FROM URBAN TO RURAL:

STRENGTHENING TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT IN MINNESOTA

MEET THE TEAM

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WHAT IS TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (TIM)?

- TIM coordinates response efforts across multiple agencies: police, EMS, fire, tow operators, public works + others
- Aims to clear incidents safely and efficiently, reducing risks and congestion
- Promotes collaboration among responders for quick incident clearance

WHY IS TIM IMPORTANT FOR ALL RESPONDERS?

- **Every Responder Plays a Role:** From law enforcement to EMS, each responder is vital in ensuring a safe and effective response to traffic incidents.
- **Urban and Rural Needs:** TIM is critical in both urban and rural areas, though challenges can vary.
  - ***Urban areas*** may deal with higher traffic volume and congestion, requiring quick clearance to reduce responder risks and maintain traffic flow.
  - ***Rural areas*** face unique challenges like longer response times and fewer resources, highlighting the importance of training and pre-planning to minimize delays.
- **Unified Response:** Coordination between disciplines is key - whether in large cities or small towns in rural areas, we all share the goal of reducing the incident duration and improving safety for everyone on the road.

WHAT'S YOUR ROADSIDE REALITY?

RESPONDER STRUCK-BY-VEHICLE FATALITIES

January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2024, the following number of responders were struck and killed:

122 Law Enforcement Officers

107 Tow Operators

44 Fire and EMS Personnel

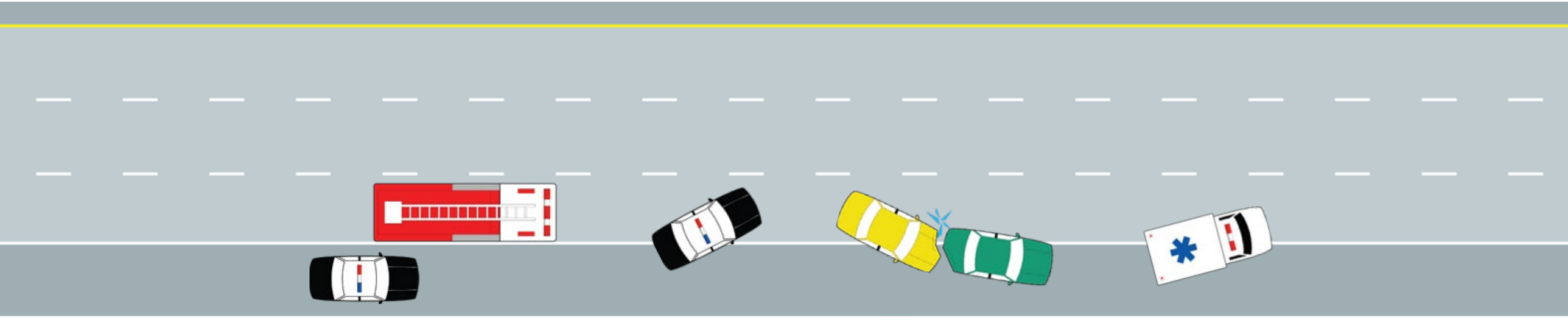
24 Road Service Technicians & DOT

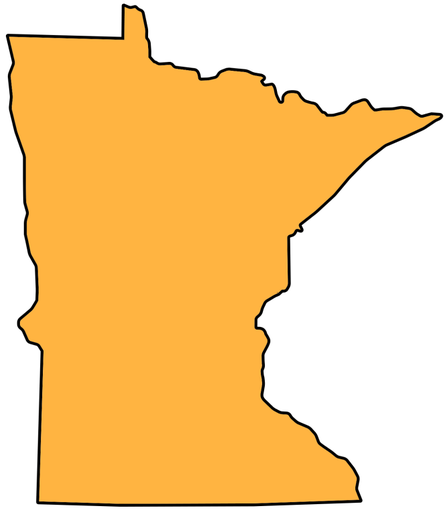
297 *total*

MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATION

- **All Responders Play a Role**
  - Law enforcement, fire, EMS, DOT, towing, dispatch, and others must work together for a safe, coordinated response.

- **Unified Command Approach**
  - Who is in charge? How do agencies communicate and coordinate?
  - The need for clear roles and a shared understanding of TIM best practices.





