



Compassionate leaders in transportation.
Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Certified
Emerging Small Business (ESB) Certified

Promoting Safety in Maintenance Work Zones

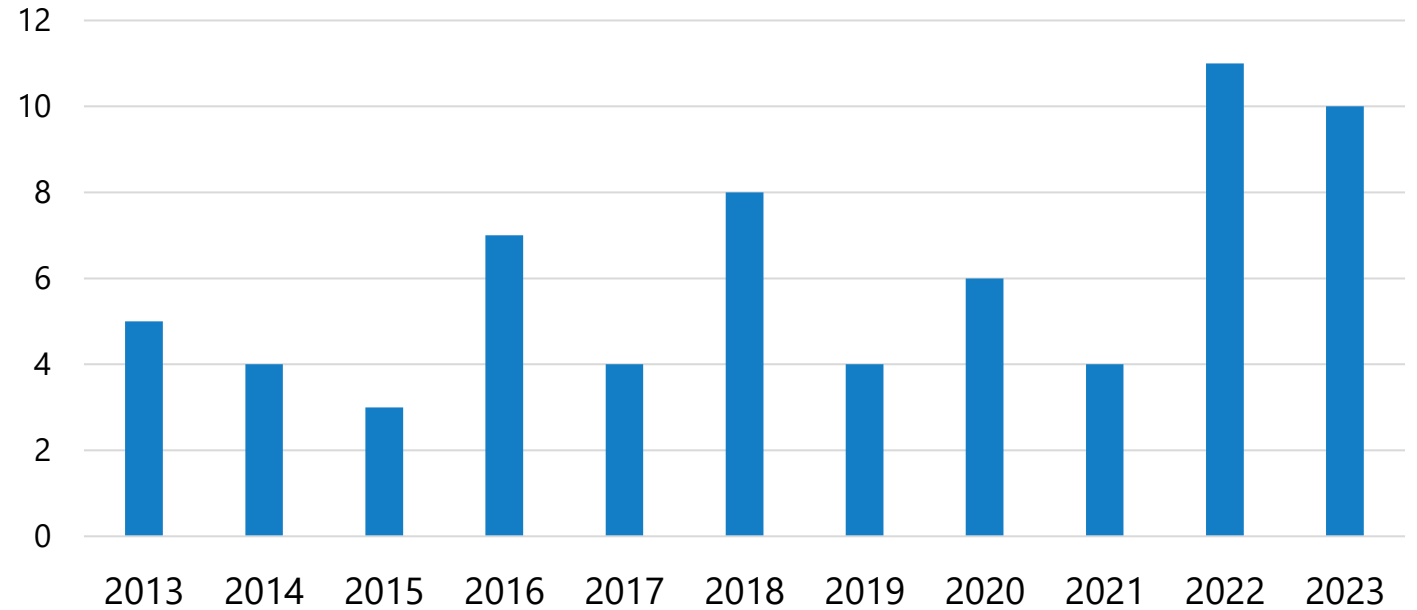
ITE Western District

July 1, 2026

Sydney Borek

Why is this
work
important?

Oregon work zone fatalities have *doubled*



In 2024,
there was an
average of

27

work zone
safety incidents
per month

Why focus on maintenance work zones?

Unlike construction work zones, maintenance work zones are often more immediate, fluid, and localized.

With short-preparation periods and decision-making timelines, recommended safety activities, devices, and procedures need to already be in place.



