

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER



2024 TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SELF-ASSESSMENT

Each year, the six Nebraska Traffic Incident Management (TIM) area groups participate in the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Traffic Incident Management Self-Assessment (TIMSA). The purpose of the TIMSA is to assess regional and statewide progress and to educate stakeholders on potential opportunities for improvement. Our approach to the TIMSA this year will be to facilitate regional strategic discussions to identify program priorities and opportunities for local ownership. We will be conducting TIMSAs for each TIM area in small, focused groups to discuss:

- **Training** – set training goals, plan regular training classes and identify outreach opportunities to engage responders in Nebraska's TIM program.
- **Data** – define TIM performance measures, collection and analysis processes.
- **Ownership** – establish when After-Action Reviews (AARs) should be conducted and coordinate on construction projects.
- **Policy and Association Outreach** – incorporate TIM into standard operating procedures (SOPs) and policies, and identify opportunities to share TIM with and through associations.

In the coming weeks, we will be sending out a survey to gather TIMSA information by agency (e.g., how many people have been TIM trained, do you have policies on safe vehicle positioning, is your agency using push bumpers, etc.) and to understand your area needs and concerns. We will be using this information to customize regional discussions. What does TIM local ownership mean to you? What should be discussed during this meeting? If you have answers to these questions, please complete the survey. *Note: the survey must be completed if you are interested in participating in the meeting.*

2024 TIMSA TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

All dates and times are subject to change. If you're interested in participating in your area's TIMSA, please email us at ne@tim.hdrinc.com.

East Central Area October 22, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. CT	Nebraska Panhandle Area October 23, 9–11 a.m. MT	West Central Area October 24, 1:30–3:30 p.m. CT
Southeast Central Area November 14, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. CT	Metro Area November 19, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. CT	Tri-City Area November 20, 10 a.m.–12 p.m. CT

WHO YOU GONNA CALL? NDOT!

An 8-minute training module was developed summarizing Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) and its State Operations Center (SOC) resources available to support safe, quick clearance of roadway incidents. It also covers how to notify the SOC of an incident and what to report so you can get the support you need. The .mp4 video file can be found on ShareFile in the Training Module folder. Download the file and coordinate with your agency's trainers, if applicable, to integrate it into your training platform (e.g., PowerDMS). This video is for all TIM disciplines including our emergency communications partners. Did you share this video? Let us know at ne@tim.hdrinc.com!

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

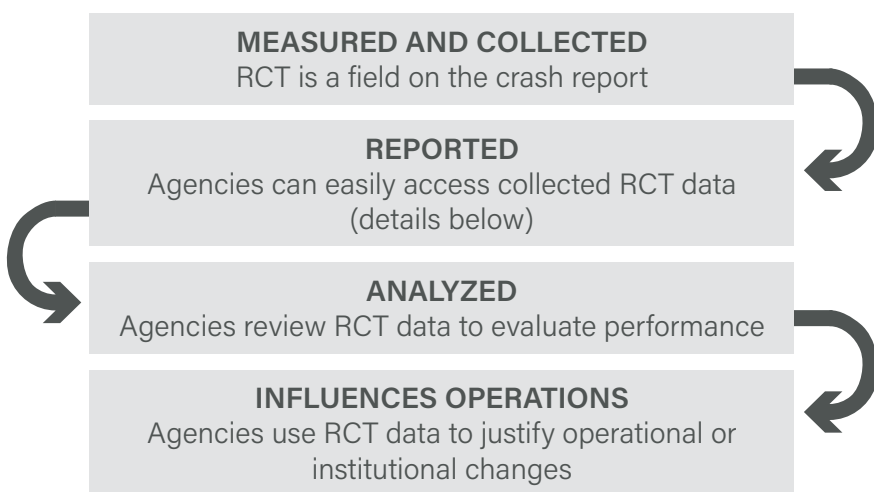
- Identify what resources NDOT has available during an incident.
- Apply communication best practices for reporting roadway incidents to NDOT.
- Recognize the importance of effective communication in incident management.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES DEEP DIVE: ROADWAY CLEARANCE TIME

TIM programs must rely on efficient data collection, analysis and reporting to measure performance and identify opportunities to improve ([FHWA](#)). Understanding the impact of traffic incidents on Nebraska roads requires reviewing performance measures and how our actions affect safe, quick clearance. This month we are focusing on roadway clearance time (RCT), a federal performance measure, which is the time elapsed between the start of the incident and the opening of all lanes to traffic, even if responders are still on the shoulder or median. RCT is a performance measure that can be used to identify opportunities to improve safe, quick clearance – whether it is policy or SOP changes, funding to procure new crash investigation or safety technology, or multidisciplinary data integration. Accurately recording this data on the Nebraska Investigator's Motor Vehicle Crash Report (DR-40) makes a difference when having executive-level discussions about TIM.

DID YOU KNOW? The crash report data is used to allocate roadway funding across the state. Thank you for accurately completing these reports!

GOAL: AD HOC TO INSTITUTIONALIZATION



Not sure where to start? Contact ne@tim.hdrinc.com to discuss next steps!



Access RCT data for your county through NDOT's Crash Clearance Dashboard [here](#). Use this tool as a first step to analyze your agency's performance measures and make data-driven decisions.

WHO'S WHO OF NEBRASKA TIM



SGT. JUSTIN BRASE

Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy

Role in TIM:

As a first responder, I feel like I have always had a role in TIM, but since stepping into my new position at the Nebraska State Patrol Training Academy, I have become much more immersed in the TIM world. I am now a TIM trainer and the Nebraska State Patrol's representative for Nebraska TIM. I am getting the opportunity to see all the hard work being done that goes into making TIM successful here in Nebraska.

Fun Fact:

One of my bucket list items is to visit every state. So far, I am at 18, so I have some work to do, but I look forward to continuing to check states off the list.

Favorite TIM Tip:

I have two favorite TIM tips, both of which were taught to me by my field training officers when I first started out. The first is to never turn your back on oncoming traffic because you can't try to evade something you don't see coming. The second is to avoid bottlenecking traffic. People have a hard time moving over and can become easily distracted if you have emergency vehicles on both sides of the road.

Nebraska TIM: Safer, Together



Nebraska TIM Program | NE@TIM.hdrinc.com



dot.nebraska.gov/safety/tim



NEBRASKA
Good Life. Great Journey.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION