

TRAINING TIP: BEST PRACTICES FOR WORKING WITH TOW PARTNERS

Providing detailed, accurate scene information early to the tow provider helps them respond with the right equipment and staff, allowing them to work efficiently and improve safe, quick clearance. This is critical in rural areas, where response times may already be extended, and in urban areas, where high traffic volumes can quickly create long queues. Responders on scene can improve tow response by knowing the capabilities of the tow providers in their area. This allows agencies to request tow recovery services from properly equipped and trained companies for larger-scale incidents.

Best Practices

- Consider requesting tow professionals early and placing them on standby to improve response and clearance times.
- Report incident details, not what you think you need. Tow providers have a variety of equipment – it's their role and responsibility to decide what is needed to clear the incident.
 - Use the [TRAA vehicle identification guide](#) to share accurate vehicle descriptions and cargo information (e.g., loaded vs. unloaded, spilled debris, etc.).
 - Send pictures if possible!
- Ask your dispatcher for the tow operator's direct contact information. Direct communication can improve scene access issues and avoid the "telephone game" effect.

MARCH STATEWIDE VIRTUAL MEETING

Join us on Wednesday, March 18, from 10-11:30 a.m. CT/9-10:30 a.m. MT for the Nebraska TIM Statewide Virtual Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to share state and national TIM best practices and resources and to create a statewide network of TIM champions. In March, we will cover:



Statewide Crash Trends and AASHTOWare

What can crash data tell us about the future of roadway safety in Nebraska? Don Butler from the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) will share perspectives on leveraging data-driven tools like AASHTOWare Safety to explore crash trends and uncover patterns and contributing factors that impact incident prevention and response. Participants will learn how advanced analytics can transform raw crash data into actionable insights that help identify safety improvement opportunities, improve response strategies and reduce secondary crashes to make Nebraska's roads safer for all travelers.



After-Action Reviews (AARs) and RapidSOS

What can we learn from looking back, and how does it shape what's next? In this section, speakers will share key lessons learned from some of our 2025 AARs and highlight the benefits of conducting and attending these reviews. Additionally, Cindy Howard, 911 Director for Scotts Bluff County Communication Center, will discuss their use of RapidSOS and its role in recent AARs, offering practical insights to improve emergency response and coordination.



Program Update, and Drones and Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) Forensic Mappers

How can technology and training shape the future of TIM? Bobbi Brooks, NDOT Highway Emergency Program Specialist and TIM Coordinator, will recap the program's 2025 progress and outline the 2026 training plan to expand TIM training statewide. Additionally, Sgt. Justin Brase of the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) will provide insight into NSP's use of drones and Forensic Mappers, including how they document crash scenes, what agencies should know and considerations for improving efficiency and collaboration at incident scenes.

TRAINING UPDATE

The Nebraska TIM Program has a plan to execute training this year, growing the network of passionate, qualified trainers and reaching a variety of regions. Collaboration with emergency managers and other area champions will be required to confirm dates, times, locations and outreach efforts. If your area is listed and you have conflicts, please contact us. **The plan will likely change as outreach progresses to incorporate regional input.**

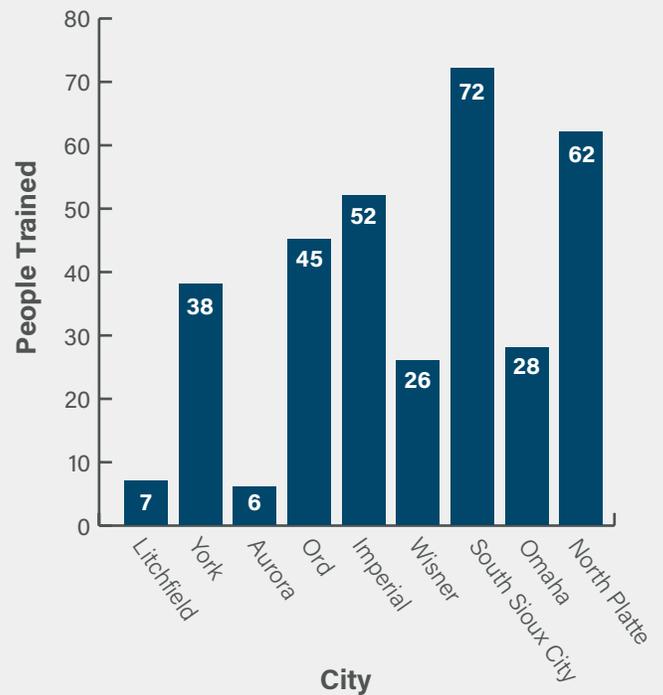
- 336 people have been trained so far this year! The goal of 1,000 is 34% complete.



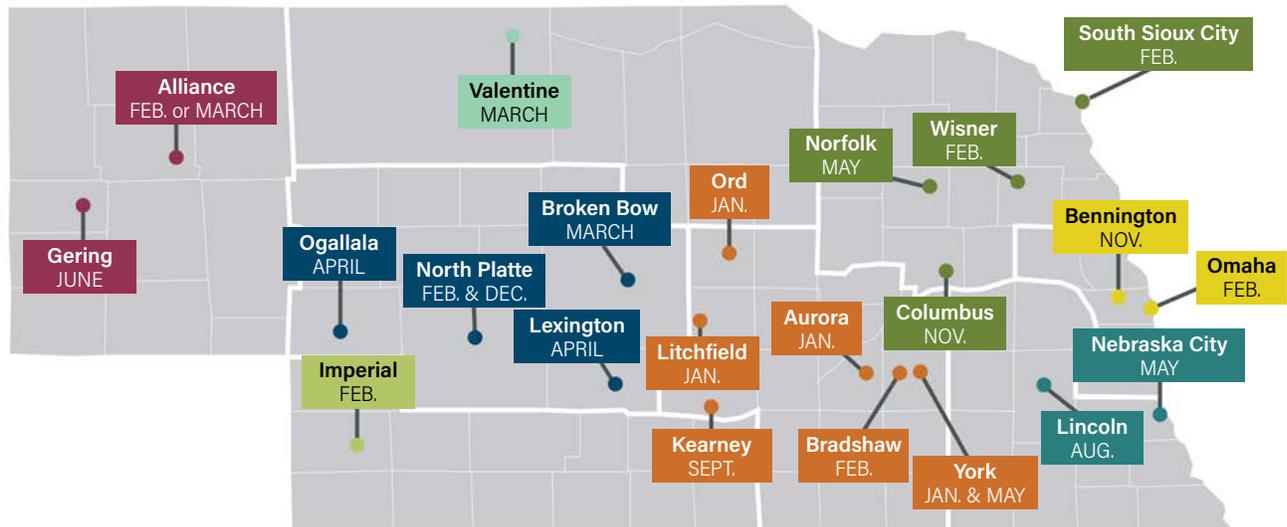
"When responders are trained to operate as a team, everyone from motorists to emergency personnel gets home safer. As a District 7 coordinator, it is our goal to get this training to all area first responders."

– Sheriff Michael Jordan, Frontier County

2026 Progress



2026 Progress and Training Plan



Please pre-register for training. Classes may be canceled due to low registration. Up-to-date information on classes, including the registration form, can be found on the [training website](#). Train-the-trainer sessions will be held on an as-needed basis. Email bobbi.brooks@nebraska.gov to be added to the waiting list.

Nebraska TIM: Safer, Together

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