

(2) WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE LESS THAN 50 MPH THE MAXIMUM SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES IN FEET SHALL NOT EXCEED TWICE THE POSTED SPEED IN MILES PER HOUR OR 50 FEET, WHICHEVER SPACING IS GREATER.

b. ELIMINATE VERTICAL OFFSET BY CONSTRUCTING A STONE WEDGE OR GRADING TO A 4:1 SLOPE, OR FLATTER, OR USE PORTABLE BARRIER RAIL.

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SCHEDULE THE WORK SO AS TO MINIMIZE THE TIME TRAFFIC IS EXPOSED TO AN ELEVATION DIFFERENCE. ONCE THE CONTRACTOR BEGINS AN ACTIVITY THAT CREATES AN ELEVATION DIFFERENCE WITHIN 8 FEET OF A TRAFFIC LANE, THE ACTIVITY SHALL BE PURSUED AS A CONTINUOUS OPERATION UNTIL THE ELEVATION DIFFERENCE IS ELIMINATED.

C. IF THE DIFFERENCE IN ELEVATION IS FARTHER THAN 8 FEET FROM THE NEAREST TRAFFIC LANE BUT NOT MORE THAN 30 FEET FROM THE NEAREST TRAFFIC LANE:

SEPARATION SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY DRUMS, BARRICADES OR OTHER APPROVED DEVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING:

1. WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE 50 MPH OR GREATER, SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES SHALL NOT EXCEED 100 FEET.

2. WHERE POSTED SPEEDS ARE LESS THAN 50 MPH, THE MAXIMUM SPACING OF THE PROTECTIVE DEVICES IN FEET SHALL NOT EXCEED TWICE THE POSTED SPEED IN MILES PER HOUR OR 50 FEET, WHICHEVER SPACING IS GREATER.

THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SCHEDULE THE WORK SO AS TO MINIMIZE THE TIME TRAFFIC IS EXPOSED TO AN ELEVATION DIFFERENCE. ONCE THE CONTRACTOR BEGINS AN ACTIVITY THAT CREATES AN ELEVATION DIFFERENCE, THE ACTIVITY SHALL BE PURSUED AS A CONTINUOUS OPERATION UNTIL THE ELEVATION DIFFERENCE IS ELIMINATED.

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COORDINATES ARE NAD/83(1995), ARE DATUM ADJUSTED BY THE FACTOR OF 1.0001 AND TIED TO THE TGRN. ALL ELEVATIONS ARE REFERENCED TO THE NAVD 1988.

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PAVEMENT EDGE  
DROP OFF  
NOTES