

# TIM OVERVIEW & BUSINESS CASE



## WHAT IS TIM?

Traffic Incident Management (TIM) is a planned approach to detect, respond to, and safely and quickly clear traffic incidents.

Actively participating in the TIM program improves interagency coordination allowing coalition members to:

- Collaborate during construction to discuss scene access, alternate routes and ongoing construction progress.
- Improve roadway safety by collectively advocating for short-term solutions and prioritizing long-term solutions.

Beyond safe incident response and quick clearance, **mature TIM coalitions often cultivate process improvement, specifically interagency processes.**



### MORE THAN WHAT HAPPENS AT THE SCENE

TIM prioritizes and grows emergency responder and stakeholder relationships to improve coordination, identify areas for improvement, and develop recommendations for change.

## WHO PARTICIPATES?

- Emergency communications
- Emergency management
- Emergency medical/rescue personnel
- Fire (paid and volunteer)
- Law enforcement (city, county, state)
- Roadway owners (city, county, state)
- Towing
- Other special interests



## NEBRASKA TIM PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Nebraska TIM program aims to build relationships and provide stakeholders with the most up-to-date standards and best practices. Active participation in the TIM program helps responders apply TIM practices more efficiently at incident scenes. Nebraska TIM fosters statewide relationships and unifies a safety culture to improve safety, meaningfully reduce secondary crashes, and decrease clearance times.

### HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

#### National TIM Training

The National TIM Responder Training Program is a coordinated, multi-disciplinary class designed for all emergency responders and those supporting TIM operations. The free 4-hour training is delivered through an interactive seminar that includes case study analysis, tabletop role-play and scenario, and field practicum. You will learn the correct deployment of response vehicles and equipment, how to create a safe work area using traffic control devices, and techniques to speed up incident clearance with an emphasis on reducing the number of secondary crashes and struck-by incidents.

#### What are the benefits?

- **Resources:** access to the most up-to-date, multi-agency standards and best practices
- **Relationships:** multi-disciplinary training builds relationships between agencies
- **Proven strategies for safe, quick clearance:** less exposure on incidents reduces injuries and fatalities

#### Free Gear



**Did you know?** Drivers are less likely to drive around an "Emergency Scene Ahead" sign than a "Road Construction Ahead" sign.



Public agencies are eligible to receive free gear, like an "Emergency Scene Ahead" sign, once at least 60% of your agency is TIM trained!



Gear package options include:

- 2 signs, 5 cones and 6 vests
- 1 sign, 15 cones and 6 vests
- 25 cones and 6 vests

### Coalition Meetings



#### Typical Agenda

- After-action reviews (AARs) of real-world crashes
- Construction updates
- TIM training topics
- Other initiatives & statewide updates



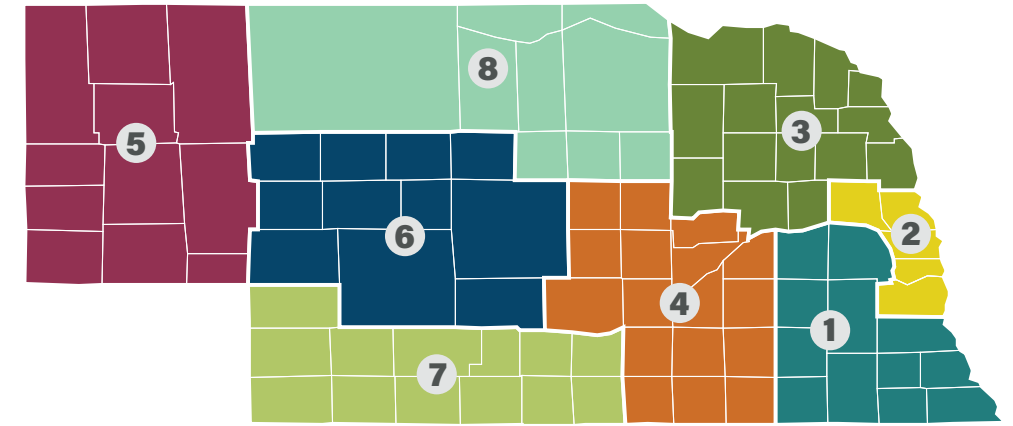
#### Outcomes

- Best practices
- Opportunities for improvement
- Actionable next steps
- Strong relationships to promote change and improve safety



