

Greater Hartford Coalition Newsletter

From The Editor

Responders that work crash scenes live with risk every day. Speeding, distraction, impairment, recklessness, and just plain anger by drivers is a rising issue. This newsletter provides a series of insights into these risks and how it effects scene management, and life safety for all.

“Roads and highways have become one of the most dangerous places to work for personnel who respond to all kinds of incidents, including motor vehicle crashes, fires, medical emergencies, disabled vehicles, law enforcement activities, and other unplanned events that cause injuries, property damage, and/or traffic delays. The personnel most often involved with these incidents include firefighters, law enforcement officers, emergency medical technicians, tow truck operators, mobile mechanics, and safety service patrol operators. We refer to them collectively as “emergency responders” <https://www.respondersafety.com/resources/line-of-duty-deaths-lodd/>

Bringing awareness to motorists to understand the risks is just one part of the effort to reduce fatalities and injuries. Changing driver behavior is not an easy task and looking at it from all sides is critical in insuring that scene safety is of paramount importance. Educating and working with all safety partners to improve the way we manage and control traffic on the road is one of many safety measures. Recent focus by the Federal Highway Administration has resulted in the implementation of the [Safe System](#) approach. *“The Safe System approach requires a supporting safety culture that places safety first and foremost in road system investment decisions. To achieve our zero deaths vision, everyone must accept that fatalities and serious injuries are unacceptable and preventable.” “Imagine a world where nobody has to die from vehicle crashes.”*

AND NO EMERGENCY RESPONDER DIES OR IS SERIOUSLY INJURED.

Stay Strong - Stay Hopeful - Stay Safe and as always THANK YOU for all you do.



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RESPONDER SAFETY - PROMPT, RELIABLE, INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS - SAFE, QUICK CLEARANCE



IN THE NEWS

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT AND PROTECTING AMERICA'S FIRST RESPONDERS ACT INTO LAW

President Biden signed into law two bills that will benefit the fire and emergency services.

- *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (P.L.117-58)*

The bill provides significant funding for a broad range of infrastructure projects; however, the measure contains specific provisions relating to traffic, highway, and motor vehicle safety. Some important highlights of the provisions are:

- Prioritize research relating to “vulnerable road users,” which includes first responders.
- Update the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices to improve protection for vulnerable road users.
- Require highway safety programs to address reducing first responder injuries and deaths caused by the failure of pedestrian drivers to move over or reduce speed when emergency vehicles are responding to an emergency.
- Require the Comptroller General to conduct a study on the “efficacy of Move Over or Slow Down Laws and related public awareness campaigns.”
- Establish an electric vehicle working group, the goals of which include identifying research and development areas to improve fire safety.

The bill authorizes the Assistance for Local Emergency Response Training (ALERT) grant program, which supports hazmat response training. It is administered by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, housed under the Department of Transportation.

- *Protecting America's First Responders Act (P.L.117-61)*

The bill expands the Public Safety Officer Benefits (PSOB) program and makes certain changes to allow the program to function in an improved manner. More information on the PSOB program can be found on the [Bureau of Justice Assistance website](#)

WEBINARS

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Talking TIM webinar series, <https://transportationops.org/tim> provides a forum where TIM champions with any level of experience can exchange information about current practices, programs, and technologies. Each month, the FHWA TIM Program Team will feature content that highlights successful programs, identifies best practices, and showcases technology that advances the profession.

November - The November 2021 Talking TIM was conducted concurrently with National Kickoff: Crash Responder Safety Week 2021 on November 08, 2021. https://youtu.be/Q_Ex81JTioQ

December - Talking TIM: In-Cab Incident Alerts for Commercial Vehicles <https://youtu.be/1PkaAjfliZl>
Oklahoma TIM (OKTIM) Program and their coordination efforts with the State's Local Technical Assistance Program (begins at 17:31 in video link). American Trucking Association and American Transportation Research Institute presenters discuss in-cab incident alerts systems for trucks and commercial vehicles (begins at 33:00 in video link). An overview of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Office of Operations Research and Development (R&D) comprehensive benefit-cost estimation tool to assess various traffic incident management (TIM) strategies that are currently available (begins at 55:26 in video link).