MINNESOTA TIM Goals

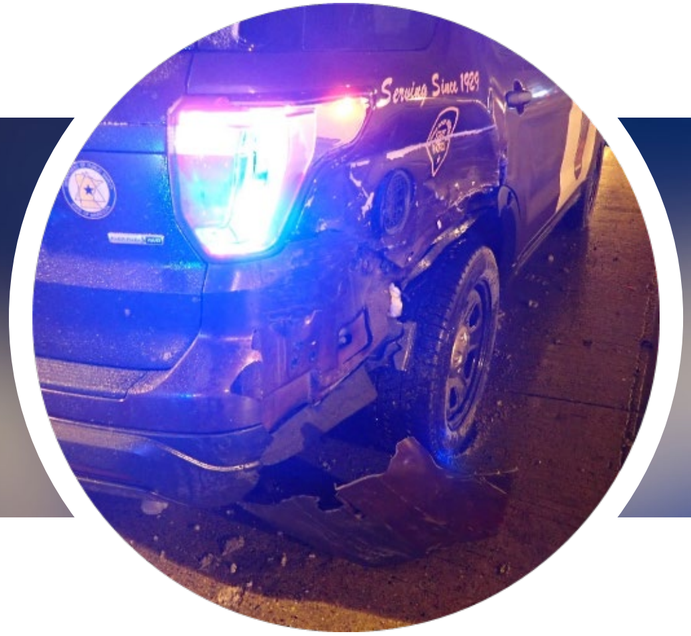
- Reduce responder exposure
- Reduce secondary crashes
- Reduce incident clearance time
- Reduce travel delay

OUR VISION + MISSION

The vision of the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is to ***enhance safety*** and ***transportation system reliability*** through Traffic Incident Management (TIM) best practices and thorough data analysis.

Identify TIM program improvements and strategies that advance the mission of DPS and MnDOT. Utilize ***data driven*** approaches to identify effective countermeasures to ***prevent serious injury or crashes.***

KEY COMPONENTS



POLICY

TRAINING

DATA

TIM TRAINING + UPDATES

- MnTIM Training
  - *TZD Conference*
  - *Statewide*
- Scene Safe Video
- TIM Newsletter

MINNESOTA'S TIM WEBSITE

WWW.MNTIM.ORG

TOWARD ZERO DEATHS

TZD REGIONS | EVENTS | PROGRAMS | RESOURCES | ABOUT | ADVISORY COUNCIL

Home > Programs > Minnesota Traffic Incident Management (TIM)

SCAN

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Traffic incident management, or TIM, is a coordinated effort by all responders to accommodate their safety, victims' safety, incoming traffic's safety, and overall mobility.

Responders include those working as public safety telecommunicators or in related communications, emergency medical services, fire and rescue, law enforcement, towing and recovery, and transportation and public works.

SCENE MANAGEMENT

SQUAD POSITIONING AND SCENE MANAGEMENT

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Roanoke Dr
DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
N

AFTER-ACTION REVIEWS

Initial incident scene: Semi tractor and trailer blocking all lanes

EVENT SUMMARY

EID:	13511528	**Classification:**	CRASH
Patrol Event #:	P230550690	**Location:**	SB 35W I AT JOHNSON ST NE
TMC Event #:	T230092385	**Open:**	Sept. 29, 2023, 11:31 a.m.
Maintenance Event #:	M230046740	**Lanes Cleared:**	12:19 p.m.
Camera:	631	**All Clear:**	12:21 p.m.

On Sept. 29, 2023 a crash occurred on SB 35W I AT JOHNSON ST NE. A brief summary of the event follows:

The crash was reported at 11:33 a.m..
The CRASH was verified on camera number 631 as occurring at 11:31 a.m.

The Trooper was dispatched at 11:33 a.m. (0 minute(s) after the event was created).
The Trooper arrived at 11:37 a.m. (3 minute(s) after being dispatched).

The FIRST unit was dispatched at 11:39 a.m. (6 minute(s) after the event was created).
The FIRST unit arrived at 11:44 a.m. (5 minute(s) after being dispatched).

The maintenance unit was dispatched at 11:34 a.m.. (1 minute(s) after the event was created).

The tow truck was requested at 11:37 a.m.. (4 minute(s) after the event was created).
The tow truck arrived at 12:01 p.m. (24 minute(s) after being notified).*The lanes were cleared 18 minutes after the tow arrived.

Lanes were cleared in the following timeline:
Lanes were cleared at 12:19 p.m. , 45 minute(s)s from created time (time lane was blocked).
The roadway was cleared at 12:21 p.m. , 48 minute(s) after the incident started (total time of incident).

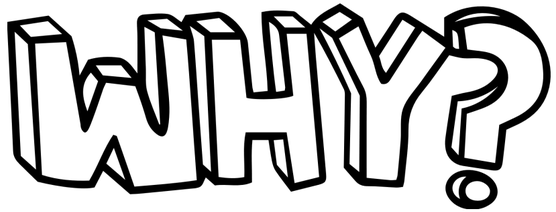
Motorist roadway exposure time: 50 minutes
Responder roadway exposure time: 44 minutes

COALITIONS:

Joining forces for safer roads.

