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How Road Construction Leads to More Car Crashes in Duluth, Georgia

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Traffic safety often depends on consistency. When lane widths, signal timing, and traffic flow remain stable, drivers develop predictable habits. Construction disrupts that consistency. In Duluth, active roadwork projects alter established routes, forcing motorists to process new information while already driving through heavy traffic. This combination may contribute to driver errors behind the wheel.

Work zones introduce temporary patterns that differ from standard roadway design. Drivers must respond to reduced lanes, shifting barriers, and fluctuating speeds, sometimes within seconds. These adjustments demand heightened attention, and when attention falters, accident risks increase. Understanding this dynamic helps explain why crash frequency can rise during extended construction periods.

When Is A Lawyer Necessary For Construction Zone Crashes?

Construction zones create a higher risk of car accidents due to sudden lane shifts, reduced visibility, and congested traffic. When a crash occurs, determining fault can be complicated, especially if multiple drivers or contractors are involved. In these cases, consulting a Duluth car accident lawyer from [Slam Dunk Attorney](#) can help you understand your options and what steps to take next.

A lawyer becomes particularly important if the accident results in serious injuries or disputes over who is at fault. Even seemingly minor car accidents in work zones can have hidden consequences, such as delayed medical treatment, increased repair costs, or challenges in proving liability. Legal advice may assist in handling these issues and avoiding errors when dealing with insurance or claims.

How Does Lane Narrowing Cause Collisions In Duluth?

When construction crews set up barriers on busy roads, they often reduce the width of travel lanes to create a safety buffer for workers. This forces large trucks and passenger vehicles into tighter spaces than they are used to handling, leaving little room for error. Drivers must adjust quickly to the narrower lanes, which can be challenging during heavy traffic or at higher speeds.

Drivers often overcorrect when they feel too close to concrete barriers or orange barrels, increasing the risk of losing control. Side-swipe accidents and minor collisions become much more common

when lanes shift suddenly without much warning, highlighting the added dangers that lane narrowing can create in construction zones.

What Makes Temporary Signage So Dangerous For Drivers?

Temporary signs in Duluth are often placed in spots that are difficult to see until the last second. If a sign telling you to merge is blocked by a parked crane or another vehicle, drivers may need to make sudden, dangerous maneuvers.

According to the [Georgia Department of Transportation \(GDOT\)](#), there were 12,345 crashes in Georgia work zones during 2024, which led to over 4,600 injuries and 40 fatalities. While this data covers the entire state, it highlights how even with warning signs, work zones remain highly unpredictable, including those in Duluth, GA.

How Do Sudden Speed Limit Changes Impact Local Traffic?

Speed limits in Duluth construction zones often drop by 10 or 20 miles per hour quite abruptly. While these laws protect workers, they also create a “speed differential” where some drivers slow down quickly while others continue at highway speeds.

Why do rear-end accidents spike in work zones?

The primary reason for the increase in rear-end collisions is the combination of following too closely and unexpected braking. When the lead car obeys a new speed limit sign, the trailing car often fails to react in time.

Which factors contribute to multi-car pileups?

In a work zone, there is nowhere to “steer out” of a crash. Concrete walls or deep trenches often line the road, meaning a single mistake by one driver can trap several other vehicles in a chain-reaction event.

Why Is Distracted Driving Worse Near Roadwork?

Construction zones are filled with visual distractions, from flashing lights to moving heavy machinery. When a driver looks at a bulldozer instead of the car in front of them, the risk of a crash increases in Duluth’s heavy traffic.

According to the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#), an estimated 17,140 people lost their lives in motor vehicle crashes from January through June 2025, down from 18,680 fatalities during the same period in 2024, showing that roadway deaths remain a significant concern even as overall numbers decline.

If you or a loved one has been affected by a collision near a construction zone, you can physically visit Duluth car accident lawyers at Slam Dunk Attorney, located at 2250 Satellite Blvd, Ste. 120, Duluth, GA 30097, just minutes away from [Sugarloaf Mills](#), and can meet with professionals for guidance. For immediate assistance, call (678) 329-9750.

When Should You Report a Construction Site Hazard?

If you notice a construction area with missing reflectors, broken barricades, or other unsafe

conditions, reporting it promptly can help prevent accidents before they happen. Construction hazards can create unexpected risks for drivers, pedestrians, and workers alike, so alerting the proper authorities is an important step in maintaining roadway safety.

As Duluth car accident lawyer Peter Jaraysi, founding attorney, explains, “Even small hazards in work zones can quickly lead to serious accidents if they aren’t addressed. Reporting unsafe conditions early not only protects drivers but can also prevent injuries to workers and pedestrians.”



Photo: UpperCut SEO via their website.

FAQ

Can I sue a construction company for a car accident?

Yes, if the company failed to follow state safety guidelines for signage, lighting, or barrier placement. Liability is often shared between the negligent driver and the entity managing the site.

Are fines higher for speeding in a Duluth construction zone?

Yes, Georgia law imposes significantly higher fines for speeding in a work zone when workers are present, and these convictions often result in more points on your driver’s license.

What should I do immediately after a crash in a work zone?

Move to a safe area if possible, call 911, and take photos of the construction layout, including any signs or lack thereof, as this evidence disappears quickly once work moves.

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