

DIVISION OF LOCAL ASSISTANCE



CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT INFORMATION NOTICE



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Welcome to the COIN!

This is the fifth issue of Caltrans Local Assistance Program Construction Oversight Information Notice, or "COIN" for short. These short, single-topic bulletins are intended to provide outreach information and guidance to local agencies on issues pertaining to the construction of Federal-aid projects. They will cover a wide variety of subjects, including discussions of findings resulting from process reviews by Caltrans and/or FHWA, changes in procedures or regulations, reminders of existing procedures or best practices, and other timely information. The goal is to ensure proper and timely delivery of Federal-aid projects.

OUR FIFTH TOPIC: HIGH-VISIBILITY SAFETY APPAREL

FHWA has requested Caltrans remind local agencies to ensure high-visibility safety apparel is worn by all workers within the right-of-way of any street or highway in California. Recent FHWA project reviews suggest that not all local agencies have achieved full compliance with this requirement.

On November 18, 2006 FHWA added part 634 to Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations concerning worker visibility. This regulation has defined "high-visibility safety apparel" as personal protective safety clothing that is intended to provide conspicuity during both daytime and nighttime usage and that meet or exceed the Performance Class 2 or 3 requirements of the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 publication entitled "American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear." This regulation applies to all workers working in the right-of-way on Federal-aid highways including contractor, local agency, consultant, Caltrans and FHWA personnel. States and local agencies were to be fully compliant with the provisions of Part 634 by November 24, 2008.

On November 24, 2008, the FHWA's final rule on worker visibility was included in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices by means of Traffic Operations Policy Directive 08-07. This change broadened the applicability to workers within the right-of-way of any street or highway in California.

Our advice: Review Part 634 of Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations and Traffic Operations Policy Directive 08-07 at the following web addresses. Ensure that all your workers are using high-visibility apparel in conformance with these requirements and make sure to replace worn or ineffective garments as soon as possible.

<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/CFR/>
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/traffops/signtech/signdel/policy.htm>

The Construction Oversight Information Notice (COIN) is prepared by Caltrans, Division of Local Assistance, Office of Policy Development and Quality Assurance. Comments or suggestions should be directed to the COIN Editor: Ken.Darby@dot.ca.gov.