

Runaway Vehicle Ramp

US 14A west of Burgess Junction



About Vehicle Escape Ramps

Vehicle escape ramps are designed and constructed in areas where steep grades exist to provide a location for out-of-control vehicles to come to a safe stop. They save the lives of the vehicle operators as well as reduce property damage.

Ramps are generally located at points on a route to intercept the highest number of runaway vehicles. Most ramps are located either at the bottom of a grade or at points on the grade where a vehicle could possibly crash after losing brakes along the route.

Ramps have been designed for 80- to 90-mph right hand exiting from the highway surface. Yellow warning highway signage warns of impending escape ramps well in advance of the ramp exit.

The escape ramps are designed as either an ascending grade, horizontal grade or descending grade exit with enough length to disperse the kinetic energy of an out-of-control vehicle. The ramp arrester beds are lined with loose pea-sized gravel with a minimum depth of 3 feet and a minimum width of 26 feet.

Ramps are built on sections of highway with long sight distances with the entire ramp in full view for the driver.

