

# W20-4

## One Lane Road Ahead

**CATEGORY**

Warning Signs

**SHAPE**

Diamond

**COLOR**

Orange background, black legend

**TYPICAL CA MINIMUM SIZE**

48" x 48" on conventional roads; 60" x 60" on expressways and freeways

**COMMON TCP PLACEMENT**

Advance warning area, ahead of the work

**CA MUTCD REFERENCE**

CA MUTCD Part 6 (Temporary Traffic Control), Chapter 6F; warning-sign design in Part 2C

### FIELD USE NOTES

Warns that two-way traffic will be reduced to a single shared lane ahead, where opposing directions must take turns through the work area. In the field, W20-4 One Lane Road Ahead is typically positioned at the advance warning area, ahead of the work. Common deployments include alternating one-way traffic control through a work zone; paired with W20-7 Flagger and BE PREPARED TO STOP; common on rural two-lane roads and bridge or culvert work. Always confirm its size, retroreflective sheeting, spacing, and placement against the CA MUTCD 2026 and the reviewing agency before finalizing the traffic control plan.

**Official MUTCD reference:** [https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno-shs\\_2024.htm](https://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno-shs_2024.htm)