

MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

Department of Transportation & Public Facilities
Statewide Design & Engineering Services

TO: Fred Thorsteinson
SE Region Utilities

DATE: March 7, 2002

John Huber
Northern Region Utilities

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO: 465-2960

FAX NUMBER: 465-2460

Bill Strickler
Central Region Utilities

TEXT TELEPHONE: 465-3652

FROM: Michael L. Downing, PE
Chief Engineer

SUBJECT: Annual Lane Closure
Permit



Purpose

To establish the policy of the Department for issuance of an Annual Lane Closure Permit (referencing 17 AAC 20.017) to a permittee that performs routine maintenance functions within Department controlled rights-of-way and property; and to reiterate emergency maintenance procedures.

Policy

Each permittee shall protect the public and provide for the continued safe use of rights-of-way or other state property during construction, modification, or maintenance of facilities. Closing off a highway or highway segment, including but not limited to pedestrian facility, pathway, sidewalk, other public facility or creating a detour must be specifically authorized in the permit and must be done in a manner approved by the Department. All traffic-control devices must comply with the current Alaska Traffic Manual.

Annual Lane Closure Permit

A permittee may apply for an Annual Lane Closure Permit to be issued at the discretion of the Department. Work that is discontinuous or work where traffic control devices are unattended is not covered by the annual permit. Activities not covered by the annual lane closure permit require the issuance of a separate site specific lane closure permit.

The application for the annual permit shall include:

1. Non-refundable \$100.00 application fee.
2. Description of maintenance activities typically encountered.
3. Traffic control shall include applicable plans.
4. The Department's standard utility permit provisions concerning indemnifications, insurance, etc., shall be incorporated into the annual lane closure permit.

5. The following are examples of acceptable highway uses while performing routine maintenance activities (are covered by an annual permit):
 - a. Sidewalk and Crosswalk closure and pedestrian detours in compliance with the Department's standard drawings,
 - b. Bike Path Closure in compliance with the Department's standard drawings,
 - c. Work within or placement of materials and or equipment in the Clear Zone.
 - d. Work on shoulders.
 - e. Mobile operation on two lane roads.
 - f. Mobile operations on the shoulder.
 - g. Shoulder work with minor encroachment.
 - h. Lane closure on roads with average daily traffic count of less than 500 vehicles.
 - i. Closures of roads with average daily traffic count of less than 500 vehicles may be of no more than a 10 minute duration.

Emergency Maintenance

- Emergency maintenance would be allowed with no prior notification to the Department as long as appropriate traffic control is established and maintained. Upon dispatch of the crew, the Department shall be notified of the Emergency Activity by electronic or written format. If the project involves major reconstruction and placement of traffic control devices for extended duration a site specific Lane Closure Permit would be required.
- If accident, disaster, or other occurrence which damages a utility facility located within a Department right of way, damages a highway structure or other state property, or places a utility facility in danger of damage, the permittee shall immediately act to safeguard the public and its facilities and shall immediately notify the Department, by electronic or written format, and the Alaska State Troopers of its action. Temporary repairs must be made permanent as soon as practicable.

Cc: Joe Perkins, PE, Commissioner DOT
Bob Doll, SE Regional Director
Ralph Swarthout, PE, Northern Regional Director
Dave Eberle, Central Regional Director
Pat Kemp, PE, SE Region Pre-Construction Engineer
Dave Bloom, PE, Northern Region Pre-Construction Engineer
Steve Horn, PE, Central Region Pre-Construction Engineer