

Ministry of Transportation

Ministère des Transports

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May 16, 2022

Dear Stakeholder:

I am pleased to let you know that the updated Ontario Traffic Manual (OTM) Book 7 – Temporary Conditions is complete and now available for use.

The ELECTRONIC versions of the Office and Field Editions of April 2022 OTM Book 7 are available online. Copies may be downloaded from three locations:

- MTO's Library at <https://www.library.mto.gov.on.ca/SydneyPLUS/Sydney/Portal/default.aspx>
- MTO's Technical Publication Page at <https://www.library.mto.gov.on.ca/SydneyPLUS/TechPubs/Portal/tp/TechnicalPublications.aspx>.
- Publications Ontario at <https://www.publications.gov.on.ca/>

The PRINTED versions of both the Office and Field Editions will be available from the Publications Ontario site once printing is complete. Please check the site regularly to determine availability or click on the "Notify Me" button to receive an email when the items are back in stock.

The April 2022 OTM Book 7 update encompassed a full review of the temporary conditions setups used in Ontario. Stakeholder discussions included invites to all municipalities, emergency services, law enforcement agencies, utility companies, engineering consulting firms, road builder contractors and organizations such as Ontario Good Roads Association and the Ontario Traffic Council. Workshops were held across the province providing those that use Book 7 an opportunity to provide input into the update process. A Technical Steering Committee with industry representatives as well as OPP and Ministry of Labour (now Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development) provided valued technical input as decisions were made regarding the update.

The April 2022 edition has introduced several new layouts for roundabouts, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and High Occupancy Vehicle lanes and reflects the requirements set out in the new regulation for Automated Flagger Assistance Devices (AFADs).

The following are key changes to note:

- To make the book more user friendly, a new numbering system was added to the layouts and the book appearance was updated to include colour coding to help navigate the topics.
- Introduction of several new layouts for roundabouts, pedestrian and cycling facilities, and High Occupancy Vehicle lanes.
- Addition of a layout table to help users determine the most appropriate table for use within their traffic management plan.
- Implementation of longer tapers to help traffic more safely manoeuvre the temporary work zone and improve consistency across Canadian jurisdictions.
- Updated information about the used of AFADs including the distinction of regulatory requirements vs guidelines for use.

OTM Book 7 is a guideline created for use by jurisdictions within Ontario. Please consult with the appropriate road authority for direction on how to proceed with the implementation of the updated manual.

Please feel free to share this information with your membership.

Sincerely,

Sheri Graham, P. Eng.
Manager

c: K. Schmid
T. Difede