

# Work Zone Process Reviews - Overview

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# Section 630.1008 of Work Zone Safety and Mobility Rule

- Requires agencies to conduct a process review at least every 2 years to assess the effectiveness of work zone safety and mobility procedures
- Results should be used to:
  - Improve work zone processes and procedures, data/information resources, and training
  - Enhance efforts to address safety and mobility on current and future projects

# Section 630.1008 of Work Zone Safety and Mobility Rule (cont.)

#### Process review:

- May include evaluation of WZ data at the State level, and/or review of randomly selected projects throughout jurisdictions
- Should be done using a multi-disciplinary team and in partnership with FHWA

Updated Rule is more comprehensive so...

Reviews need to be more comprehensive than before



### Process Review - What It's Not

- Not a compliance review for traffic control plans although it may consider/include the results of field/traffic control reviews
- Not a training program although it may include a review of the agency's WZ training program
- Not the WZ Self Assessment although it should make use of the WZ SA results from recent years to avoid "plowing the same ground" again
- Not a review of crash data although the agency should use available operational and safety data as part of its process review



#### Process Review - What It Is

- Program level evaluation of work zone operations and management
  - □ Policies
  - □ Practices and procedures
  - □ Outcomes crash data, mobility impacts
- Helps assess effectiveness of a program or a set of practices and procedures
- Includes looking at individual projects as examples/case studies of how things are working



### Process Review - What It Is

- Allows Agency and Division Office to:
  - Identify good practices and successes for broader application
  - Make recommendations to improve situations where a problem might exist
  - Adjust policies or practices to improve ease-of-use or performance
  - □ Identify areas for future training





# Scope of Review



- What should a review cover?
  - State's WZ policy and processes
    - Significant Project identification
    - Impact analysis & Lane closure policies
    - TMP development
  - WZ data both safety and operational
  - Field implementation:
    - Traffic control
    - Queue/mobility management
    - Inspection frequency & documentation
  - Training

# Consider More In-depth Focus on One Area

- Enables deeper analysis
- Examples:
  - One area that is not working well
  - Delays in project/program development one component is a concern
  - Increased complaints
  - New process introduced into mix
  - Policy revised since last review



# Review Approaches Used

- Field review of projects combined with one or more of the following:
  - Review of WZSA results
  - Questionnaire of staff across project delivery
  - Interviews of staff across project delivery
  - Review of policies and procedures
  - Review of crash data
- In-depth interviews of personnel from several Districts



### Review Approaches Used (cont.)

- Review of set of select topics at both project and program level:
  - Project TMP documentation, RE TMP interviews, site manager data (safety and operational), project crash reviews
  - Program Overall crash data, training
- Case study Selected 2 projects and reviewed them across the full project development process (note: a larger sample is recommended)

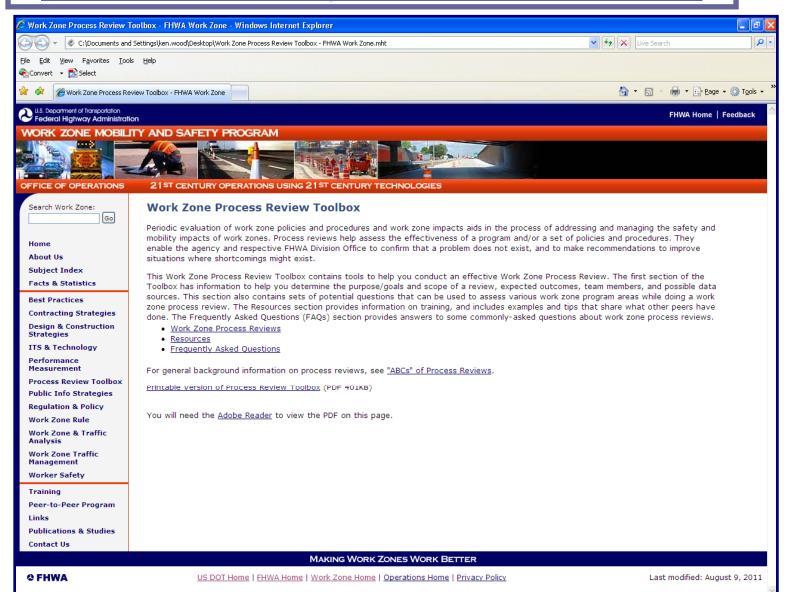


### Review Approaches Used (cont.)

- Correlation of strategies to results
  - Assessment of what TMP strategies were used on 21 projects
  - Assessment of crash data for the 21 projects
  - WZ traffic control QA inspections for 15 of these projects
  - Cross-comparison amongst the 3 sources to identify correlations

#### Work Zone Process Review Toolbox

http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/prtoolbox/pr\_toolbox.htm





### Sample set of questions in toolbox

- Overall Work Zone Policy Implementation
- Impacts Assessment
- Use of Work Zone Data
- WZ Training Process Review Questions
- Significant Projects



### Sample set of questions in toolbox

- TMPs
- Traffic Control Component of TMPs
- Transportation Operations Component of TMPs
- Public Information Component of TMPs



# Why Reviews are Important

- Provide a read on the state of work zones in the State and Nationally
- Point to where improvements or adjustments are needed
- Highlight successes for broader implementation
- Means of oversight
  - For States
  - For FHWA
- Regulatory requirement