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| **Department:** | **Eng. & Public Works** | **Area:** | **Construction** |  |
| **Subject:** | **Working with Mobile Equipment** | | |

**WORKING WITH MOBILE EQUIPMENT SAFEWORK PROCEDURE -**

**Background:**

Working with backhoes, dump trucks, excavators, bobcats and other mobile equipment is a daily part of municipal work. These machines pose a constant risk of serious injury or death to those who work around them. Operators are not always able to see workers on the ground so both must actively practice safe work procedures.

**HAZARDS:**

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| * Electrical | * working near overhead hazards. | * Bumps, pinches |
| * working around traffic | * working around excavations |  |

**PPE:**

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| * Hardhat | * Hi Vis vest or coveralls | * Safety boots. |

**Pre Set-Up:**

* Be aware of all equipment operating on the job site.
* Know the visual restrictions and blind spots of different types equipment.
* Learn the patterns and habits of operators and specific machines.
* Always wear high visibility apparel.
* Co ordinate with traffic control people to provide a work area safe for equipment, ground workers, traffic and pedestrians.
* Operators and ground workers should discuss and agree upon hand signals.
* Always stay clear of swing zones, blind spots, and pinch areas.

**Procedure**

Operators:

* Perform and record a pre trip inspection.
* Secure loose items in the cab.
* Ensure workers are clear of the equipment before operating it.
* Signal when backing up.
* Carry loads so as to not impair vision, travel in reverse if sight is blocked.
* Wear your seat belt.
* Do not deactivate back up alarms or other safety devices.
* “Look up and live” be aware of overhead wires and other hazards.
* Travel at a safe speed.
* Maintain focus and control at all times.
* Use a spotter whenever necessary.

Ground Workers

* Maintain eye contact with operator. If you can’t see him, he can’t see you.
* Do not take ‘shortcuts’ across areas where mobile equipment is working.
* Spot for an operator whenever necessary and use clear hand signals.
* Avoid swing zones, pinches, bites, and blind spots.
* Do not ride on mobile equipment.
* Stay out of the road or work path of machinery whenever possible.
* Signal the operator when entering a danger zone, do not act until an operator acknowledges your signal.
* Always respect the power and potential for harm from mobile equipment.
* Working safely in and around mobile equipment is a shared responsibility between both the operator and the workers on the ground. Never assume you have the right of way. Following these procedures will help you perform your duties safely.

**Summary:**

* Don’t get run over.
* Stay out of blind spots, swing zones, pinches and bites.
* Know tendencies of different machines and operators.
* Use a spotter when visibility is obstructed.
* Keep eye contact between operator and spotter.
* Use mutually approved signals.
* Wear hard hat, hi visibility gear, and necessary PPE.
* Do not ride on equipment.
* Concede right of way.
* Wear your seat belt.
* Stop machinery and escort pedestrians through worksite.

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| **Revised: March 15, 2010** | **Approved by: Dave Benere** |