

Construction Zone 101: Driving



Metro-Atlanta interstates seem to have transformed into a continuous construction work zone. The Georgia Department of Transportation's most recent project -Transform 285/400, only adds to the everlasting construction zone. There are few steps

the traveling public can take to ensure they drive safely through the Transform 285/400 project work zone.

Pay Attention

Bright orange signs warn drivers in advance before they drive into the work zone. Drivers should begin to reduce their speeds and pay attention to the posted 55 mph speed limit signs on I-285 and on SR 400. Motorists should also put away their mobile devices, drive alert not drowsy or impaired and avoid other distractions while driving. The slightest distraction can cause injury or harm to another driver or road construction worker.

Patience, Patience

It's easy to get upset at the men and women working on the interstate. Motorists should remember the men and women are working to improve the road to make their commutes easy and faster in the future. Additionally, the men and women are also dads, moms, sons, daughters, brothers, and sisters. They rely on motorists to help keep them safe so they can return home safely to their families.

Expect the Unexpected

Road construction causes major changes to the road. Lanes may shift or narrow, striping may change overnight or a concrete barrier can block a shoulder. Motorists should prepare for anything while traveling through the Transform 285/400 work zone by driving slowly and paying attention to the roadway. The Georgia Department of Transportation's top goal during the Transform 285/400 project construction is safety for all road users. Be sure to always Drive Alert, Arrive Alive!

In 2015, roadway fatalities in Georgia increased for the first time in a decade with 262 more deaths than 2014. Georgia DOT launched the Drive Alert Arrive Alive statewide safety campaign to address this startling increase in fatalities on our roadways. The goal is to educate drivers about simple changes they can make in their driving behavior to prevent crashes, improve safety and save lives. The campaign is a partnership between GDOT and the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS).

What Can You Do?

Most single vehicle crashes can be prevented by changing driver behavior. Distracted driving is a primary factor in many fatalities. Also, impaired driving, driving too fast for conditions, and failure to wear a seatbelt contributes to the majority of fatalities on our roadway.

Take responsibility to protect yourself, your passengers, other drivers, pedestrians, motorcyclists and bicyclists.

Read Excerpt: <http://www.dot.ga.gov/DriveSmart/SafetyOperation/Pages/DAAA.aspx>

About the GDOT

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About the Program

The Construction Estimating Institute (CEI) works with GDOT as the statewide provider of the federally fund Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) Supportive Services Program.

We want to increase the number of certified DBEs participating in highway and bridge construction, as well as assist DBEs in growing and eventually becoming self-sufficient.

Additionally, CEI provides supportive services by assisting prime contractors and consultants with identifying DBEs for subcontracting opportunities on priority projects.

4 Ways to Improve Intergenerational Decision Making

Ensure decisions are focused toward an outcome that matters



Making decisions is always difficult. It's hard enough when the decision needs to be made by a group of like-minded peers; but the hardest types of decisions to make are those in which there are multiple generations involved in the process. So, what do you do? Bringing out the best in the generations impacting your decisions requires four critical approaches to ensure their involvement stays on track and is focused on moving toward an outcome that matters.

1. Don't Assume Everyone Has Enough Insight

Simply making a decision does not earn an employee a participation trophy. Just showing up is not enough to succeed in today's fast-paced business environment. Careful consideration of the available decision options is important. Frequently, the assumption is made that everyone at the table has enough insight and information to participate effectively in the process. Too often, they don't.

Make sure your intergenerational team has enough information so they can be more mindful in evaluating your options. Established professionals can become grounded in a black-and-white point of view that makes them hold fast to historical assessments of potential options. Younger participants can have a limited viewpoint about possible options and consequences. This is not because they are incapable of complex thought; it is just that they often do not have enough experience to engage in a more nuanced deliberation.

Prepare them for participating in this process. Do they need advance reading material, such as an article about the critical issue you are going to address?

Write up a summary of the critical elements of the issue and why a decision needs to be made. Set the stage at the outset by doing a comprehensive presentation at the first meeting. Provide them with clarity about how the decision relates to your organizational business strategies and why this is an area of concern for the firm. Don't assume your team understands this, either. Consider this an educational opportunity for your younger employees.

2. Clarify the Decision Parameters

Keeping an intergenerational group focused is a challenge. They will careen from issue to issue unless you frame things up clearly for them. Establish a framework of what must be considered and the boundaries for how far they can go with the decision options. Set limits. If there are budget or staffing limitations, say so.

Make sure to clarify the boundaries of the group's role in the decision-making process, too. Is the group the decision maker, serving in an advisory function to others who will decide, or an influencer with critical insight into key decision options? Put this in writing so no one can say later that they misunderstood or did not hear you say there were limits to work within.

It is easy to defer to a group of enthusiastic young professionals, but unless you stay on top of them, they can go way beyond the appropriate parameters. This can result in treacherous consequences; both in them going too far and in you dampening their enthusiasm for participating again. Make sure to have tons of interim checkpoints and keep redirecting the discussion as needed.

To Read More See Excerpt: <http://constructionbusinessowner.com/strategy/business-management/october-2017-4-ways-improve-intergenerational-decision-making>

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