



**BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVE
DD 7.3 Traffic Control, Hazards, and Escorts**

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I. PURPOSE

To maintain safe roadways.

II. POLICY

Officers will respond to roadway circumstances with a focus on the safety of roadway users through traffic direction, addressing hazards, and by assisting motorists.

III. MANUAL TRAFFIC DIRECTION AND CONTROL

- A. Manual traffic control may be conducted when traffic control devices at major intersections are missing or inoperative, at accident scenes, fire scenes, and any other unusual occurrence or special event. Officers carrying out manual traffic direction and control will ensure that their presence and purpose is well demonstrated to drivers and pedestrians by:
 - 1. Positioning themselves so that they can be seen by all, usually in the middle of the road or intersection.
 - 2. Officers will use clear signals and gestures while directing traffic.
 - 3. Wearing the Department duty uniform with the Department issued reflective traffic vest.
 - 4. Officers may use a marked police vehicle to provide additional lighting and warning to motorists.
 - 5. Officers may make use of other resources, as necessary. These resources may include temporary signs, flares, traffic cones, and other warning devices.
 - 6. Whistles may be used to gain the attention of motorists and pedestrians for traffic direction and control.
 - 7. A flashlight with a traffic wand attached will be used for traffic control and direction at night or in periods of decreased visibility.

Traffic Control, Hazards, & Escorts**IV. TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES**

Temporary traffic control devices include moveable barriers, portable signs and other apparatus intended for temporary use to assist in the safe and efficient movement of traffic, coordinating with the Department of Public Works for devices, as necessary.

V. TRAFFIC CONTROL AND DIRECTION AT SPECIAL EVENTS

- A. Major civic events may require traffic control. The nature and extent of the traffic control required will vary depending on the type of event. The Shift Commander should make the following considerations when planning for traffic control:
1. Ingress and egress of vehicles and pedestrians to include emergency vehicles.
 2. Parking provisions and prohibitions, to include posting streets for No Parking, for special events per Municipal Ordinance 20-63.
 3. Spectator safety and control.
 4. Public transportation.
 5. Provisions for the media.
 6. Alternate routes for traffic.
 7. Temporary traffic controls.
 8. Notification to residents and businesses in the immediate vicinity.
 9. Dangers of vehicle ramming attacks.

VI. TRAFFIC CONTROL AND DIRECTION AT FIRE SCENES

- A. Officers assigned traffic direction at fire scenes will ensure that their vehicle is parked in such a manner so as to aid in visibility and avoid blocking access to the scene by other emergency vehicles or being blocked in themselves. Officers assigned to traffic direction at fire scenes should consider the following goals:
1. Prevent unauthorized vehicles or persons from entering the area.
 2. Provide for easy ingress and egress of emergency vehicles.
 3. Prevent unauthorized vehicles from driving over fire hoses.

VII. ADVERSE WEATHER AND ROADWAY HAZARDS

- A. Roadway hazards can include such things as missing or broken traffic signals or signs, debris in the road, improper markings or lighting, a defect in the road surface, engineering hazards such as exposed guardrail ends, missing manhole covers, road construction hazards, etc. Adverse weather and road conditions include, but are not limited to, debris in the roadway, downed power lines and trees, and acts of nature such as fog, ice, snow, and water.
- B. When there is a complaint made or an officer detects a hazard, the officer shall ensure that the following is completed:
1. The officer shall investigate the area and the circumstance surrounding the complaint.
 2. If the problem or deficiency is of a nature that requires immediate corrective action, the officer shall notify Communications of the location and nature of the problem. A log note shall be made and Communications shall then contact the Department of Public Works or other appropriate agency or

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Department and relay the information. The dispatcher shall document the date, time, and to whom the problem was reported on the log. If the officer has access to resources to rectify the deficiency (portable signs, etc.), he/she shall take interim corrective action after consulting with the OIC.

3. Officers will provide traffic direction and control and scene protection in the vicinity of hazards, as appropriate and as resources permit. During severe inclement weather, traffic control at every hazard may not be possible. In the case of downed power lines, officers will not approach or touch these lines, and traffic direction/control will be conducted from a safe distance (at least 200 feet).

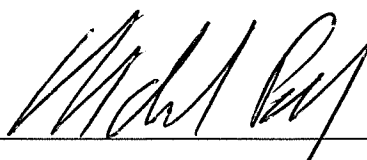
VIII. DISABLED VEHICLES

No officer will leave a person stranded *on the roadway* without assisting. The Department has the responsibility to provide a communications link to obtain needed services for those stranded. Absent exigent circumstances (emergency calls or the like), officers should remain with and provide protection to the motorist until assistance arrives and/or help facilitate contacting help for the motorist. This may include, but not be limited to, providing transportation to a service station (gasoline will not be transported in a cruiser), requesting a tow truck or assistance from a service station, calling friends, relatives, or a taxi to arrange rides. Police vehicles will not be used to jump-start or pull/push vehicles.

IX. ESCORTS

- A. The Department recognizes that there are legitimate requests for police escorts to ensure the safe, orderly, and efficient movement of special traffic under scheduled or emergency circumstances. Requests for these types of escorts will be honored to the extent possible as long as the escort does not create unacceptable risk to the public.
- B. **Business Money Escorts** - Due to the high volume of businesses in the community, we will not normally provide escorts of money to banking institutions. If specific suspicious circumstances exist, the Department will provide escorts on a case-by-case basis. When escorts are conducted, the following guidelines will be followed: be alert for any suspicious or unusual activity at the business or along the route, follow the vehicle containing the money. Money will not be transported in the Department vehicle, nor will officers handle money.
- C. **Special Escort Services** - Legitimate requests for escort services include, but are not limited to, funerals, dignitary visits, oversize loads, and hazardous or unusual cargo. All escort requests must have review and approval by the Shift Commander or the Operations Deputy Chief. When the Department elects to honor such a request for escort services, the route, vehicle speeds, use of emergency lighting and equipment on police vehicles, and additional traffic control requirements will be established. Control of the escort will be assigned to a specific supervisor or officer. The escort will be terminated if it poses unacceptable risk to the public.

Reviewed and adopted by the Burlington Police Commission on October 24, 2017.



Brandon del Pozo, Chief of Police

November 8, 2017

Effective Date