

**D.1 Safety - General**

Safety is a serious issue receiving special attention, particularly in the construction industry. Any accident could result in a financial loss at best, or may involve a loss of life depending on the severity of the accident.

The Consultant is not expected to be an expert in the field of safety. It is the Department's policy that the responsibility for ensuring compliance with Occupational Health and Safety Act should reside with the person(s) performing the work. The Bridge Project Engineer or Bridge Inspector must familiarize himself/herself with the applicable safety regulations.

**D.2 Occupational Health and Safety - Prime Contractor**

The Department through its Contracts and Agreements, assigns the designation of Prime Contractor (as defined under the Occupational Health and safety Act) to both the Contractor and Consultant for their respective activities and worksites.

It is the Department's expectation that the Consultant (Bridge Project Engineer and Bridge Inspector) has familiarized himself with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations and that he and his sub-consultants comply with the Act and Regulations in performance of their duties.

It is also the Department's expectation that the Consultant (Bridge Project Engineer and/or Bridge Inspector) take appropriate action in situations where he is aware that the Contractor is not complying with the Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations. In situations of recognized imminent danger, this would involve ordering suspension of the work and immediately notifying the Project Sponsor.

Some general administrative responsibilities of the Consultant (Bridge Project Engineer and/or Bridge Inspector) are:

- On complex projects or projects which involve the use of specialized work methods or equipment, require the Contractor to provide operational safety policies and plans specific to the work (i.e. safe work procedures for site specific hazards).
- Upon the commencement of construction activities, complete the Notification of Construction Report and forward it to the Project Sponsor and the Department's Regional Safety Officer.
- Provide the Project Sponsor with copies of any written correspondence on safety issues/concerns pertaining to the Contractor's activities.
- Notify the Contractor's Site Representative of any health and safety violations related to the Contractor's activities, which the Consultant is made aware of or observes.

- Provide the Project Sponsor with copies of any orders issued to the Contractor by Alberta Labour, Occupational Health and Safety.
- Provide the project Sponsor with copies of reports of any “on-site” accidents involving employees of the Consultant, Contractor or his sub-contractors.
- Attend the Contractor’s project safety meetings whenever possible.
- Provide the Project Sponsor with a copy of each monthly Health and Safety Summary Report completed by the Contractor.
- Provide the Project Sponsor with a copy of the Project Completion Health and Safety Review Report completed jointly by the Consultant and the Contractor within 2 days of the completion of the project.

### **D.3 Traffic Accommodation**

The Department has published a manual entitled “Traffic Accommodation in Work Zone Manual” to provide information and guidance to various parties to Alberta Transportation contracts, agreements, permits and authorizations so that the accommodation of traffic is handled in a consistent, safe and effective manner. This document identifies the primary roles and responsibilities of each of the three parties (The Department, the Consultant and the Contractor) for public safety, outlines general considerations for developing an effective traffic accommodation strategy and provides guidelines for the use of various Traffic Control Devices. Also included are a series of drawings detailing minimum temporary signing requirements for typical Work Zones on Alberta Transportation contracts and agreements.

The Consultant is responsible for providing suitable traffic accommodation for his activities and for coordinating the positioning of his traffic control devices with the Contractor when necessary.

The Consultant is also responsible for monitoring the traffic accommodation measures used by the Contractor and ensuring that these measures both comply with the contract and safely and effectively accommodate vehicular and pedestrian traffic through and around the work zone.

On many construction sites, traffic accommodation is a major safety item. The Bridge Inspector should be aware that the traffic accommodation requirements will vary depending on the construction activities at the site, i.e. whether the Contractor is pouring concrete, forming deck or erecting girders over a busy highway. In consultation with the Consultant’s own as well as the Department’s Safety Officers, the Bridge Project Engineer or the Bridge Inspector may be required to recommend to the Contractor that minor signage changes may be necessary to suit the traffic condition.

The following are responsibilities of the Bridge Inspector relating to Traffic Accommodation:

- The Bridge Inspector should be familiar with the current document entitled “Traffic Accommodation in Work Zone Manual”.
- Know the approved traffic control plan requirements.
- Carry out checks as required to ensure traffic signs are functioning properly.
- Ensure that the signs are cleaned, visible and upright.
- Where applicable, the brightness of the arrow-board should be adjusted to suit the daylight condition.
- Promptly fill out all the appropriate forms required for any accidents and advise the Bridge Project Engineer, Project Sponsor and Department Safety Officer.

## SECTION D

### SAFETY



D-1 Construction of onsite detour



D-4 Traffic Control



D-2 Blocking off highway with barricades, 2-way traffic are switched onto detour



D-5 Traffic Control



D-3 Site safety is enhanced with the placement of water-filled barriers and light towers



D-6 Traffic Control