

FREWSBURG FIRE DISTRICT OPERATIONAL POLICY	Section 4	SAFETY AND HEALTH	
	SUBJECT	HIGH VISIBILITY VEST	
	Policy 4-05	PAGE 1 OF 2	DATE: 01-01-2023

I. SCOPE

This guideline applies to all personnel who are on incidents where exposure to the hazards of moving traffic is present. Conforming to this guideline places the member in compliance with Federal law 23 CFR Part 634 and applicable provisions of the Federal Highway Administration's Manual on Uniform Traffic Devices (MUTCD).

II. PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this Guideline is to describe the required personal protective apparel to be worn by Frewsburg Fire District members when working at an incident that places the member in or near moving traffic.
 - a. Incidents such as vehicle collisions/injury crashes, extrications, fluid spills, dangerous conditions, downed power lines, trees in the roadway, and vehicle fires are typical situations where this guideline is applicable.

III. PROCEDURE

1. Specifically, when the nature of the incident requires the member to work in or near moving traffic, the following personal protective apparel shall be worn:
 - A. ANSI 107-compliant Class II vest, Class III Highway Safety garment, or ANSI207 Public Safety vest.
 - B. Protective Footwear.
 - C. When personnel are conducting public relation activities requiring them to work in or near slow moving traffic the ANSI-compliant Highway Safety vest will be worn.
2. If a member prefers to wear a structural turnout coat due to inclement weather, i.e., rain, cold, etc., or is required to wear structural turnout gear due to duties assigned at the incident scene, the ANSI highway safety vest must be donned over the turnout coat.
3. Turnout coats are not acceptable as high-visibility highway safety apparel when donned without the ANSI-compliant vest on the outside of the coat.
4. Structural bunker pants and boots may be worn in lieu of standard protective footwear.

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IV. NON-VEST INCIDENTS

1. Several unique incident types may be encountered where the donning of a highway safety vest may increase risk of injury for the fire department member or where wearing of a vest may in fact be otherwise impractical. Under these limited situations, the requirement for donning ANSI-compliant vests by members directly involved in a hazard area “Hot Zone” activity is modified.
2. The required ANSI-compliant Highway Safety vest need not be worn when a member is required to:
 - A. Don structural PPE and SCBA to work in close proximity to a source of heat, such as during the suppression of a vehicle fire,
 - B. Don hazardous material personal protective equipment to avoid potential exposure to chemicals or other contaminants.
3. All members on-scene performing duties or involved in activities other than those listed above are required to don ANSI-compliant vests when working in or near moving traffic.
4. Members directly involved in source of heat, chemical, or activities as listed above who complete their activities within the designated Hot Zone are required to don ANSI-compliant vests once their activities within the Hot Zone are completed or they leave the immediate “hot Zone” area of the incident scene.