

	<b>West Fargo Fire &amp; Rescue Standard Operating Guideline</b>			Authorized by:  D. Fuller Fire Chief
	Subject: OPERATING ON A ROADWAY			
	Section: OPERATIONS	Date Authorized:	Date Reviewed:	
	Number: 216	8/5/2015	11/1/2017	

**Intent**

The intent of this SOG is to establish procedure for operating on a roadway.

**Definitions**

*Traffic Vests* – the department exclusively uses a five point breakaway vest

**Guideline**

Safety is paramount when the department is operating on a roadway. For incidents on roadways ie: motor vehicle fires, grass fires, and motor vehicle accidents, the following precautions will be taken.

1. All members will utilize five point breakaway vests, which are stored in the apparatus. These vests meet the Department of Transportation standard requiring visibility as well as breakaway action in the case of a member being struck or dragged by a passing vehicle. The only exception to this case is when members are actively engaged in firefighting duties. Then, the need for thermal protection outweighs the need for visibility.
2. Apparatus will be parked in a defensive position, angled away from the scene, at a 45 degree angle, towards the middle of the roadway, funneling the flow of traffic around the scene. Ensure that the ambulance parks in front of the scene if possible, not behind the blocking apparatus.
3. Apparatus will keep all emergency lighting on while in the roadway
4. For scenes on divided highways, such as I-94 and I-29, an additional blocking apparatus may be needed, at the IC's request. Additional vehicles will be parked in the same manner, with 50 feet of space between them.
5. For grass and ditch fires, the apparatus maybe parked as far off the roadway as possible. The operator will act as a lookout while other members are in the ditch.
6. The use of electronic LED traffic flares is recommended for nighttime incidents. These flares are located on Engine 7-0 and Engine 7-1 and should be used to funnel traffic into a single lane prior to the incident, approximate 500 feet before the traffic encounters apparatus on the roadway.