

# FEBRUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER



## MULTIDISCIPLINARY TRAINING BENEFITS

Local ownership is the foundation of Nebraska's TIM program; training is a pillar. It is a topic that is featured in almost every newsletter and every TIM meeting. **Why does training matter so much? Why should you train, and train with your partner agencies?**

- Gain knowledge and skills – from the same playbook – to keep yourself and others safe on scene.
- Understand the role each discipline plays in responder safety and safe, quick clearance of a traffic incident.
- Hear different perspectives on incident response.
- Build and strengthen relationships with other local responders before a major incident occurs.
- Identify opportunities to break down silos and communicate better.



For more information on the **free** training and to request a session, visit the [Nebraska TIM website](#). **Reminder:** if an agency reaches 60% of staff trained in TIM, they can receive free traffic control and safety equipment.

## FUNDING FOR DIGITAL ALERTING TECHNOLOGIES

Every Day Counts (EDC-7) Next Gen TIM is a federal initiative focused on technologies that improve responder safety and incident clearance. Read more about EDC-7 [here](#). Digital alerting technologies inform roadway users of incidents ahead and help them avoid or navigate around the incidents. **Funding is now available through Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) for local agencies to apply and procure this technology.**

### HOW TO APPLY

1. Review information about NDOT Highway Safety Office grants and guidelines [here](#).
2. Determine the number of vehicles in your fleet to be equipped with this technology and cost. You will need to submit documentation including:
  - Make, model, manufacturer, and itemized cost summary of the equipment to be purchased
  - A copy of your agency's current seat belt and drug-free workplace policy
3. Contact Dustin Stewart (DRE/DECP State Coordinator/Traffic Safety Specialist with NDOT's Highway Safety Office) with any questions you have and to receive an application form.  
[dustin.stewart@nebraska.gov](mailto:dustin.stewart@nebraska.gov) | 402 471-3880

**Want to learn more about digital alerting technologies?** Watch [this segment](#) from the July Statewide Virtual Meeting, including an overview of how it works and a panel discussion of Nebraska agencies that are already using the technology.

# STATEWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING RECAP

The third Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual meeting was held on January 29. Missed the meeting? No worries! Each topic is summarized below, and you can watch the recordings of each section on YouTube anytime.



## ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CRASHES & RESPONSE

Electric Vehicle (EV) crashes present unique challenges to responders and require special considerations during response. Researchers from the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility shared findings of EV crash impacts to roadside infrastructure. A panel including law enforcement, fire, and towing representatives discussed EV crash response best practices.



## IMPROVE UNIFIED COMMAND WITH TIM

Unified command enhances communication between all agencies and disciplines to collectively and efficiently manage personnel and resources. This session covered stories of effective unified command practices with roadway owners applied during local structure and hazardous materials fires.



## STATEWIDE UPDATES

New year, new TIM program goals and initiatives! During this session, an overview of plans for 2025 was shared. An update was provided on ongoing activities and resources to stay involved in the TIM program like after-action review (AAR) meetings by-request, training initiatives, and the Highway Safety Conference.

The next Statewide TIM Virtual Meeting will be held on May 6, 2025, from 10-11:30 a.m. CT / 9-10:30 a.m. MT. Please click [here](#) to register to attend!



## TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION

The following bills are being proposed in Nebraska's state legislature this year:

- **LB600** Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Rules of the Road and the Automatic License Plate Reader Privacy Act. Proposed by Senator Wendy DeBoer. The bill includes speed safety cameras for work zones and school zones, provisions for variable speed limits, move over change for all vehicles, and protecting quick clearance.
- **LB594** Prohibits drivers from operating handheld electronic devices and makes violation of hands-free device ban a primary offense. Proposed by Senator Jason Prokop.
- **LB616** Provide for enforcement of red-light violations using automatic license plate reader systems. Proposed by Senator John Cavanaugh.

**Are you passionate about traffic safety?** You can support these bills by testifying at a public hearing and writing a letter to your state senator.

Nebraska TIM: Safer, Together

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION