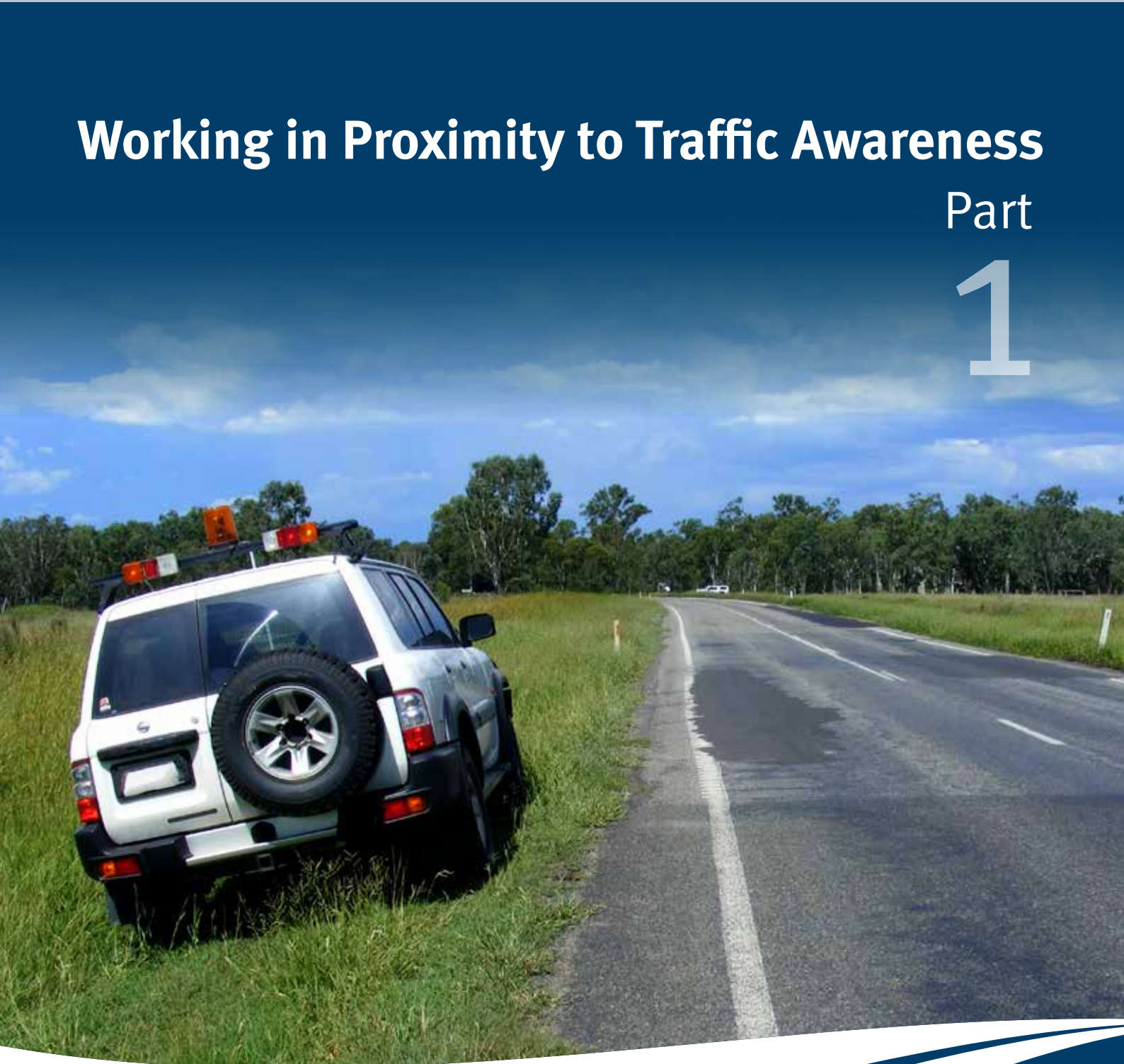


**KEY INFORMATION**

# Working in Proximity to Traffic Awareness

Part

1



# WORKING IN PROXIMITY TO TRAFFIC AWARENESS **PART 1**



## TERMS YOU NEED TO KNOW

<b>Short term work</b>	Single shift or less. Personnel <b>MUST</b> be in attendance and road conditions restored at completion of the work.
<b>Low impact work</b>	No adverse effects on road condition. No effect on traffic flow/passage. For example, an off road activity, marking the roadway for work. It is important you are aware of the procedures that impact on the way you work.

