Purpose
To define the proper process for establishing temporary regulatory speed limits in work zones on all Utah Department of Transportation (Department) state highways.

Policy
Existing speed limits confirmed by a Traffic Engineering Order (TEO) remain in effect through work zones on state highways except where an unusual or serious hazard would be created by retaining the existing speed limits. The speed limit may be temporarily reduced 10 MPH when such a condition occurs. Temporary speed limit reductions greater than 10 MPH may be granted upon approval from the Engineer for Traffic and Safety. Speed reductions should comply with the guidelines established in the Standard Specifications and Standard Drawings for the project when the project is a chip seal operation.

Temporary regulatory speed limit reductions will only be used during impacted times and in impacted areas. Temporary regulatory speed limit signs will not be erected until all other appropriate signing has been placed. Temporary speed limit reductions may be approved when conditions experienced or anticipated in the field may create a hazard as follows:

1. Short Term Speed Limit Reduction (defined as 20 calendar days or less)
   a. The Region Director may grant requests after consulting with the Region Traffic Operations Engineer for reductions of 10 MPH or less.
   b. The Region Director must submit requests to the Engineer for Traffic and Safety after consulting with the Region Traffic Operations Engineer for reductions greater than 10 MPH.

2. Long Term Speed Limit Reduction (defined as greater than 20 calendar days)
   a. The Region Director must submit requests to the Division of Traffic and Safety for review and approval of a formal TEO for long term speed limit reductions.
Definitions

Traffic Engineering Order (TEO)
A document that specifies the authority to establish specific traffic regulations pertaining to directional movements, speed limits, parking restrictions, and railroad grade crossing exemptions. Refer to Policy UDOT 06C-05 for further information regarding TEOs.
Responsibility: Resident Engineer, Construction, Maintenance Supervisor, Permits Officer

Actions

1. Determine the need for a temporary regulatory speed limit.

2. Prepare recommendation for all justified, temporary regulatory speed limit, ensuring all alternatives including positive protection have been considered and submit it to the Region Traffic Operations Engineer for consideration.

Responsibility: Region Traffic Operations Engineer

3. Consider recommendations and submit to the Region Director with comments.

Responsibility: Region Director

4. Consider recommendation together with comments of Region Traffic Operations Engineer and approve request if such action is determined to be appropriate. Said approval will be for a maximum of 20 calendar days.

5. Submit request for approval from Engineer for Traffic and Safety if requested speed limit reduction is greater than 10 MPH.

Responsibility: Resident Engineer, Construction, Maintenance Supervisor, Permits Officer

6. Determine impacted areas and impacted times and make any signing changes that are necessary. This may require removing or covering any sign that is not appropriate or consistent with the construction impact.

Responsibility: Region Traffic Operations Engineer

7. Periodically review work zones with temporary regulatory speed limits to make sure conditions are acceptable.
Responsibility: Engineer for Traffic and Safety

8. Approve request for speed limit reductions greater than 10 MPH within 7 calendar days of receiving said request.
Responsibility: Resident Engineer, Construction, Maintenance Supervisor, Permits Officer

Actions

1. Receive project traffic control plan.

2. Consult with the Region Traffic Operations Engineer to determine that all alternatives including positive protection have been considered and that a temporary regulatory speed limit is appropriate.

Responsibility: Region Traffic Operations Engineer

3. Review the submitted traffic control plan and recommendations for temporary speed limit reduction.

4. Consider recommendation and submit request to the Region Director with comments.

   a. Speed limit reductions greater than 10 MPH require the approval of the Engineer for Traffic and Safety.

Responsibility: Region Director

5. Consider recommendations of Region Traffic Operations Engineer and submit a request for a TEO to the Engineer for Traffic and Safety.

Responsibility: Engineer for Traffic and Safety

6. Approve request and issue a TEO for a temporary regulatory speed limit within 7 calendar days of receiving said request.