



# 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](http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/prtoolbox/pr_toolbox.htm)

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the 'Work Zone Process Review Toolbox' website. The browser's address bar shows the URL: [http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/prtoolbox/pr\\_toolbox.htm](http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/prtoolbox/pr_toolbox.htm). The website header includes the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration logo and the text 'WORK ZONE MOBILITY AND SAFETY PROGRAM'. Below the header is a navigation menu with 'OFFICE OF OPERATIONS' and '21ST CENTURY OPERATIONS USING 21ST CENTURY TECHNOLOGIES'. The main content area is titled 'Work Zone Process Review Toolbox' and contains the following text:

Periodic evaluation of work zone policies and procedures and work zone impacts aids in the process of addressing and managing the safety and mobility impacts of work zones. Process reviews help assess the effectiveness of a program and/or a set of policies and procedures. They enable the agency and respective FHWA Division Office to confirm that a problem does not exist, and to make recommendations to improve situations where shortcomings might exist.

This Work Zone Process Review Toolbox contains tools to help you conduct an effective Work Zone Process Review. The first section of the Toolbox has information to help you determine the purpose/goals and scope of a review, expected outcomes, team members, and possible data sources. This section also contains sets of potential questions that can be used to assess various work zone program areas while doing a work zone process review. The Resources section provides information on training, and includes examples and tips that share what other peers have done. The Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section provides answers to some commonly-asked questions about work zone process reviews.

- [Work Zone Process Reviews](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

For general background information on process reviews, see "[ABCs](#)" of Process Reviews.

[Printable version of Process Review Toolbox](#) (PDF 401KB)

You will need the [Adobe Reader](#) to view the PDF on this page.

The left sidebar contains a search box and a list of navigation links: Home, About Us, Subject Index, Facts & Statistics, Best Practices, Contracting Strategies, Design & Construction Strategies, ITS & Technology, Performance Measurement, Process Review Toolbox, Public Info Strategies, Regulation & Policy, Work Zone Rule, Work Zone & Traffic Analysis, Work Zone Traffic Management, Worker Safety, Training, Peer-to-Peer Program, Links, Publications & Studies, and Contact Us.

The footer includes the FHWA logo, the text 'MAKING WORK ZONES WORK BETTER', and navigation links: [US DOT Home](#) | [FHWA Home](#) | [Work Zone Home](#) | [Operations Home](#) | [Privacy Policy](#). The last modified date is August 9, 2011.




# 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