**Working near traffic is dangerous**

**If in doubt talk it out with the responsible person on site or your supervisor or manager.**




**Speak up if you have safety concerns.**

# WORKING IN PROXIMITY TO TRAFFIC AWARENESS PART 1



## CAN AND CAN'T DO'S

What you can and can't do in "Working in Proximity to Traffic – Awareness Part 1".

CAN DO		
✓	Set up basic warning signage, so road users are aware of your presence and that work is occurring. (Under guidance of responsible person on site).	T2-Q06 
✓	Only T1-5, T2-Q06 or T1-3-1 signs. In these situations, these signs do not form part of any traffic guidance scheme.	T1-3-1 
✓	Speak up and discuss safety concerns with the responsible person on site.	T1-5 
✓	Participate in identifying the scope of work and the process that must be applied under MUTCD Part 3. (The responsible person on site is accountable for final decision).	
✓	Participate in the preparation of a SWMS (Safe Work Method Statement) or JSEA (Job Safety Environment Analysis) and carry out an on-site risk assessment.	
✓	Identify and confirm that hazard and risk controls have been put in place and flag any concerns with the responsible person on site or your supervisor/manager.	
✓	Refuse to carry out work that you are not appropriately qualified and/or trained for. You must inform your supervisor and remain on site in a safe position.	
CAN'T DO		
✗	Act as a Traffic Controller.	
✗	Select and apply Works Protection Methods for Short Term Low Impact.	
✗	Design or develop a traffic management plan or traffic guidance scheme.	
✗	Implement a traffic management plan or traffic guidance scheme.	
✗	Audit or inspect traffic management systems.	
✗	Stop and control traffic.	
✗	Put out more signs than specified under the MUTCD.	
✗	Any of these activities would be a breach of legislation and safety.	



## COMMON HAZARDS AND RISKS WHEN WORKING ON OR NEAR THE ROADWAY

Remember a thorough risk assessment and management process must be carried out by a suitably trained and qualified person in conjunction with the work team.

HAZARDS	RISKS
Plant and work vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being struck by plant and injured</li> <li>• Catch or crush injury</li> <li>• Fumes and emissions</li> </ul>
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road rage, aggression</li> <li>• Vehicle running off the road</li> <li>• Struck by vehicle</li> <li>• Exhaust fumes</li> <li>• Objects thrown from vehicles</li> <li>• Prolonged exposure to noise</li> </ul>
Weather for example: sun, heat, fog, rain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dehydration, heat stress</li> <li>• Skin cancer</li> <li>• Reduced visibility</li> <li>• Slippery surfaces</li> <li>• Changed conditions</li> </ul>
High speed roadways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased stopping distances</li> <li>• Vehicle running off the road</li> <li>• Road accidents</li> <li>• Struck by vehicle</li> </ul>
Fatigued drivers and workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less attentive</li> <li>• More likely to make mistakes</li> <li>• Micro-sleeps</li> <li>• Reduced concentration</li> </ul>
Separation distance from roadway / travelled path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being struck by plant and injured</li> <li>• Fumes and emissions</li> </ul>
Vehicles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Load dimensions (oversize), load security, vehicle 'vacuum' and extended stopping distances, stopping distances vary</li> <li>• Increased weight = increased stopping distance</li> </ul>

