

Road Closure Signs Reference

Road closure signs for field use — ROAD CLOSED, ROAD CLOSED AHEAD, and ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC, with closure and detour context. 4 signs are included.

Contents

- California Context — standards, permits, and reviewing agencies
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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, full road closures typically require coordination with LADOT for signal timing, LA County Metro if transit routes are affected, and may trigger public-notice requirements under City of LA or county ordinance. The R11-2 ROAD CLOSED sign is commonly used on California TCPs for full closures; partial closures use R11-4 or directional signing. Always confirm closure limits match the approved permit conditions exactly.

Sign Reference

W20-3

Road Closed Ahead



Warning Signs · Diamond

Size: 48" x 48" on conventional roads; 60" x 60" on expressw

MEANING

Warns that the road ahead is closed and that through travel will not be possible, giving drivers time to turn or follow a detour before reaching the closure.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Placed in advance of a closure in a California TTC zone, working together with regulatory ROAD CLOSED (R11-2) signing and detour route markers at the closure point.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

Advance warning area, ahead of the work. (CA MUTCD Part 6 (Temporary Traffic Control), Chapter 6F; warning-sign design in Part 2C)

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Closure limits on the plan do not match the approved permit exactly.
- Closure not backed by advance warning and a signed detour.
- Local-access provisions unclear (especially for ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC).

USE WITH

R11-2, R11-3a, W20-2, M4-9

Public Ready note: Closing a road on a California project? Public Ready can provide ROAD CLOSED AHEAD (W20-3) and the matching closure and detour signs.

R11-2

Road Closed



Road Closure Signs · Rectangle (Horizontal)

Size: 48" x 30"

MEANING

A regulatory sign stating that the road is closed to all traffic, posted at the closure point typically on a barricade across the roadway.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Mounted on a Type III barricade or closure across a California roadway, used with advance warning and detour signing to fully close the road.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

At the closure point (activity area), typically on a barricade. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs) and Part 6F)

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Closure limits on the plan do not match the approved permit exactly.
- Closure not backed by advance warning and a signed detour.
- Local-access provisions unclear (especially for ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC).

USE WITH

R11-3a, R11-4, W20-3, M4-9

Public Ready note: Fully closing a road? Public Ready can supply ROAD CLOSED (R11-2), barricades, and detour signs.

R11-3a

Road Closed Ahead



Road Closure Signs · Rectangle (Horizontal)

Size: 48" x 30"

MEANING

A regulatory sign advising that the road is closed ahead, often with a local-traffic or detour message, so drivers can prepare to turn or detour.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used on California approaches to a closure to advise drivers in advance, frequently paired with local-access or detour wording.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

At the closure point (activity area), typically on a barricade. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs) and Part 6F)

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Closure limits on the plan do not match the approved permit exactly.
- Closure not backed by advance warning and a signed detour.
- Local-access provisions unclear (especially for ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC).

USE WITH

R11-2, R11-4, W20-3, M4-9

Public Ready note: Need ROAD CLOSED AHEAD (R11-3a)? Public Ready can supply it with the closure and detour package.

R11-4

Road Closed To Thru Traffic



Road Closure Signs · Rectangle (Horizontal)

Size: 48" x 30"

MEANING

A regulatory sign stating that through travel is closed while still allowing local access to properties within the closure.

CALIFORNIA TCP USE

Used in California where a road must be closed to through traffic but residents, businesses, or deliveries still need local access.

TYPICAL PLACEMENT

At the closure point (activity area), typically on a barricade. (CA MUTCD Part 2B (Regulatory Signs) and Part 6F)

COMMON PLAN REVIEW ISSUES

- Closure limits on the plan do not match the approved permit exactly.
- Closure not backed by advance warning and a signed detour.
- Local-access provisions unclear (especially for ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC).

USE WITH

R11-2, R11-3a, W20-3, M4-9

Public Ready note: Closing to through traffic only? Public Ready can supply ROAD CLOSED TO THRU TRAFFIC (R11-4) and supporting signs.