

Greater Hartford Coalition Newsletter

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to 2021. It is a New Year that will hopefully be the beginning of the end of this pandemic and life will be able to get back to the new normal.

As we begin 2021, the importance of traffic incident management and the need to continue to make improvements in quick clearance strategies has not diminished. We need to focus on training, stakeholder support and providing tools to improve how we detect, respond and clear incidents on all our roadways.

An advantage to working remotely over the past several months is the ability to enter a virtual world of webinars, conferences, information exchange sessions, and chat forums. It has also given me the opportunity to complete several online training modules, all at my own pace.

I encourage everyone to take advantage of the virtual world and the many resources that are available to get up-to-date information on TIM initiatives, and network with TIM members and organizations across the country that are making strides to improve TIM response by applying innovative technology and out-of-the-box thinking.

JAWS Debris Remover



Description

JAWS is a vehicle debris remover which allows employees to safely remove roadway debris without exiting the truck. The truck is outfitted with a drop down skid plate that is controlled with a joy stick inside the cab of the truck. There is also a camera that automatically activates when the skid plate is lowered. This allows the operator to see the debris or object in the roadway.

Benefit

The JAWS debris remover greatly improves safety by keeping employees out of the roadway to avoid risk of serious injury or death. JAWS also saves time and simplifies work since one employee can operate the truck.

Materials and Labor

80 hours of staff time and \$2,900 in materials costs.

For More Information Contact:

Chris Zurn at Charles.Zurn@modot.mo.gov or (816) 985-7483. Additional contact: Marcus Slaughter at Marcus.Slaughter@modot.mo.gov or (816) 985-7466.

Speaking of innovation- The death of Julie Love 14 years ago spurred employees at the Missouri Department of Transportation to design and build a truck-based machine that would move debris off highways and roads without workers having to exit the vehicle.

Called "JAWS," which is shorthand for "Julie's Automated Waste-Removal System," it features an automated drop-down skid-plate mounted to the front of a truck to "scoop" debris off the roadway, moving it onto the shoulder where it no longer impedes traffic and can be picked up in a safer manner. The machine is dedicated to the memory of Love, a MoDOT employee killed in 2004 while attempting to remove debris from a local highway.

Check out these links.

<https://aashtojournal.org/2018/09/07/modot-jaws-truck-built-to-protect-workers-during-debris-cleanup/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K71hYQ6LVV8>

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



THE NATIONAL TRAFFIC INCIDENT RESPONSE AWARENESS WEEK IN NOVEMBER



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut and our nation is promoting National Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week with a message for drivers to Slow Down, Move Over and Be Safe; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut actively supports and promotes local and national efforts to raise awareness of responder safety and to reduce responder injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, every minute of every day, emergency responders in Connecticut are prepared to respond to the scene of traffic incidents. Too many are struck, too many are injured and too many have been killed; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut recognizes that traffic incidents put lives at risk, and are a major cause of congestion on Connecticut's roadways; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut reminds emergency responders, drivers, and passengers that they have a role to play to improve safety on our highways and to help save lives; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut asks all road users to do their part to keep all the men and women who are responding to incidents on our highways safe by slowing down, moving over and driving safe; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut reminds drivers the "Move It" law requires motorists involved in a crash to move their cars out of the roadway if their vehicles are drivable, there are no injuries, and it can be done safely; and

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut reminds drivers in accordance with the "Move Over" law, to move over if safe to do so, and immediately slow down if traveling in the lane adjacent to the location of an emergency vehicle - "Move Over and Slow Down -It's the Law."

THEREFORE, I, NED LAMONT, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim the week of November 9-15, 2020, as

TRAFFIC INCIDENT RESPONSE AWARENESS WEEK
 in the State of Connecticut.



