Keeping Utah Moving

USE OF VSL IN CONSTRUCTION ZONES



Utah's Smart Work Zone System Implementation

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SWZ Concepts – Lots of

Table 3 - SWZ Core Components and Applications Summary

		LENGTH OF WORK ZONE					
		< 1 MILE	1-2 MILES	> 2 MILES (WITHOUT INTERSECTION IN WORK ZONE)	> 2 MILES (WITH INTERSECTION IN WORK ZONE)		
ND WORK ZONE	> 2 MILES	INFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE (multiple locations may be necessary) - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (may not be needed) - speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign INFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE (multiple locations may be necessary) - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK - CCTV, speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign INFORM - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (one per mile will be necessary) - CCTV, speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign INFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE (multiple locations may be necessary) - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (one per mile between intersections within work zone will be necessary) - message sign, CCTV, speed assignment and/or speed feedback, detector		
E BETWEEN INFORM LOCATION A	1-2 MILES	INFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (may not be needed) - speed feedback, detector	INFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK - CCTV, speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign INFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (one per mile will be necessary) - CCTV, speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign (NFORM - message sign, detector ADVISE - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector UNEX (one prille between intersections within work zone will be necessary) - message sign, CCTV, speed assignment and/or speed feedback, detector		
DISTANCE	<1 MILE	INFORM - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (may not be needed) - speed feedback, detector	INFORM - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK - CCTV, speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign INFORM - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (one per mile will be necessary - CCTV, speed feedback, detector	ADDITIONAL INFORM (may not be needed) - message sign INFORM - message sign, detector WARN - CCTV, speed assignment, detector CHECK (one per mile between intersections within work zone will be necessary) - message sign, CCTV, speed assignment and/or speed feedback, detector		

Options!







Overview of UDOT

≻Centerline Miles by Type

- 935 miles of Interstate
- > 2,945 miles of Level 1 (AADT>1,000)
- 1,985 miles of Level 2 (AADT<1,000)</p>
- ➤ 5,865 miles total

≻Speed Limits

- ▶ 13% @ 80 mph
- > 35% @ 70mph or higher
- > 60% @ 60mph or higher
- > 82% @ 50mph or higher





Portable Variable Speed Limit (PVSL) System Project Goal

Goal: Improve safety within construction work zones through <u>significant</u> reduction in traveler speed within the boundary of <u>Active</u> Work Space.

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PVSL System - Overview





PVSL Trailer



Traffic Detector Trailer





PVSL System - Overview







PVSL System - Overview

- Communications
 - o Wireless Cellular Gateway



- Power
 - o Solar Powered Trailers
 - o 7-day Battery Capacity with NO Sun Light
- Traffic Detectors
 - o Forward Fire K-Band Doppler Radar
 - Easy/Fast Deployment



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PVSL System - Overview

Control System

- o Remote / Web-based Platform
- o Jam-Logic by Ver-Mac
- No Integration with TMC
- o Contractor Controlled
- Portable Operator Interfaces
 - Laptop PC Application
 - o Cell Phone / Notebook Application









Challenges - Max Speed Limit Drop per PVSL Trailer

- 10-mph was UDOT's Standard Practice o 40-mph Drop = 4 Speed Limit Signs
- UDOT decided on 20-mph for PVSL Trailers



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Challenges – <u>Significant</u> Reduction of Speed Limits

• UDOT Typical WZ Speed Limits (Max & Min)

- o Established by a Traffic Engineering Order (TEO)
- o Typically <u>No more than 10 mph</u> permitted
- Justification for Significant Reduction
 - o Concept of Schools Zones
 - In Utah... only at crossings = excellent compliance
 - Why Balance of Significant Speed Reduction w/ Shorter Length of Impact
 - Result Greater Compliance
 - Limited AWS Length (1.5 2 miles)
 - More Significant Speed Reduction Permitted





Challenges – How to Automate Regulatory Speed Limits

Algorithm to Raise/Lower Speed Limits

- o Never Done Before
 - For this Type of SWZ Application
- Speed Harmonization Principles
 - >15mph Deviation = More Accidents
- Algorithm Lessons Learned
 - <u>Current Speed</u> => 5 Minute Rolling Average
 - Frequency of Speed Limit Change => 15 Minute Minimum
 - <u>Bad or No Data Received</u> => VSL Speed Limit = Last Known Limit







VSL Algorithm

o Algorithm Lesson Learned

- VSLSL=
- Average Speed
- Rounded Down to 5mph Increment
- Minus 5mph



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Work Zone Deployments / Evaluation

Project Year Deployment Scheduling

Project/Name/Posted Speed/TEO LOW Speed		Location Type of Construction		AADT and Number of Lanes	Operations Scenario Tested	
Y1P1	Tremonton Posted Speed Limit = 80 mph TEO LOW Speed = 45 mph	I-15; Honeyville to Tremonton	Mill, paving, and bridge repair	22,000 AADT 4-lane divided highway	Scenario #2	
Y2P1	Meadow Posted Speed Limit = 80 mph TEO LOW Speed = 50 mph	I-15; Baker Canyon to Meadow	Mill and paving	12,000 AADT 4-lane divided highway	Scenario #2	
Y2P2	Honeyville Posted Speed Limit = 80 mph TEO LOW Speed = 50 mph.	I-15; Corinne to Honeyville	Mill and paving	22,000 AADT 4-lane divided highway	Scenario #2	
Y2P3	I-80 Posted Speed Limit = 80 mph TEO LOW Speed = 50 mph	I-80; milepost 20 to 30	Mill and paving	7,500 AADT 4-lane divided highway	Scenario #3	

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Work Zone Deployments / Evaluation





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Speed Compliance								
Project	Speeds < Over P Spe	Speeds < 10mph Over Posted Speed		10mph < Speeds < 15mph			Speeds >=15mph Over Posted Speed	
	Baseline	PVSL		Baseline	PVSL		Baseline	PVSL
Y1P1, Tremonton	23%	37%		10%	15%		67%	48%
Y2P1, Meadows	88%	58%		9%	29%		3%	13%
Y2P2, Honeyville	N/A	60%		N/A	29%		N/A	10%
Y2P3, I-80	43%	81%		42%	14%		15%	6%

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Speed Compliance After Finetuning Algorithm Parameters





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