Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Program

USDOT Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA)
Talking Technology and Transportation Webinar
September 11, 2008

Steven J. Cyra, PE, PTOE
Fellow, HNTB Corporation
Presentation

1. Wisconsin Traffic Incidents Defined
2. TIME Program Establishment
3. Solutions, Strategies, and Lessons Learned
4. The TIM-ETO Relationship
Traffic Incidents ?

• Broadly defined, an incident is something that occurs in connection with something else.

• An incident can mean different things to different people, so it’s especially important to define what is meant by a traffic incident.

• A traffic incident is defined as any non-recurring event that reduces roadway capacity or abnormally increases demand.
Problem - Major
Problem - Minor
Problem – HAZMAT Spills
Problem - Planned Special Events
• Initiated in 1995, an ITSA Best-Of Award winning multi-agency program dedicated to coordinating TIM through relationships and technology

• Direct participation from law enforcement, fire, emergency management, towing and recovery, and transportation agencies

• In 2006, expanded from a regional to a statewide program
Solutions, Strategies, Lessons Learned
Move Over Law

Public Information Campaign
- Informational Brochure
- Newsletter / Magazine Articles
- Drivers Education Programs
- Stickers and Magnets
- Static Signs
- DMV Envelopes
- Posters

Move Over or Slow Down
It’s the law in Wisconsin

If you see a stopped emergency or maintenance vehicle with its emergency lights flashing, move over or slow down.

Move Over or Slow Down
For Stopped Emergency / Maintenance Vehicles
Traffic Control & Scene Management

• Need to better “protect the protector”

• Goal to provide the **safest possible work environment** for all **Wisconsin incident responders**, while minimizing the risk for secondary crashes

• Guidelines established so incident responders within the State of Wisconsin have a **uniform approach** to emergency traffic control and scene management

• Consistent with MUTCD Chapter 6I
Traffic Control & Scene Management

- Incident Response Priorities
- Responder Safety
- Responder Vehicles
- Traffic Incident Management Area Establishment
- Medical Helicopter Landing Zones
- Staging
- Debriefings
Next Step – Training:

- Using a train-the-trainer approach
- Developed a training PowerPoint presentation to help ensure a consistent message is delivered statewide
- Developed a Quick Reference Visor Card
- Provided training at the 2008 Wisconsin State Patrol In-Service
TIME Procurement List

• Purpose - to provide emergency responders a ‘one stop shop’ for purchasing TIM equipment such as:
  – cones, barricades, rollup signs, safety vests, etc.

• By going though the WisDOT procurement process the items available through the contract will typically be at a reduced rate

• Orders can be placed by any public agency on an as needed basis
Freeway Service Teams

- Services currently provided in:
  - Dane Co
  - Kenosha Co
  - Waukesha Co
  - Milwaukee Co
  - Racine Co
  - Wausau Co

- Recently awarded a contract to Samaritania for statewide service

- Valuable mitigation tool for construction projects, special events, and winter weather
Traffic Response Unit (TRU) Vehicle
Statewide Consistency

- Guidelines for emergency alternate route identification
- Procedures for implementing emergency alternate routes
- Standard template for emergency alternate route guides
Emergency Alternate Route Planning

- Valuable tool during major incidents and complete freeway closures
- STRAHDNET routes
Traffic Incident Management and Emergency Transportation Operations

“Preparedness for crisis is a byproduct of collaboration & cooperation in the routine.”
WisDOT ETO – Evacuation Planning

• Late 2005 Gov. Doyle request review of State’s Emergency Preparedness Plans
  – Need to develop/enhance evacuation plans for 12 largest cities in WI

• WisDOT role in evacuation clarified, ETO-EVAC task force formed

• TIME Program relationships leveraged to participate in Milwaukee UASI evacuation planning – enables “seat at the table”
WisDOT ETO – Evacuation Planning

- TIME Program provided a “leg up” in performing evacuation planning in the Milwaukee region

- Products:
  - Evac Planning Process
  - ConOps
  - Mapping
  - Resource Inventories
  - Ramp Closure Procedures
  - STOC Op Guidelines

- Similar efforts in other 11 cities initiated
• Purpose
  – Ensure accurate, consistent, timely communication between WisDOT and counties
  – Provide emergency communication protocols
  – Eliminate/minimize confusion about road status and provide WisDOT OPA up-to-date information
  – Allow WisDOT to assist in identifying the resources needed by counties
• In-place for winter 2007-2008
WisDOT ETO Plan Development

- ETO Program
  - What WisDOT must do to be able to respond
  - Address Plan maintenance and sustainability

- ETO Response
  - How WisDOT responds to emergencies
  - Guidelines and procedures for action
WisDOT ETO Plan Framework

Emergency Transportation Operations (ETO)

ETO Program
- ETO Plan Maintenance
- Training
- Asset Management
- Finance / Budget
- Contracting
- Performance Evaluation
- Vulnerability / Mitigation

ETO Response
- Threat Assessment
- Incident Notification
- ICS Response
- Public Information
- After-Action Reviews

Training

Vulnerability / Mitigation

Performance Evaluation

Wisconsin Department of Transportation

Traffic Incident Management Enhancement
Thank You!!

Steven J. Cyra, PE, PTOE
HNTB Corporation
scyra@hntb.com
(414) 359-2300