

Office of Traffic and Safety
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Notification of width or height restrictions on Iowa primary highways – Utility Requirements

To: Utility companies

Subject: Notification of width or height restrictions on Iowa primary highways

Date: February 17, 2014

In accordance with the stipulations on all Utility Accommodation permits, utilities may not obstruct or close primary highways without prior consent of the Iowa DOT, except in emergency situations. The permit holder must notify the DOT 48 hours in advance of its intention to start construction or perform routine maintenance on the highway right-of way. The purpose of this note is to remind you of these requirements and provide guidance on how to give proper notice and information to the Iowa DOT.

Even short term partial closures can have a significant impact on the operation of highway system. The Iowa DOT is working hard to improve the accuracy of the information provided by the Iowa 511 traveler information system, (<http://511ia.org/>) but we need your help. Besides providing real-time information to the traveling public, this system is also used by the Iowa DOT to route oversized loads. Having accurate information on the location, extent and duration of lane restrictions is critical for their routing processes.

Before setting up a lane closure or any vertical/horizontal restriction on a primary highway, call your local Iowa DOT maintenance garage, as shown on the Iowa DOT Districts web page, <http://www.iowadot.gov/districtshome.html> to discuss timing and date of the closure/restriction. Once the maintenance garage concurs with the timing and date, it is your responsibility to call the Iowa DOT Traffic Operations Center (TOC) at (515-239-1440). The TOC will add the information to the 511

system, which generates an automatic message to Iowa DOT Motor Carrier Services (MCS) and the District office.

This notification does not replace the need for a permit application. Permits are required for utility accommodation and for any and all work on right of way, except emergency work.

Except in emergency situations, 48 hour advance notice is the minimum required. The preference is for a 10 day notice as permits for oversize loads are issued up to 10 days in advance. If a 10 day notice is not possible, MCS will have to check for permitted loads on those routes for possible conflicts and work with the permit holders and DOT Maintenance office to resolve the conflicts. In emergency situations, notification should be provided as soon as possible.

When providing notice to the Iowa DOT, you will need to supply detailed information about the restriction. It is advised you have this information (last 2 pages) when you call the TOC. The same detailed information to be provided is also listed at:

http://www.iowadot.gov/local_systems/mailling/2014/january/511_information_form.pdf.

If you have any questions, **please do not reply to this note**. Instead, you may contact either your local Iowa DOT maintenance garage or the TOC.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Bryan Bradley
State Utility Engineer
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Iowa Department of Transportation

511 Information Required

Before setting up a lane closure or a vertical/horizontal restriction of any kind on a primary highway extension, call your local Iowa DOT maintenance garage to discuss timing and date of the closure/restriction. Once the maintenance garage concurs with the timing and date, call the Iowa DOT Traffic Operations Center (TOC) at **515-239-1440**. The TOC will put the information in the 511 system, which generates an automatic message to Iowa DOT Motor Carrier Services (MCS) and the District office.

The following information is required to enter a maintenance/construction event into the Iowa DOT 511 system.

Requestor: _____ Contact number: _____

Route(s) affected:

Project description:

Project begin location (detailed description including cross streets and mile markers):

Project end location (detailed description including cross streets and mile markers):

County/Counties:

24 hour project contact:

Name _____ Phone _____

Describe the impact on traffic:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Closed | <input type="checkbox"/> Right lane closed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Closed intermittently | <input type="checkbox"/> Left lane closed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intermittent lane closure | <input type="checkbox"/> Center lane closed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternating lane closures | <input type="checkbox"/> Right shoulder closed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced to one lane | <input type="checkbox"/> Left Shoulder closed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced to two lanes | <input type="checkbox"/> Exit ramp closed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reduced to three lanes | <input type="checkbox"/> Entrance ramp closed |

- Two center lanes are closed
- Left exit ramp closed
- Shoulder closed
- Bridge closed
- Intersecting road closed
- Local road closures in area
- Left lane of exit ramp closed

- Road construction
- Work in the median
- Opposing traffic
- Single lane traffic alternating directions

Additional project information (pilot car, flagger, etc.):

Will there be temporary overhead signals? (15' standard height restriction)

- Yes No

If yes, please provide the location of the temporary overhead signals in the space provided.

Are there any other width or height restrictions:

- Yes No

If yes, please describe:

Additional public website comments:

Project beginning date and time:

Project ending date and time:

Times of closure

- Continuous Weekdays (Monday – Friday) Nights

Times of closure:
