

# What Truck and Van Drivers Need to Know to be Safe at the Roadside



This document is intended to help protect truck, delivery, and moving van drivers involved in:

- **emergent work** (e.g. vehicle breakdowns or stops for load adjustment/securement)
- **brief-duration work** (e.g. a construction site or other delivery taking less than 15 minutes)
- **long-duration work on municipal roadways** (e.g. regular or scheduled pick-ups or deliveries, household or commercial moves).

All roadside stops or work require a risk evaluation:

- If the work is planned (e.g. scheduled move or scheduled pick-up/delivery in a known location), the risk evaluation is to be conducted in advance. This allows for the vehicle to be equipped with appropriate traffic control devices (e.g. cones and signs such as C-004 CREW WORKING AHEAD – see below) or, if necessary, for the creation of a formal traffic control plan by a qualified person and approved by the appropriate authority (i.e. municipality or Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure).
- If the work is unplanned (e.g. a vehicle breakdown or stop to make a load adjustment), the risk evaluation is to be carried out by the driver before exiting the vehicle, with the level of risk determining the need to create a safe work zone around the vehicle.

Guidance for conducting a risk evaluation for Emergent and Brief-Duration Work is included in the [Traffic Management Manual for Work on Roadways 2020](#) (TMM 2020), Section 6.10:

**TABLE C – RISK EVALUATION FOR EMERGENT OR BRIEF-DURATION WORK**

Risk Evaluation Category	Risk Criteria	Criteria Met?										
<b>1. Work Duration</b>	Can the work be completed in 5 minutes or less?	Yes / No										
<b>2. Sight Distance</b> Distance from parked location to furthest point that can be seen on the road.	For the posted speed limit, is the minimum sight distance met? <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Speed Limit (km/hr)</th> <th>50 - 70</th> <th>80 - 90</th> <th>100 - 110</th> <th>120</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <th>Minimum Sight Distance (m)</th> <td>100</td> <td>170</td> <td>250</td> <td>300</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Speed Limit (km/hr)	50 - 70	80 - 90	100 - 110	120	Minimum Sight Distance (m)	100	170	250	300	Yes / No
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<b>3. Traffic Volume</b>	Is the traffic volume in lanes that will be entered by workers estimated to be less than 5 vehicles per lane per minute?	Yes / No										
<b>4. Environmental Conditions</b>	Is visibility unrestricted (no fog, blowing snow, etc.) and are road conditions not slippery?	Yes / No										

## RISK EVALUATION REVIEW


The Risk Evaluation has three possible outcomes:

1. **Answers to all risk criteria questions are Yes:** Traffic control devices may be installed in accordance with the appropriate Emergent Work traffic control layout.
2. **Answers to one or two risk criteria questions are No:** Traffic control devices may be installed in accordance with the appropriate Brief-Duration Work traffic control layout.
3. **Answers to three or more risk criteria questions are No:** Additional traffic control measures are required beyond those described and illustrated for Emergent and Brief-Duration Work. The standard layout(s) for the appropriate short-duration, long-duration, or mobile work should be applied.

Use C-004 “Crew Working Ahead” sign for planned brief or long duration work at the roadside, for example:

- Delivery of construction materials, supplies, food or other goods or services
- Household or commercial move

## C-004 Crew Working Ahead

 <p>C-004</p>	<p>Sign sizes (mm)</p> <p>C-004 (750 x 750)</p> <p>C-004-xx (1200 x 1200)</p>	<p>The CREW WORKING AHEAD C-004 sign is the primary warning sign for short-duration work.</p> <p>It provides advance warning of crews and equipment carrying out a variety of tasks on or adjacent to a travelled roadway.</p>
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In the case of vehicle breakdowns, or pick ups/deliveries or moves lasting 15 minutes or longer (in low risk scenarios) – a basic lay-out shown in the diagram to the right may be sufficient on municipal roadways:

- Pull vehicle as far over as safely possible.
- Activate emergency flashers. Wearing required personal protective equipment (PPE), such as a high visibility vest, only exit the vehicle when safe to do so.
- Create a safe zone in front of the vehicle. Place a cone or triangle approx. 30 metres (100 feet) in front of the vehicle, in line with the driver’s side.
- Using cones or reflective triangles, create a safe zone at the rear of vehicle. Starting at the curb approximately 30 metres (100 feet) behind the vehicle, angle cones toward the rear corner of the vehicle.

**For planned brief or long duration work** – position C-004 “Crew Working Ahead” sign 40 metres (130 feet) in front of the first cone or triangle (distance should be adjusted if the speed limit > 50 km/h or to accommodate site constraints – such as parking or other signage – or where high numbers of access points exist).

If the risk evaluation determines that a formal Traffic Management Plan is required, consult the TMM 2020 for guidance. A formal traffic control plan must be developed by a qualified person and approved by the appropriate authority (municipality or Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure).

See [ConeZoneBC.com](http://ConeZoneBC.com) for more information on roadside worker safety.

