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# Work Zones Are NO PHONE ZONES!

MAY 30TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Work Zones Are NO PHONE ZONES!

Missouri - To help ensure summer travels are as carefree as possible, MoDOT has developed a list of significant work zones to be on the lookout for this summer. Drivers will encounter delays in work zones on Interstate 44, Interstate 55 and Interstate 70 for resurfacing and bridge repairs across the state. Lane restrictions are also expected on several other major routes including Route 54 and Route 63 north of Jefferson City and Route 65 in Springfield.

Driver inattention was the number-one cause of work zone crashes last year. The average text takes five seconds to read. Traveling at 55 mph, you will travel more than the length of a football field blindfolded. MoDOT's slow moving maintenance operations move as slow as 10 mph and if you aren't paying attention to the road, you will come up on the closed lane very quickly.

"You are driving two tons of steel. It's hard to do more than one thing at a time so focus on the road," said MoDOT Chief Engineer Ed Hassinger. "Put your phone down and make work zones no phone zones."

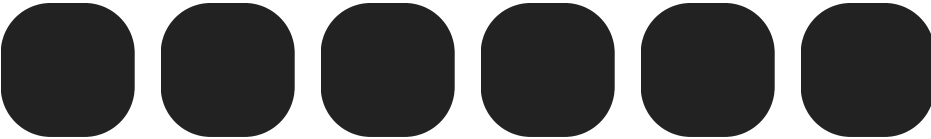
Motorists should pay attention to all signing, follow the posted speed limits and take turns merging every other car, like a zipper, where lanes are closed. Always wear safety belts and be alert for slowed traffic, narrowed lanes or a reduced number of lanes. Many of these work zones may cause congestion and traffic delays especially during the peak travel times of daily rush hours and weekends such as Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

MoDOT created a list that provides information on how the major interstate work zones will affect travel and for how long. Information on all MoDOT work zones statewide is available up to a week in advance on the department's Traveler Information Map located at [www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org). The map is available as a free app available for iPhone and Android phones. The map also displays current traffic speed conditions and live camera views. Motorists can also call MoDOT's 24/7 customer service toll free at 1-888-ASK-MoDOT (275-6636).

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