

Regulatory Signs for Work Zones

Regulatory signs commonly used in and around work zones — stop, yield, speed limit, do not enter, wrong way, and one-way. 7 signs are included.

Contents

- California Context — standards, permits, and reviewing agencies
- Los Angeles Area Notes — agency review and local requirements
- Sign Reference — 7 signs with size, placement, and plan-review notes

California Context

- This reference is based on the California MUTCD 2026 (effective January 18, 2026). California uses the CA MUTCD — its own adoption of the federal MUTCD with state modifications — not the federal manual alone.
- For work on state highways in the Los Angeles / Ventura region, Caltrans District 7 reviews encroachment permits and the associated traffic control plans.
- Local agencies add requirements on top of the CA MUTCD: work in City of Los Angeles right-of-way needs a city street-use / sidewalk-closure permit (reviewed by StreetsLA and the Bureau of Engineering); work on county roads needs an LA County DPW permit.
- Sign sizes, retroreflectivity, spacing, and placement must meet CA MUTCD minimums — local agencies may require larger signs or additional devices based on roadway classification, speed, pedestrian volume, and proximity to schools or transit.

Los Angeles Area Notes

In Los Angeles, temporary regulatory changes — reduced speed, one-way operation, turn or entry restrictions — generally require LADOT review, and Caltrans District 7 review on state highways. Regulatory authority cannot be created by signing alone; confirm the change is authorized by the agency with jurisdiction before posting and showing it on the TCP.

Sign Reference

R1-1

Stop



Regulatory Signs · Octagon

Size: 30" x 30" minimum; 36" x 36" on multilane or higher-sp

MEANING

Requires every driver to come to a complete stop at the marked stop line, crosswalk, or intersection before proceeding when it is safe.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California work zones as part of temporary intersection or access control, including portable STOP signs at temporary approaches.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

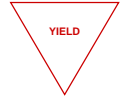
USE WITH

R1-2, R2-1, W3-4, R5-1

Public Ready note: Need temporary STOP (R1-1) signs for access control? Public Ready can supply them on portable stands.

R1-2

Yield



Regulatory Signs · Triangle (Inverted)

Size: 36" equilateral triangle minimum

MEANING

Requires drivers to slow down and yield the right-of-way to traffic and pedestrians, stopping only if necessary to avoid a conflict.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California work zones for temporary merge and access control where yielding rather than stopping is appropriate.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

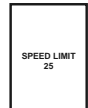
USE WITH

R1-1, R2-1, W4-2, R5-1

Public Ready note: Need temporary YIELD (R1-2) signs? Public Ready can supply them for your access or merge control.

R2-1

Speed Limit



Regulatory Signs · Rectangle (Vertical)

Size: 24" x 30"

MEANING

Posts the maximum legal speed for the roadway, establishing the enforceable speed limit drivers must not exceed.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California where a reduced work-zone speed limit is established through the proper authority, posted to set the temporary limit through the area.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

USE WITH

W3-4, R1-1, W20-1, W20-7

Public Ready note: Posting a work-zone speed limit? Public Ready can supply SPEED LIMIT (R2-1) signs with the correct legend.

R5-1

Do Not Enter



Regulatory Signs · Square

Size: 36" x 36"

MEANING

Prohibits entry into a roadway or lane, telling drivers they must not proceed past the sign in that direction.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California work zones to prevent wrong-way entry into closed lanes, ramps, or one-way segments created by the traffic control setup.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

USE WITH

R5-2, R6-1, R6-2, R11-2

Public Ready note: Preventing wrong-way entry? Public Ready can supply DO NOT ENTER (R5-1) and WRONG WAY signs.

R6-1

One Way (Left)



Regulatory Signs · Rectangle (Horizontal)

Size: 36" x 12"

MEANING

Indicates that traffic on the roadway flows in one direction only, to the left, as shown by the horizontal arrow.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California work zones to define temporary one-way operation and confirm the permitted direction of travel through the setup.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

USE WITH

R6-2, R5-1, R5-2, M4-9

Public Ready note: Setting up a temporary one-way? Public Ready can supply ONE WAY (R6-1) signs and supporting devices.

R5-2

Wrong Way



Regulatory Signs · Rectangle (Horizontal)

Size: 42" x 30"

MEANING

Alerts a driver who has entered a roadway in the wrong direction that they are traveling against traffic and must turn around.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California with DO NOT ENTER to protect one-way segments and closed ramps created by temporary traffic control.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

USE WITH

R5-1, R6-1, R6-2, R11-2

Public Ready note: Protecting a one-way or closed ramp? Public Ready can supply WRONG WAY (R5-2) and DO NOT ENTER signs.

R6-2

One Way (Right)



Regulatory Signs · Rectangle (Horizontal)

Size: 36" x 12"

MEANING

Indicates that traffic on the roadway flows in one direction only, to the right, as shown by the horizontal arrow.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California work zones to define temporary one-way operation and confirm the permitted direction of travel through the setup.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Point of regulation within the activity area. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs))

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Temporary regulatory control not warranted or conflicts with existing control.
- Reduced speed limit posted without proper speed-setting authorization.
- Wrong-way protection (DO NOT ENTER / WRONG WAY) missing at closed approaches.

USE WITH

R6-1, R5-1, R5-2, M4-9

Public Ready note: Setting up a temporary one-way? Public Ready can supply ONE WAY (R6-2) signs and supporting devices.