Ned Lamont

GOVERNOR

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 6, 2020

- “Slow Down - Move Over - Be Safe” -

Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management Coalition Promotes National Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week - November 9-15, 2020

Hartford, Connecticut - The Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management Coalition (GHTC) is announcing that November 9-15, 2020, is National Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week, and encourages everyone to make safety a priority – to “Slow Down – Move Over – Be Safe.”

Traffic incidents include just about anything that happens on or near a roadway that impacts traffic, such as motor vehicle crashes or disabled vehicles – all common occurrences on our roadways. These traffic incidents usually result in traffic congestion and almost always require a response, whether by lifesaving first responders - police, fire, and medical crews - or by assistance operators and repair crews - tow trucks, roadside assistance services, DOT maintenance crews. These responders are vulnerable during response activities, and can, and have been severely injured or killed by careless and inattentive drivers passing through traffic incident scenes.

The GHTC wishes to remind everyone, especially motorists, that we all have a role to play to help improve safety for our traffic incident responders, and that in Connecticut you must:

Slow Down- Move Over

The “Move Over” law, CT General Statute Section 14-283b, requires motorists to slow down and move over for emergency and maintenance vehicles and disabled motorists if safe to do so. This allows for a degree of separation between speeding thru-traffic, and incident responders or disabled motorist, thereby increasing safety for everyone.

Move It

The “Move It” law, CT General Statute Section 4-224(d), requires motorists involved in an accident on a limited access highway with property damage only to move their vehicles out of the roadway if the vehicles are drivable, and it is safe to do so.

Additionally, in honor of our state’s Traffic Incident Responders, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont is officially proclaiming the week of November 9-15, 2020, as Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week in Connecticut. A copy of the proclamation is available at <https://www.governor.ct.gov/press-releases/2020-11-06-governor-lamont-signs-proclamation-for-national-traffic-incident-response-awareness-week>

To get more information on the Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management Coalition efforts please visit our site at <https://crcog.org/traffic-incident-management-update/>



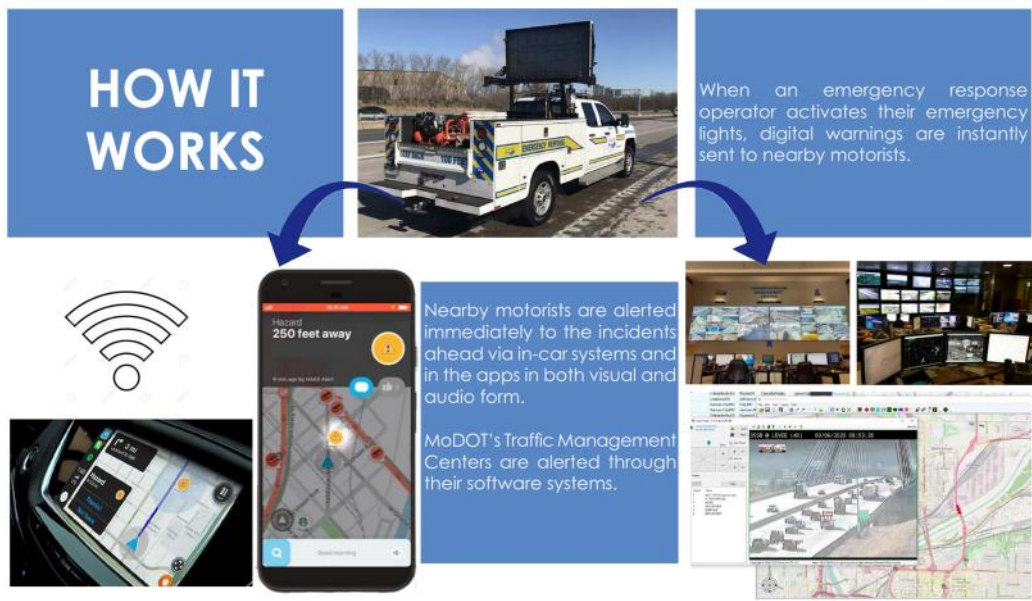
THE EVERY DAY COUNTS (EDC-6) VIRTUAL SUMMIT IN DECEMBER

Missouri DOT's efforts with Real Time Digital Alerts for their Emergency Response fleet and future expansion. Presenter - Ashley Buechter P.E., Traffic Liaison Engineer, Missouri Department of Transportation, Central Office – Highway Safety and Traffic.

