On June 10, 2002, a construction foreman was struck and killed by a pickup truck while exiting an approximately 2½-foot deep trench in a roadway work zone where he had been installing a natural gas line connection. The 49-year-old member of the Plumber and Pipefitter's Union had been working with two others in the roadway. The work zone was on a busy city street and had warning signs and cones. The crew foreman was exiting the shallow trench in the roadway when a pickup truck plowed through the work zone striking him from behind and then struck another worker. The foreman died a short while later in a hospital. The other worker was hospitalized with head and facial injuries.

**Requirements/Recommendations**

(! Indicates items required by law)

- Follow Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) requirements for temporary traffic control for specific roadway work zone site.
- Place temporary engineering controls such as Jersey barriers, water filled barrels, a truck with a rear-mounted impact attenuater, material piles, or construction vehicles between traffic lanes and work zone workers to supplement administrative controls (signs).
- Consider road closure when possible.
- Employer must make an assessment of potential work site safety hazards, as required by the regulation, before starting work, and mitigate accordingly.
- On-site flaggers and traffic control supervisors are required to have training in the control of traffic. We recommend that project managers also receive this training.
- Workers should have a communication plan and an emergency exit strategy in the event an errant vehicle enters the work zone.

**State Wide Statistics:** This was the 31<sup>st</sup> work-related fatality in Washington State during the year 2002. It was also the 6<sup>th</sup> construction industry and the 2<sup>nd</sup> road construction work zone fatality of the year.