ODOT Maintenance Work Zone Needs

Overall needs were focused on:



additional enforcement

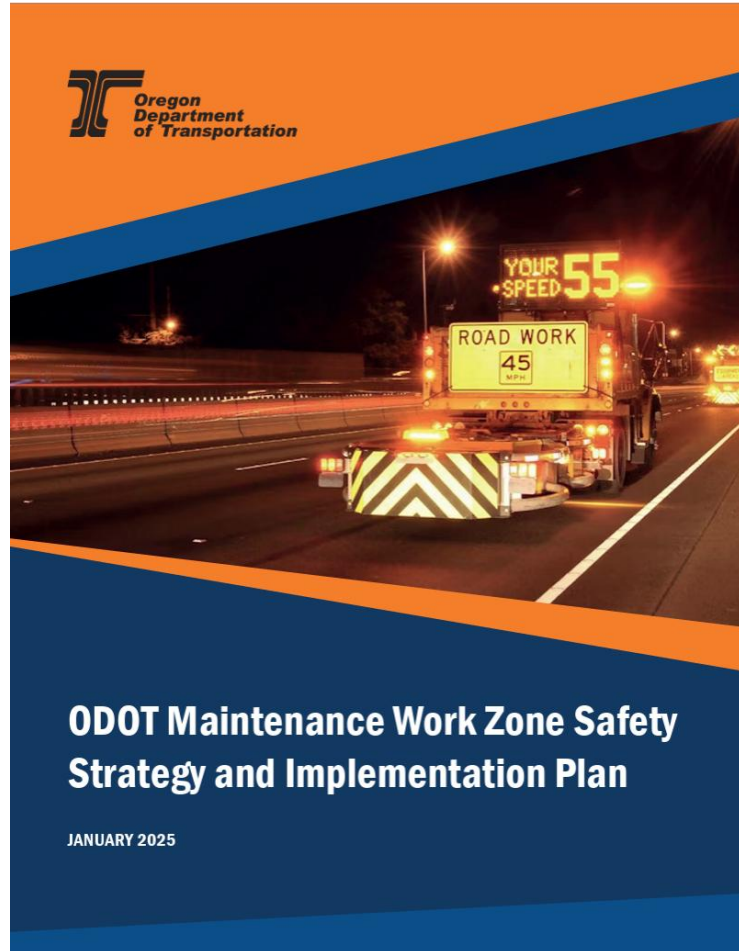


reducing vehicle speeds



reducing impaired and distracted driving

Goals & Guiding Principles



MAINTENANCE WORK ZONE GOAL



GOAL 1: SAFETY

Promote safety of work crews and traveling public

MAINTENANCE WORK ZONE GUIDING PRINCIPLES



PRINCIPLE 1: COLLABORATION

Foster collaborative relationships between internal and external partners



PRINCIPLE 2: OPTIMIZATION

Balance standardization and innovation in safety practices



PRINCIPLE 3: PUBLIC AWARENESS

Improve public awareness of maintenance work zones



PRINCIPLE 4: EFFECTIVENESS

Focus on practical and effective solutions that enhance worker safety and minimize exposure to hazardous conditions



PRINCIPLE 5: ACCESSIBILITY

Every crew has access to the tools they need for work zone safety

Elements of a Successful Program

ODOT can build a foundation for sustainable, impactful maintenance work zone safety improvements through six key elements:



Address business processes



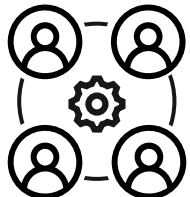
Leverage advanced equipment and technology



Foster a culture of safety



Invest in workforce development



Encourage collaboration



Use performance measurement



Key Near-Term Action Items

- Work with Legislature to automate speed enforcement & reduce speed limits
- Establish standard practices for engaging all forms of law enforcement
- Use products that reduce exposure & equipment with controls on both sides

Key Near-Term Action Items

- Update design manuals and checklists to include maintenance access
- Share best practices statewide
- Implement consistent public outreach strategies
- Program a regular budget for work zone safety



Progress Made Since Implementation

- New Oregon Temporary Traffic Control Handbook (OTTCH)
- HB 4081 – Work Zone Photo Radar Speed Enforcement
- Set aside budget for equipment pilots – TBD
- Innovation sharing at Transportation Ops & Maintenance Managers meetings
 - Rumble Strip Trailer





Questions?
Thank You

Maintenance Work Zone Safety
Strategy and Implementation Plan
Promote safety of work crews and travelling public

