

# DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



## TRAINING TIP: STRENGTHENING SAFETY CULTURE

Everyone deserves to feel safe at work and return home at the end of the day. The Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) has shared traffic incident and work zone safety protocols with its staff and wants to share this information with its partners.

**Plan. Prepare. Engage.** The task is secondary — **your safety is primary**. If it's not safe, don't do it.

### Traffic Control

When working on or responding to a traffic incident on the interstate, **attenuators provide extra protection**. For other state roadways, activities affecting traffic must follow MUTCD-compliant temporary traffic control procedures. Automated Flagger Assistance Devices (AFADs) are a new technology being used across the state that can be deployed to direct traffic remotely. **Avoid entering the roadway until the traffic control plan is fully installed and adjusted.**



### Key Safety Principles

- **Arrive Alive:** Prioritize safety over speed. Responders can't assist if they're involved in an incident while en route.
- **Defensive Driving:** Anticipate hazards, use scene-management protocols and operate vehicles safely.
- **Risk Assessment:** Before engaging, assess the scene from a distance and communicate hazards.
- **Traffic Control:** Position vehicles to shield responders, use cones, high-visibility gear and emergency lighting correctly.



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NDOT District 6 Operations and Maintenance Manager

- **NDOT's Role:** Supervisors (or leads) must monitor the entire scene, traffic flow and responder safety—not perform response tasks.
- **Communication:** Know your assignment, confirm with your lead and speak up if conditions change or feel unsafe.
- **Post-Incident Review:** Learn from near-misses and adapt protocols for continuous improvement.
- **Remember:** Safety is dynamic. Conditions change; adapt and overcome. If you see something unsafe, say something.

## REMINDER! REQUEST TRAININGS & COALITION MEETINGS

Help strengthen Nebraska's TIM network and improve roadway safety by requesting training or hosting a coalition meeting. It's quick and easy – just fill out the form, and we'll handle the rest!



# SAVE THE DATE: TIM TRAINING FOR DISPATCH PROFESSIONALS

This training is designed for dispatch professionals to strengthen their role in traffic incident response. It covers key concepts such as safe vehicle positioning, unified command, and resource management, while emphasizing how emergency communications help to protect responders and motorists during incidents. We look forward to seeing you there!

For details, email Kaitlyn Garnette: [Kaitlyn.Garnette@hdrinc.com](mailto:Kaitlyn.Garnette@hdrinc.com).

**Date:**  
Thursday, Feb. 26, 2026

**Time:**  
2–6 p.m. CT / 1–5 p.m. MT

**Location:**  
Microsoft Teams

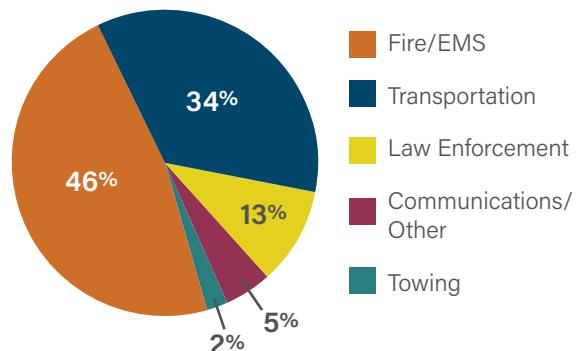
## 2025 TRAINING STATUS

This year, 844 multidisciplinary responders were TIM trained (as of December 12, 2025). NDOT is moving toward a requirement that all employees with roadway responsibilities complete TIM training every three years. Nearly one third of this year's participants were NDOT staff, reflecting progress toward that goal and strengthening safety culture. Fire/EMS represented the largest group trained, with 382 responders completing TIM training this year.

The addition of 52 new trainers expands capacity and provides more opportunities for local agencies to host future sessions to continue to build Nebraska's robust network of TIM professionals.

### Training Highlights

- 844 responders trained statewide
- 112 active trainers (at least one in each NDOT district)
- 4 Train-the-Trainer (TtT) classes conducted
- 52 new trainers certified



## DECEMBER STATEWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

The Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting on December 10th featured:



### Construction Work Zone Enforcement

Case study on targeted strategies to reduce speeding and improve compliance through collaboration with law enforcement, DOT and contractors.



### Discipline Spotlight: Emergency Management

How emergency managers coordinate across agencies to prioritize safety, preparedness and operational effectiveness while managing rural vs. urban challenges, including resource availability, interagency collaboration and public communication.



### Winter TIM and Program Update

Winter TIM, recent progress, ongoing initiatives and the launch of the District 7 TIM Coalition. All past Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meetings are available on NDOT's TIM [YouTube playlist](#).

Save the Date! The next [Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting](#) will be held on March 18, 2026, at 10 a.m. CT/9 a.m. MT!

## Nebraska TIM: Safer, Together

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