January 2022 - Illinois TIM Program Overview, Law Enforcement and First Responder Interactions Plans for Automated Driving Systems (ADS), and Total Solar Eclipse Planning for 2023 and 2024. <https://transportationops.org/ondemand-learning/talking-tim-webinar-series-january-2022>

TALKING STATISTICS

RITIS Congestion Causes for the National Highway System (NHS)

Time Aggregation Year 2019



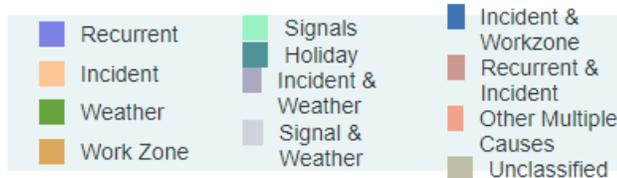
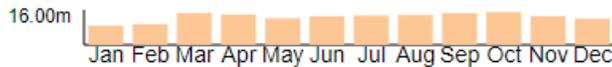
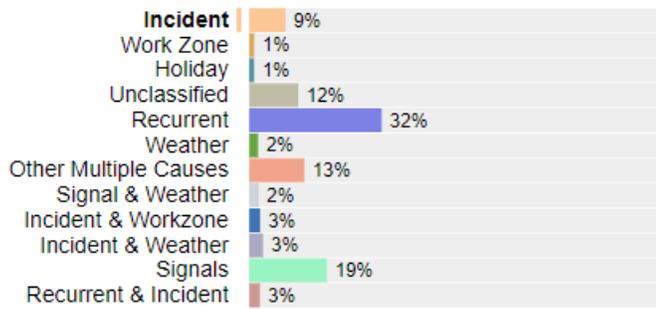
View State Connecticut

Connecticut

Sources of Disruption Nationwide 2019

No weather radar data was included for the states of AK and HI

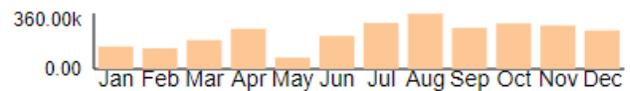
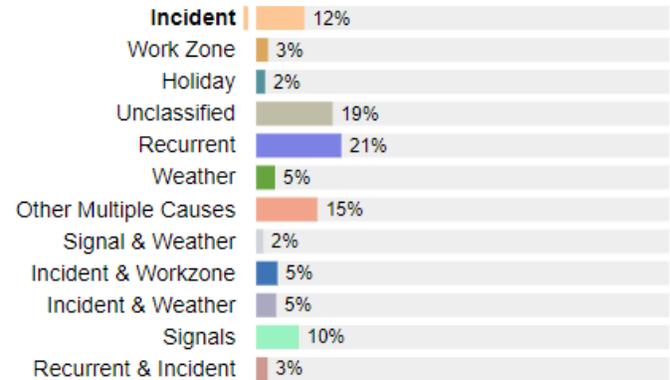
\$45.84b User Delay Cost
1.75b Vehicle Hours of Delay



Connecticut 2019

View Counties

\$618.28m User Delay Cost (1.3% of US)
23.63m Vehicle Hours of Delay



Hartford Urbanized Area Towns - Extracted from the Connecticut Crash Data Repository on 2/2/22

Search Criteria:

Dataset: mmucc
Last Number of 5 Years:
Towns: Andover, Avon, Barkhamsted, Berlin, Bloomfield, Bolton, Bristol, Burlington, Canton, Columbia, Coventry, Cromwell, East Granby, East Hartford, East Windsor, Ellington, Enfield, Farmington, Glastonbury, Granby, Haddam, Hartford, Hebron, Litchfield, Manchester, Mansfield, Marlborough, Middletown, New Britain, New Hartford, Newington, Plainville, Plymouth, Portland, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, Somers, Southington, South Windsor, Stafford, Suffield, Thomaston, Tolland, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Willington, Windsor, Windsor Locks
Crash Severity: Injury of any type (Serious, Minor, Possible), Fatal (Kill), Property Damage Only
Fatal Case Status: Under Investigation, Complete

Search Summary

Crashes Records: 151945
Vehicles Records: 286127
Persons Records: 364719
Trailers Records: 19823

Year by Most Severe Injury: Crashes Period 01/01/2017 - 02/02/2022

	Suspected Serious Injury (A)	Suspected Minor Injury (B)	Possible Injury (C)	Fatal Injury (K)	No Apparent Injury (O)	Total
2017	385	3,706	4,882	75	26,364	35,412
2018	352	3,636	4,842	94	25,777	34,701
2019	368	3,742	4,708	79	25,740	34,637
2020	364	3,172	3,381	97	18,337	25,351
2021	356	3,388	2,674	92	14,526	21,036
2022	20	176	25	3	109	333

