MDOT
Operations Field Services
6333 Lansing Road
Lansing, MI 48917
Fax 517-322-3385

Questions regarding this advisory may be directed to:

Chris Brookes
Work Zone Delivery
Engineer
517-636-0300
Brookesc@michigan.gov

Or

Angie Kremer
Traffic Incident
Management Engineer
517-636-0247
KremerA@michigan.gov

Work Zone Speed Limits on Freeways with a Posted Speed of 75 MPH

In January 2017 the Governor signed a package of legislative bills (House Bills 4423-4427) that requires Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and the Michigan State Police (MSP) to increase speed limits on at least 600 miles of limited access freeway to 75 miles per hour (mph), if supported by an engineering and safety study and 85th percentile speeds.

As part of the speed limit change, work zones that are present on sections of freeway that have an existing posted speed limit of 75 mph will be affected. The new method for reducing speeds for a work zone on a segment of freeway with a 75 mph speed limit is:

The speed will be reduced from 75 mph to 70 mph leading into the work zone, then reduced to 60 mph and, when appropriate, 45 mph where Workers Present (WWP), following current work zone guidelines. Typical M1000a depicts a double step down without WWP.

This method will provide statewide consistency in work zones and will not change the current expectations of motorists.

With the existing speed limit of 75 mph prior to the work zone, the length and layout of some items will be affected. Refer to the list below for the affected areas and their associated lengths.

Please use typical application M0020a for determining your taper length (L). Where L = S x W for posted speeds greater than 45 mph.

L = Minimum length of merging taper
S = Posted speed limit in mph prior to work area
W = Width of offset

D = 750 feet at 75 mph. (D" is the distance between traffic control devices).

B = 625 feet at 75 mph. (B is the guideline for the length of longitudinal buffer space).
**KEY**

- **Channelizing Devices**
- **Lighted Arrow Panel**
- **Traffic Flow**
- **Legend reflects speed limit beyond work area**
- **Place in accordance with SDOT 2015-001**
- **Place where applicable**

**END ROAD WORK**

**SPEED LIMIT 75**

**R2-1**

**PLACE THROUGHOUT WORK AREA AS INDICATED IN THE NOTES.**

**SPEED LIMIT 60**

**R2-1a**

**PLACE THROUGHOUT WORK AREA AS INDICATED IN THE NOTES.**