

These guidelines are intended to increase traffic safety using traffic control devices, safety related appurtenances, and construction techniques for uneven lanes, milled edges, and edge drop-offs that occur in highway work zones. The best way to increase traffic safety is to make every attempt to minimize exposure to uneven lanes, milled edges, and edge drop-offs. Only when uneven lanes, milled edges, and edge drop-offs are deemed necessary, shall the appropriate portion(s) of these guideline be applied to enhance traffic safety.

No traffic control treatments are needed if edgelines are installed and shoulder widths and cross section slopes are the same as existing adjacent roadway sections.

Drop-offs of 0.5-4 inches, at least 8 feet from from the edge of traffic carrying lanes do not require any traffic control treatments.

Drop-offs of greater than 4 - 12 inches adjacent to traffic carrying lanes are permitted without\ tapers or portable concrete barriers for:

- A. Projects within an urban area when the speed limit is 30 mph or less; or
- B. Short term (3 calendar days or less) repair, less than 50 feet in length when the speed limit is greater than 30 mph.

Weather permitting, milling and paving operations shall be required to complete the full width of the section under construction at the end of each work period. At no time shall there be more than one uneven lane condition between the traffic carrying lanes which include auxiliary lanes, turn lanes, and ramp access or egress areas.

Tapered slopes shall be adequately compacted to provide a firm driving surface.

Appropriate uneven lane warning signs or shoulder warning signs shall be repeated after each intersection.

Where space is limited or there is a sight restriction, weighted channelizers may be used in place of drums to delineate longitudinal drop-offs.

Maximum spacing of traffic control devices shall be determined based on the posted speed limit and using the following table.

Traffic Control Device	Maximum Spacing of Devices
Sign	low speed = ¼ mile high speed = 1 mile
Drum	2G
Weighted Channelizer or Tubular Marker	G
Type III Barricade	20G

Longitudinal Drop-off Guidelines

Figure 6K-3

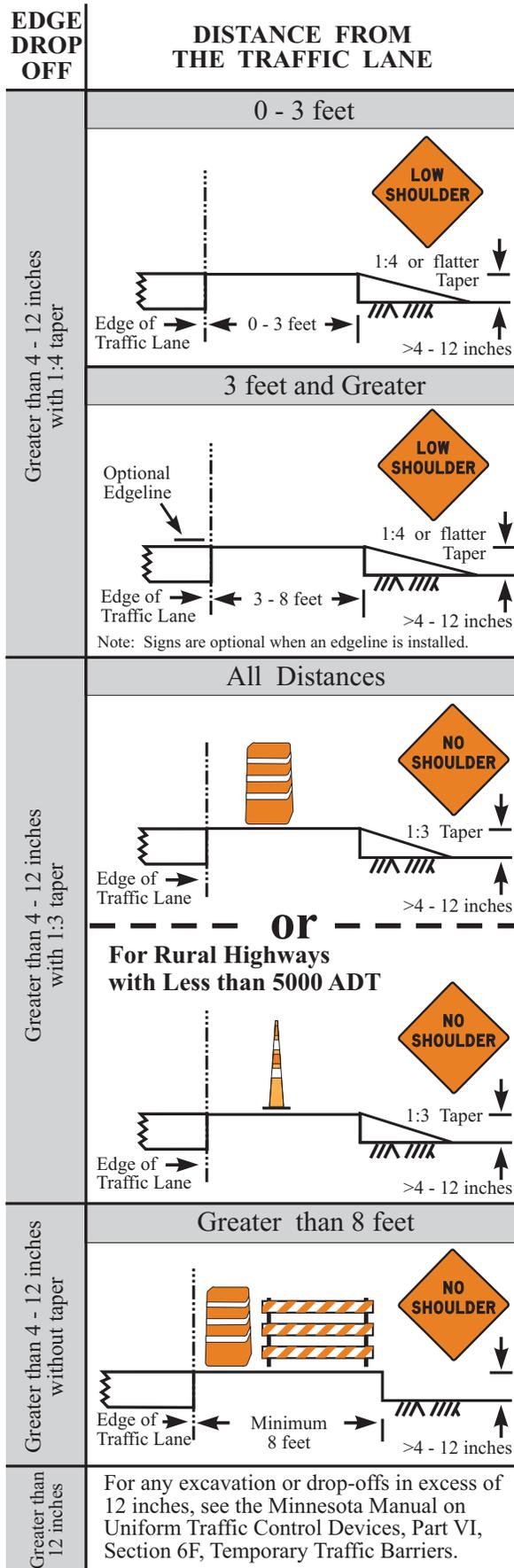
EDGE DROP OFF

DISTANCE FROM THE TRAFFIC LANE

	0 - 3 feet	3 - 8 feet
0.5 - 2 inches without taper		<p>Note: Signs are optional when an edgeline is installed.</p>
Greater than 2 - 4 inches with 1:3 taper		<p>Note: Signs are optional when an edgeline is installed.</p>
Greater than 2 - 4 inches without taper		
	<p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For Rural Highways with Less than 5000 ADT</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For Rural Highways with Less than 5000 ADT</p>

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Figure 6K-4



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Longitudinal Drop-off Guidelines

Figure 6K-5