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TxDOT's four goals: Maintain a safe system, address congestion, connect Texas communities, and be a Best-in-Class state agency

**For Immediate Release**

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## **MOTORISTS REQUIRED TO MOVE OVER/SLOW DOWN AS THEY APPROACH TXDOT ROADSIDE WORK CREWS**

*Effective Sept. 1, new law aims to reduce crashes and save lives*

**AUSTIN** — September not only brings the start of fall, but also the start of a new requirement for Texas drivers. The state's Move Over/Slow Down law, which traditionally has required drivers to yield to police, fire and emergency vehicles, has now been expanded to provide that same protection for Texas Department of Transportation workers. Effective Sept. 1, drivers must move over or slow down when approaching TxDOT workers and vehicles that are stopped with overhead flashing blue or amber lights. ([photos/video/audio available here for news stories](#))

"We are very pleased the Legislature recognizes the dangers our employees face each day while working to maintain and build the state's vast highway network," said Phil Wilson, TxDOT's executive director, noting that more than 100 TxDOT employees working in construction areas have been struck and killed by motorists since 1938. "We are hopeful that this new protection for our crews will lead to fewer preventable deaths and injuries."

The new addition to the Move Over law requires motorists to move out of the lane closest to the TxDOT vehicle when possible or reduce their speed to 20 miles per hour below the posted limit. If the road does not offer multiple lanes, the driver must slow down. On roadways with posted speed limits of 25 miles per hour or less, drivers must reduce their speed to 5 miles per hour. Violators can be fined up to \$2,000.

Radio announcements and statewide billboards will help raise awareness of the new Move Over/Slow Down law.

For media inquiries, contact TxDOT Media Relations at [MediaRelations@txdot.gov](mailto:MediaRelations@txdot.gov) or (512) 463-8700.

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### **Texas Department of Transportation**

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, rail, and public transportation across the state. TxDOT and its 11,000 employees are committed to working with others to provide safe and reliable transportation solutions for Texas by maintaining a safe system, addressing congestion, connecting Texas communities, and being a Best in Class state agency. Find out more at [www.txdot.gov](http://www.txdot.gov). Fan us on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/txdot](http://www.facebook.com/txdot); and follow us on Twitter, [www.twitter.com/txdot](http://www.twitter.com/txdot).