TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT for CONSTRUCTION ZONES

NHI Course 133048
Managing Traffic Incidents and Roadway Emergencies
Module 8
Learning Objectives

- List 3 elements to consider when planning a Construction Zone
- List 3 traffic incident management techniques for construction zones
A Traffic Incident Management Plan is *Crucial* to Mobility During Construction

- Collision rate can be as high as 5 times greater in work zones
- Increases efficiency of roadway system
- Improves safety for the contractor, responders, motorists
- Decreases secondary collisions
- Will need Contractor agreement to use their quick clearance equip on short notice
Other Benefits

- Reduces liability for contractor and public agencies
- Greater satisfaction and acceptance with road work projects by motorists
Traffic Incident Management (TIM) for Construction Zones
TIM Planning Elements - cont'd

- Planning for work zones should include all stakeholders.
- Set stage up front for working with sense of urgency using maximum response to blocking incidents.
- Media blitz – notifying public of location and duration, alternate routes, and tips for traversing construction areas.
- Multi-agency responder training.
TIM Planning Elements - cont'd

- Additional enforcement in construction zone prior to start of actual work
- Traffic Incident Management Task Force to assist with planning, training, monitoring
- Quick-Clearance agreements
- Establish construction area – a no parking area with impound policy – sign area
TIM Planning Elements - cont'd

- Radio and cell communications for all – contractors, police, DOT, fire, etc
- Advance signing and warning for motorists by DMS, HAR, web-sites, media
- Designated alternate routes
- **User friendly** area – include ingress and egress shoulder for emergency vehicles
Key Response and Mitigation Elements of Traffic Incident Management for Construction Zones
Key Response and Mitigation Elements

DOT Roving Patrols
- Quickly remove minor incidents
- Available for traffic control
- Arrow boards and DMS
- Prefer 24 hour coverage

Police Presence
- Enforcement
- Remove minor incidents
- Traffic control
Construction equipment can be used effectively to clear blocked lanes
Key Response and Mitigation Elements - cont'd

Positive Traffic Control

- Manual control
- Who performs what role
- Safety

Safety Screens

- Reduces “rubber-necking”
Construction Zones can be very Hazardous for Responders and Construction Workers
Landing Zones

- Well marked
- Pilots aware of the locations
- Responders should know how to direct in aircraft
- Lighting for night landings
State-of-the-Art Investigation Techniques

Save Time

- Photogrammetry
- Lasers
- Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
Examples of “Photogrammetry” used for crash investigations
Quick-Clearance Techniques

- Push/Pull to relocate quickly
- Quickly return lanes to motorists
- Use best available equipment
- Include Construction Equipment in Recovery plan
Video Presentation

The video being shown is "Fire Department Dispatch"

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Checklist Exercise
Review Learning Objectives

- List 3 elements to consider when planning a Construction Zone
- List 3 traffic incident management techniques for construction zones