

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 14, 2022

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Crash Responder Safety Week is November 14 -18

THE CAPITOL REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS AND GREATER HARTFORD TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT COALITION ASK DRIVERS TO RESPECT OUR ROADSIDE HEROES BY OBSERVING SAFE DRIVING PRACTICES

Using hashtag #RoadsideHeroes, first responders—as well as drivers who have received their support—are encouraged to share their personal stories

Hartford – The week of November 14-18, is Crash Responder Safety Week. The Capitol Region Council of Governments and the Greater Hartford Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Coalition are promoting will be working with safety partners at the local, State, Federal and national level to promote the safety of traffic incident responders and road users.

The Honorable Governor Ned Lamont of the State of Connecticut has officially proclaimed the week of November 14th – 18th, 2022, as CRASH RESPONDER SAFETY WEEK. The goal of Crash Responder Awareness Week is to reach out to every emergency responder, every driver, and every passenger, to educate them in how to play their part in ensuring safe responses at roadway incident scenes.

Responders are called to duty assisting road users in need – at all hours of the day and night, in adverse weather conditions, and in dangerous roadside environments. Responders provide a critical public service to quickly and safely clear crashes, assist disabled vehicles, remove roadway debris, and manage other incidents.

Far too many in the response community are killed or seriously injured. Collectively, traffic incident responders work to assist road users in need, applying well-rehearsed procedures to provide emergency traffic control and quickly clear incidents from roadways.

“With many responses, we stand roadside with cars and trucks going by as fast as 80 miles per hour or more,” said Terri Thompson, Chair of the Greater Hartford TIM Coalition. “In spotlighting response experiences in Connecticut and across our Nation, we want drivers to understand the risks that we take every day, and the importance of slowing down and moving over when they pass these scenes.”

From January through October of this year, there have been traffic incident responders have been killed, and far more sustained life-altering injuries.

This national event leverages attention to promote Slow Down, Move Over law awareness for drivers, and free Traffic Incident Management training for responders:

1. When passing an incident scene, motorists are asked to slow down and, if possible, move over into an adjacent lane to provide a protective buffer for responders and the motorists behind you.
2. Local responders are encouraged to take the free National Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Responder training to stay updated on best practices. Contact Aidan Neely at Aidan.Neely@ct.gov for details of upcoming free one-day TIM Responder Training courses in Connecticut.

Respect Our Roadside Heroes



SLOW DOWN  **MOVE OVER**