- TIM can work through current utilized coalitions such as local TZD, Safe Roads, emergency management, and more...

- **Start a coalition:** Interested in starting a coalition in your area? Reach out for support and guidance.



How Coalitions Improve Response + Safety

Coalitions: Improve communication, coordination, and cooperation, reduce clearance times, enhance safety.

Meeting Focus Areas: Incident reviews, response times, safety concerns, + training/resources.

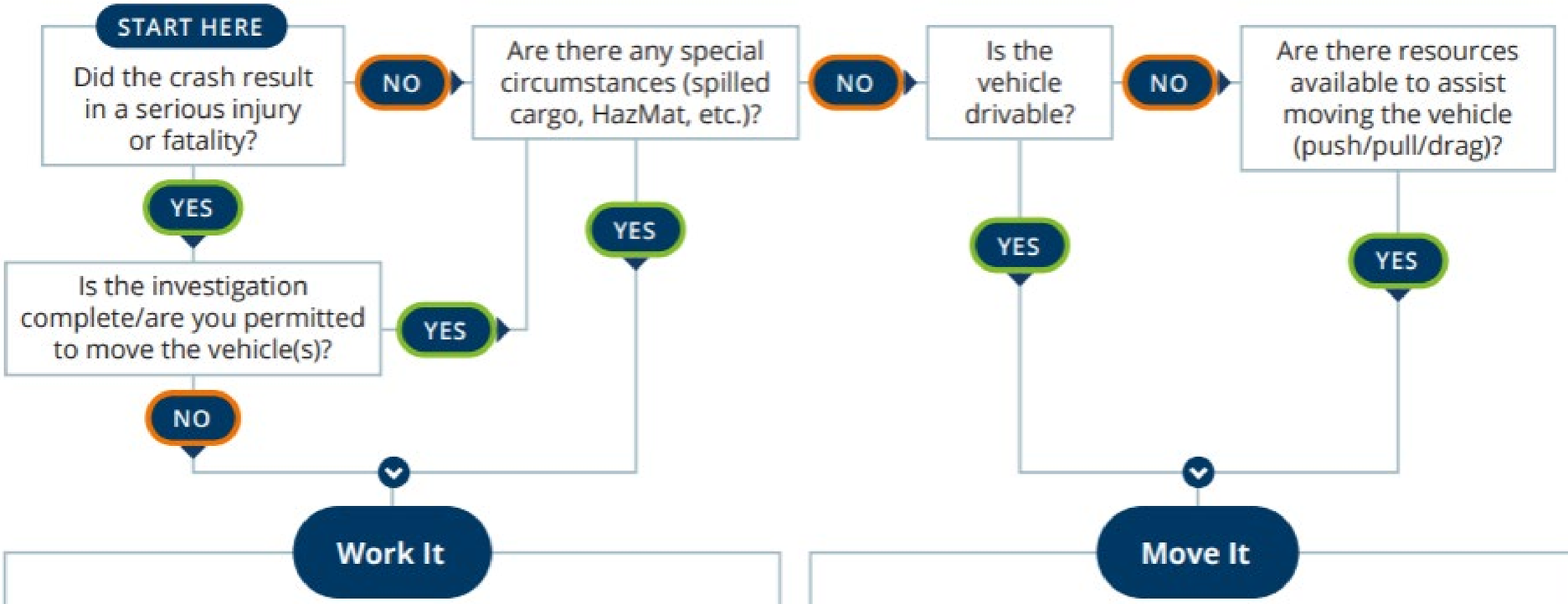
Action Steps: Implement lessons learned, update procedures, possible policy/legislation changes, ensure continuous training.

SAFE SYSTEM APPROACH

1. Safer People
2. Safer Vehicles
3. Safer Speeds
4. Safer Roads
5. **Post-Crash Care**
   - Enhance the survivability of crashes through expedient access to emergency medical care, while creating a safe working environment for vital first responders and preventing secondary crashes through robust traffic incident management practices.

SAFE, QUICK CLEARANCE

Safe, quick clearance is implementing Traffic Incident Management (TIM) strategies to clear traffic incidents as safely and quickly as possible.

