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## OFFICE MEMORANDUM

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**DATE:** June 24, 2019

**TO:** Region Engineers  
TSC Managers  
TSC Construction Engineers & Contract Managers

**FROM:** Tony Kratofil, P.E.  
Chief Operations Officer

Joseph A. Kratofil, Jr.    Joseph A. Kratofil, Jr.  
Jun 24 2019 11:07 AM

**SUBJECT:** Work Zone Safety Moments

In cooperation with our partners in the heavy construction industry, MDOT launched the Michigan Work Zone Safety Task Force in 2018. This task force is aimed at improving work zone safety outcomes by working together to “raise our bar” for safety in Michigan’s road-building industry. One of the task force’s action teams has identified a simple, yet effective way we can all intentionally increase our industry’s safety culture as well as have an ongoing safety focus on our MDOT construction projects – safety moments. Any time we have a gathering or a meeting of any sort, I challenge all of us to help perpetuate this practice that I know many of you already do by starting with a quick conversation about safety – something you saw or learned recently or simply would be good to remind ourselves about before we start our work. It’s only a moment, but the regular repetition of that practice over the long term starts elevating the importance of safety in our minds and hearts.

More specifically for our construction projects, beginning immediately, please have a Safety Topic/Safety Moment as agenda item #1 at every meeting, whether it be your bi-weekly progress meeting or any other type of construction meeting; in the office or in the field. This allows all involved on our projects – MDOT personnel and contractors alike – to take time out to bring up relevant safety issues, problems in the work zone, near misses, ideas for improvement, etc.

If you are looking for something to talk about, the Michigan Work Zone Safety Task Force is ready to help you out. Every week through social media, MDOT and our industry partners promote #WorkZoneWednesday, with the aim that everyone throughout our industry is talking about the same idea at the same time, amplifying the effect of those safety moments. You can find these #WorkZoneWednesday messages by following “Michigan Work Zone Safety Task Force” on Facebook, look for twitter posts from MDOT, or find the weekly message highlighted in MDOT’s Monday Memo.

Thanks, and be SAFE!

cc: Ron Brenke, ACEC  
Mike Nystrom, MITA