TIM TALK



Articles contributed by

- **In Our Boots PSA** - <https://www.respondersafety.com/rs-tim-resources/videos/in-our-boots-psa/>
- **New Study Of Driver Perception Of Emergency Warning Lights And Retroreflective Markings Commissioned By The Emergency Responder Safety Institute Yields Surprising Findings**
<https://www.respondersafety.com/news/news/2022/01/new-study-of-driver-perception-of-emergency-warning-lights-and-retroreflective-markings-commissioned-by-the-emergency-responder-safety-institute-yields-surprising-findings/>
- **Safety Service Patrol Perspective: What is Killing and Injuring Us? The 'D' DRIVERS.**
<https://www.respondersafety.com/news/news/2022/01/safety-service-patrol-perspective-what-is-killing-and-injuring-us-the-d-drivers/>

Following the recent tragic news of the 63rd emergency responder 'struck by' line of duty death in the U.S. this message needs to be heard: 'D' DRIVERS ARE KILLING US! As emergency responders to roadway incidents, we are all very familiar with the negative effects of 'D' 'Drivers'. Since the inception of the National Traffic Incident Management certification course in 2012 we have discussed 'D' Drivers in TIMs courses nationwide. For those not familiar, the 'D' Drivers were classified initially as the drivers that roadway incident responders should be the most mindful of and looking out for. The 'D' Driver types were identified and listed as: 'drunk' 'drugged' 'drowsy' and 'distracted.' The origin of this discussion point does not matter as much as the message it sends since it is so easily understood and relatable to those who regularly respond to roadway crashes and incidents.

Since first being introduced other 'D' Driver types were identified and added into the discussion such as 'dangerous' 'disgruntled' 'disrespectful' and most recently 'driverless' as coined by national vehicle extrication expert and author Ron Moore when he spoke about the rise in autonomous vehicles in a recent "Talking TIMs" webinar sponsored by the FHWA.



The Emergency Responder Safety Institute has a new nationwide database to collect detailed information about incidents on the roadway where emergency responders or their equipment were struck by a vehicle while operating at a scene. Available at ReportStruckBy.com using the ResponderSafety.com platform. The database accepts reports

from all roadway responders, including fire, law enforcement, EMS, fire police and special traffic units, safety service and freeway service patrols, departments of transportation, public works, and towing and recovery.



FLAGMAN™ <https://flagmansafety.com>

Slow Down Move Over National Driver Safety Awareness Campaign

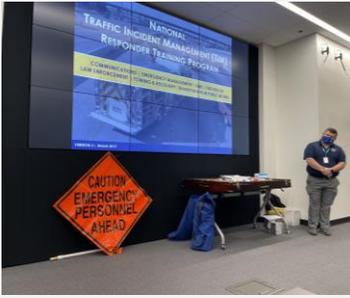
*"When my brother Corey was struck and killed, the importance of Introducing Flagman the icon for **Slow Down Move Over** moved from my head to my heart."* – Cindy Iodice

After being confronted by this tragedy, the Iodice family is leveraging over 70 years in the towing industry to bring **Flagman™** and his message of '**Slow Down Move Over**' to the forefront of public conversation.

Join the **Flagman** movement to make a difference and save lives. Learn more about becoming part of the solution. [Become an advocate.](#) [Become a partner.](#)

TRAINING NEWS

The Connecticut Department of Transportation Traffic Incident Management Course



Aidan Neely, a Highway Operations Planner, Traffic Management Center Supervisor and Traffic Incident Management Coordinator with the CT Department of Transportation oversees the TIM course. The courses are held at Newington DOT headquarters in their TIM training room. The National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training Program includes tabletop exercises and discussion on accident recovery operations and crash investigations using unmanned aircraft systems (UAS). A tour of CTDOT’s new operations center is also included. Besides, Aidan Neely, instructors include a current Lieutenant from the State Police, and a retired Sergeant from the State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Squad (C.A.R.S.). To schedule classes please contact

Aidan.Neely@ct.gov

CONNECTICUT TRAFFIC INCIDENT SCENE MANAGEMENT FIELD GUIDE



Important Update

The Greater Hartford TIM Coalition has developed a TIM field guide for scene management. Most of the original order of the field guides has been distributed but some availability remains.

An interest in providing the field guide in digital format has resulted in a request to Quick Series to provide information and cost for a mobile application. The Quick Series mobile app would allow access to a full range of modules that can be tailored to the need of the responder community. Funding avenues are being investigated at this time. STAY TUNED



If you are interested in receiving the guide submit a request to timguide@crcog.org which has been set up to receive all emails related to the guidebook.

This newsletter and other information on the Greater Hartford TIM Coalition can be found on our website <https://crcog.org/traffic-incident-management-update/>

