

Double Fines in Work Zones Overview

C.R.S. 42-4-614. Designation of highway maintenance, repair, or construction zones - signs - increase in penalties for speeding violations.

- Applies double fines to any portion of a state highway where maintenance, repair, or construction activities are occurring or will be occurring within four hours for: speeding; general traffic violations; signals, signs, and markings violations; rights-of-way violations; pedestrian violations; turning and stopping violations; driving, overtaking, and passing violations; careless driving, including driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol; and motorcycle offenses.
- Requires CDOT to place the appropriate signage in a conspicuous place before the area where the maintenance, repair, or construction activity is taking place will be taking place within four hours. Signage must notify the public that double fines are in effect for certain traffic violations in these zones. Also requires CDOT to erect or place a second sign after these zones indicating that the increased penalties for certain traffic violations are no longer in effect.
- CDOT may display such signs on any fixed, variable, or movable stand, or on a moving vehicle if required for certain department activities, including, but not limited to, highway painting work.

Chief Engineer's 2004 Update on Signing for Double Fines Memo

- These signs are to be used for all construction and maintenance activities where workers are present in the clear zone and/or workers are at risk and/or there are existing hazards in the travel way, shoulders, or clear zones. This includes mobile operations, such as crack filling and striping.
- A hazard is defined as the presence of workers (CDOT or Contractor), equipment, drop-offs, a lane closure, temporary guardrail, or anything that would be considered an obstacle, both in the roadway and roadside.
- If there are no significant hazards or workers in the clear zone (for example, noise wall construction) then there should be no double fines signs.
- In the case of interchange work, if there are no hazards or workers on the mainline then there should be no double fines signs on the mainline.
- For lengthy projects, BEGIN FINES DOUBLE signs and the speed reduction signs (if used) should be located within a half-mile of the work activity. END FINES DOUBLE signs should be installed just past the work activity. When the work activity moves, the FINES DOUBLE signs should be relocated to fit the situation, not left at the project limits.
- The signs may stay in place when there are no workers present if the hazard that was introduced still exists. For example, if the workers leave a landscaping project at night and the construction equipment is outside the clear zone and there are no hazards present then the FINES DOUBLE signs must be removed.
- The construction project manager or the maintenance crew chief will be responsible for determining the significance of the hazard being introduced and properly installing, moving, covering and removing the signs to fit the situation. If you need assistance please contact your Region Traffic Engineer or the Safety and Traffic Engineering Branch.
- FINES DOUBLE signing can be utilized in work zones where temporary speed reductions are not justified but work activities and/or conditions warrant posting. The provisions for establishing temporary speed limits and FINES DOUBLE signing are intended to apply to all work permitted within the ROW.

Standard Plan S-630-1: Typical Cases of FINES DOUBLE Signage

- “Hazards” include but are not limited to:
 - Edge drop offs
 - Equipment, workers or non-shielded objects in the clear zone
 - Rough pavement
 - Major change in alignment
 - Reduced shoulder width
 - Temporary guard rail or barrier
 - Lane closure
- Placement of FINES DOUBLE signing may be adjusted as need to provide a minimum 250' spacing between other signing required for the specific work zone setup.

For more information see the *Double Fines in Work Zones* webpage at: <https://www.codot.gov/safety/traffic-safety/assets/work-zones/work-zone-traffic-operations-strategies/speed-enforcement/double-fines-in-work-zones/>