## TIM COALITIONS

The Nebraska TIM program consists of eight regional districts and multiple TIM coalitions across the state. Each TIM coalition collaborates regularly to promote change and improve safety.



## BENEFITS OUTWEIGH COSTS

Learning TIM principles and applying them to every response can lower the probability of damaged equipment or struck-by incidents. The costs of not participating in TIM include:

- Life-altering injuries or loss of life
  - According to respondersafety.com, there have been 142 first responders struck-by fatalities in the US between 2022 and 2024.
- Costly repairs or replacement of struck and damaged equipment
- Damaged vehicles are out of service
- Longer on-scene staff time, i.e., slower response to other calls
  - The Arizona Department of Public Safety used TIM data to illustrate that the implementation of TIM strategies increased unobligated patrol time by 3%, saving 44,000 hours of patrol time, or 25 full-time equivalent staff<sup>1</sup>.
- Increased workers compensation claims
- Increased delay for the traveling public, impacting quality of life
  - The Maryland TIM program eliminated 38.6 million vehicle-hours of delay, equating to more than \$1.4 billion in annual benefits<sup>2</sup>.

### MOVE IT VS. WORK IT

TIM tactics, such as Move It vs. Work It, provide first responders with actionable tools to quickly clear minor crashes from a roadway. This not only provides a safer environment for first responders to work in, but it reduces the likelihood of a secondary crash. The liability of a secondary fatal crash is higher than the liability of scratching a disabled, crashed vehicle when moving it.



<sup>1</sup> King, Jeff. Arizona Department of Public Safety. TIM Performance Measurements and Reducing Secondary Collisions. TIM Enhancement Task Force Meeting. Oct 2013.

<sup>2</sup> Maryland Department of Transportation and the University of Maryland. Coordinated Highways Action Response Team 2019 Performance Evaluation and Benefits Analysis. Oct 2020.

# EXECUTIVES' ROLE IN TIM

It is critical to have a network of TIM-focused stakeholders, ranging from field staff to executives, to drive change. To best support your first responders as an executive, these are key tasks you can implement for you and your leadership team:



## SUPPORT TRAINING AND COALITION MEETING ATTENDANCE



Trainings and coalition meetings are opportunities for interagency collaboration and relationship building. Trainings, including AAR discussions, can help foster a culture of continuous improvement and safety. A best practice is to debrief every incident and always walk away with an opportunity for improvement. Take it to the next level by requiring training and meeting attendance for certain positions within your agency and work with your discipline's training academy to integrate TIM into their curriculum.



## PROMOTE SAFETY THROUGH POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Review and update policies and procedures to incorporate TIM best practices, such as requiring responders to wear high visibility safety apparel when appropriate, use safe vehicle positioning, use push bumpers or other methods for quick clearance, etc. Resources and sample policies are available on NDOT's ShareFile to help you get started.



## MAKE DATA-DRIVEN DECISIONS

Data is at the core of evaluating our performance. Using performance measure data from crash reports results in more meaningful insights on TIM practices. Aggregating and analyzing roadway clearance time and incident clearance time data can validate TIM efforts or help identify areas for improvement. Regular data review and reporting supports integrating innovative TIM strategies and grant applications.



## COMMIT TO MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATION

Area responders can formalize their commitment to TIM and each other through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU is a 'formalized handshake,' and upon signing, area responders agree to "work together to minimize freeway and major arterial response and clearance times through better communication, coordination, and improved technology." MOUs can strengthen grant applications and should be considered during grant preparation.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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