# WORKING IN PROXIMITY TO TRAFFIC AWARENESS PART 1



HAZARDS	RISKS
Approach sight distances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visibility of signage</li> <li>• Visual obstructions for example, curves, trees and branches, fences, crests, other vehicles</li> <li>• Incorrect or unclear signs to inform drivers</li> </ul>
Pedestrians, cyclists, public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on or near the roadway may affect pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users and their travel paths</li> <li>• If pedestrians need to cross the road it is not low impact work</li> </ul>
Night work operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drivers are slower to react to signage, workers, plant and other equipment</li> <li>• Lower traffic volumes often lead to higher vehicle speeds</li> <li>• More heavy vehicles and wide load freight transport are present</li> <li>• Motorists' behaviour may be impacted by fatigue, drugs and alcohol</li> <li>• Visibility is reduced for you and fellow workers, increasing your reaction time if an incident occurs</li> </ul>
Environmental factors and conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lookouts may not be able to see required distances</li> <li>• Reaction times are increased when visibility is reduced</li> <li>• Stopping distances increase on wet roads</li> <li>• Terrain for example uneven surfaces, wet surfaces (slips, trips, falls)</li> <li>• Weather conditions for example heat, sun, fog, rain (heat illness, sunburn, poor visibility)</li> <li>• Fumes and emission from passing traffic or work for example bitumen laying (hazardous gases)</li> <li>• Dust from operations such as slashing</li> <li>• Smoke from fires (poor visibility, particulates)</li> <li>• Rubbish (needle stick injuries, cuts, debris)</li> <li>• Poor lighting (poor lighting decreases visibility for both motorists and you. This makes it harder to identify and react to hazards)</li> </ul>
Environmental factors Insect, reptiles and animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bites</li> <li>• Stings</li> <li>• Cause physical harm</li> <li>• Allergic reactions</li> <li>• Death in some cases</li> </ul>



## WAYS TO STAY SAFE

- Wear the appropriate safety clothing and use all safety equipment correctly.
- Comply with instructions for the safety of persons and property given by your employer or Responsible Person in control of the site.
- Comply with permit requirements.
- Be suitably licensed and /or qualified to operate the equipment or plant you will be using on site.

## RISK ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

To manage and reduce the risks that you and others will face when working in proximity to traffic, a thorough risk assessment and management process must be carried out by a suitably trained and qualified person in conjunction with the work team.

As part of the planning process and in accordance with established procedures:

- hazards should be identified
- WHS and environmental risks assessed
- control measures:
  - prioritised
  - implemented
  - monitored.

**If in doubt talk it out and get the right information.**

**Contact your supervisor or manager and speak with them if you are unsure about anything.**

## Work in Proximity to Traffic – Application of Works Protection Methods

### Process steps checklist

<b>Step 1</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Identify the type of work to be undertaken and the conditions this work will be carried out in, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>location of the worksite</li> <li>clearance between the traffic stream and the work site</li> <li>speed limit</li> <li>traffic volume and composition</li> <li>geometry of the road approaching and past the work site (for example sight distance etc.).</li> </ul>
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 2</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Identify the conditions the work will occur under and the required controls for this type of work in the MUTCD Part 3 and its supplement.
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 3</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Identify other safe work procedures and instructions that MUST be adhered to. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>traffic management plans/TGS</li> <li>Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS)</li> <li>permits</li> <li>any other relevant safe working documentation.</li> </ul>
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 4</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Carry out a Risk Assessment—this should occur on site so all environmental and other conditions present on the day that work is to occur are captured.
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 5</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Implement all MUTCD requirements and safe work procedures and instructions.
	Implement all other hazard and risk management strategies, identified in SWMS and/or onsite risk assessments.
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 6</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Monitor conditions and all hazard/risk mitigation methods implemented to ensure they are working and in place.
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 7</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Maintain personal and continual vigilance during work. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible and safe to do so, try to look at oncoming traffic as often as practical.</li> </ul>
	Notes/comments
<b>Step 8</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Tick when complete</i>	Ensure the work site is cleared, made safe and signage is removed or covered in a secure and appropriate manner at the end of work activities.
	Ensure all permits and other required documentation is completed and closed out where required.
	Notes/comments



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<http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/business-industry/Technical-standards-publications/Manual-of-uniform-traffic-control-devices.aspx>.

You must not rely on information in the Working in Proximity to Traffic Key Information as an alternative to relevant laws, the MUTCD, training, accreditation as a traffic controller and appropriate judgment exercised in accordance with relevant laws, the MUTCD and specific road, traffic and associated conditions.

You remain fully responsible for the conduct of traffic control services, safety, training and appropriate practices in accordance with relevant laws, the MUTCD, relevant conditions and traffic management, control and associated plans.

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