Real Time Digital Warnings



Kansas City Scout, Gateway Guide, Emergency Response and Central Office Highway Safety and Traffic have teamed up to utilize Real Time Digital Warnings. This technology enables emergency response vehicles to send real time digital warnings to motorists through apps such as WAZE.



IMPROVES SAFETY, SAVES TIME, SAVES MONEY, SIMPLIFIES WORK



TALKING TIM WEBINARS

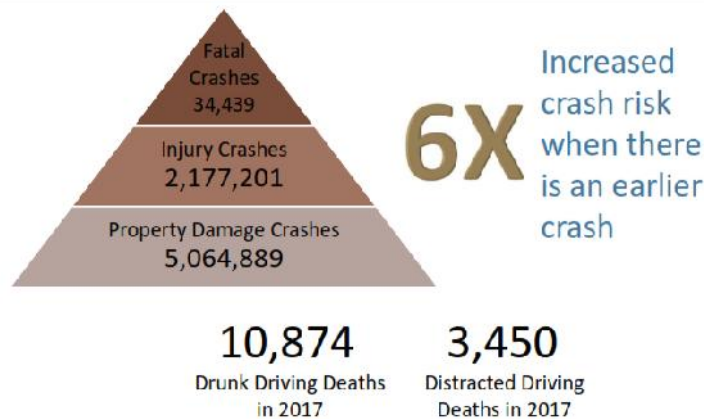
- Go To <https://transportationops.org/tim> for more info

Traffic Incidents Impact...



LIVES 	TIME 	MONEY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaths and Injuries. • Responders Struck. • Secondary Crashes. • Motorists and others Involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delays. • Travel Time Reliability. • Quality of Life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congestion. • Lost Productivity. • Wasted Fuel. • Air Quality. • Freight and Commerce.

Traffic Incidents Impact...Lives



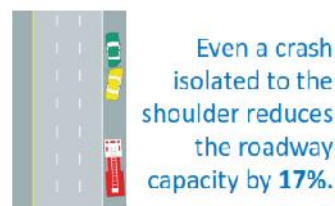
Traffic Incidents Impact...Time



Incidents Cause About 25% of All Congestion.


On average, Americans lost about 97 hours a year due to congestion, costing them nearly \$87 billion in 2018, an average of \$1,348 per driver.

The Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) estimates that between **53%** and **58%** of delay in urban areas is attributed to incidents.



Traffic Incidents Impact...Money

If averaged across the U.S. population, motor vehicle crashes cost nearly **\$784 per person** in 2010.



24 gallons of fuel for every driver annually, per a 2011 report

\$836 Billion Total Estimated economic damage associated with crashes in 2010.

2016 Trucking Industry:

- 1.2 billion hours of delay or lost productivity associated with congestion.
- Equivalent of 425,000 commercial truck drivers sitting idle for an entire year!

Traffic Incident Management

Saves Lives, Saves Time, and Saves Money

TIM training in Virginia reduced average RCT to 56 minutes, a **41-minute reduction** from 2017 to 2018. Average incident clearance time (ICT) was reduced by **31%**.



Photo: Enforcement Engineering, Inc.

When the Maryland's Coordinated Highways Action Response Team (CHART) is involved in incident response, average incident clearance time (ICT) are **31% shorter**.

Traffic Incident Management

Typical benefits from TIM strategies

- Improved safety for responders and the traveling public.
- Reduced secondary crashes.
- Improved efficiency and mobility of the roadway system.
- Reduced economic impact due to the delay of commercial goods.
- Reduced environmental impacts and energy use (less air pollution and wasted fuel).
- Minimized delay of commercial goods.