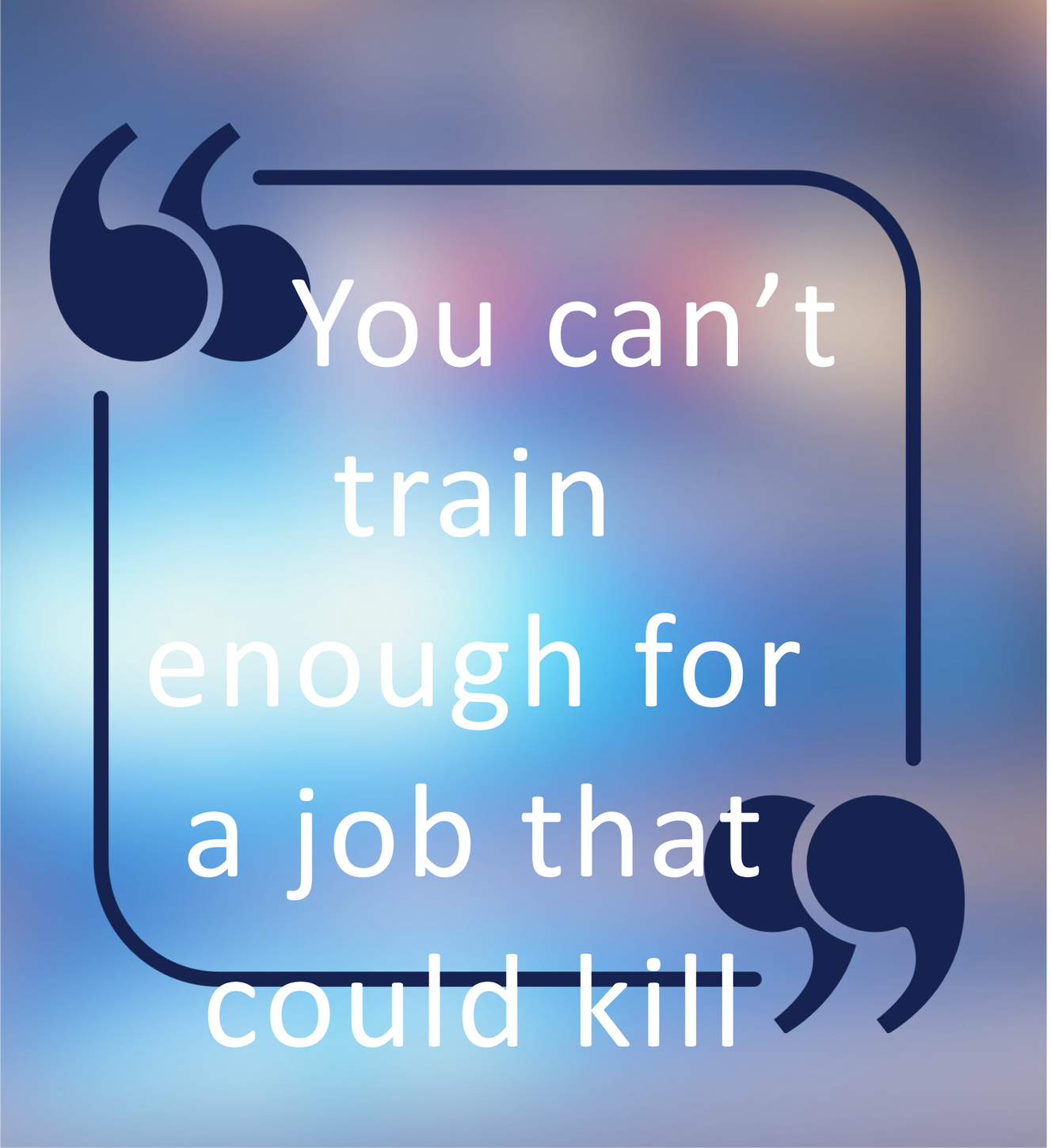


Work the incident with safe, quick clearance in mind. To increase safety and clear the incident more quickly:

- Establish a traffic incident management area using temporary traffic control.
- Always keep your head on a swivel.
- Notify DOT, towing professionals, and medical examiner/coroner early.
- Use technology to expedite the crash investigation.
- Use DMS to advise drivers of the incident so they can plan accordingly and use alternate routes.

Move the involved vehicles off the road to a safe location (e.g., the shoulder, ramp, or preferably a side street or parking lot) to complete the investigation.

- Drive: If the vehicle can move under power, move the vehicle to a safe location.
- Push: If the vehicle is not drivable, use push bumpers to move the vehicle out of the travel lanes using due regard. The need to expeditiously move a crashed vehicle from the roadway justifies the minimal risk of causing minor damage to a totaled vehicle.
- Pull/Drag: If the vehicle is not drivable or unable to be pushed, attach a tow chain/tow straps to pull or drag the disabled vehicle out of the travel lanes.



THANK YOU + GET INVOLVED!

- **Get Involved in TIM:** Join a coalition or start one in your community.
- **Sign Up for MN TIM Newsletter:** Stay informed with TIM updates and up coming training.
- **Check out TIM Website:** Explore resources, training, and updates.