

# TOWARDS ZERO DEATHS – HOW THE UTAH TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT COALITION IS SAVING LIVES

Pat Gallagher July 29, 2021 – Presented to the Institute of Transportation Engineers

#### Utah Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Coalition -Background

#### Founded in February 2020

- Covers the area known as the Wasatch Front (Ogden to Provo)
- Led by the Utah DOT (John Leonard, PE) and Utah Highway Patrol
- Parsons hired by UDOT to perform outreach, develop policies and lead
  - periodic meetings



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#### Utah Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Coalition -Objectives

- Promote safe quick clearance of incidents, particularly on freeways and primary roadways
- Increase communication and cooperation among the various first responders (law enforcement, fire & rescue, DOT, towers etc.)
- Provide a forum to share best practices and lessons learned from previous incidents
- Reduce the frequency and severity of incidents along Utah's roadways
- Achieve FHWA TIM training goals for first responders





## Safe Quick Clearance

 Clearing crashes as quickly and efficiently as possible reduces the potential for secondary crashes, thus increasing responder safety and motorist safety. It has a positive impact on the environment by reducing emissions and also reduces fuel consumption saving motorists millions per year.

# Utah TIM Coalition – Outreach

- Met with over 40 first responder agencies
- Identified TIM champions in various disciplines
- Initiated the Project Advisory Committee to help oversee the project
- Wrote and distributed 2 newsletters



## Utah TIM Coalition – Meetings Held

- July 2020 virtual meeting
- September 2020 in-person meeting (70 attendees)
- December 2020 virtual meeting

- February 2021 virtual meeting
- May 2021 in-person meeting with live incident field demonstration (90 attendees)



#### Traffic Incident Management – Future Goals

We will continue to coordinate and support local responder gatherings that encourage training, networking, and observance of national best practices.

- Set up additional geographic TIM coalitions to support multiagency and multidisciplinary buy-in
- Develop statewide policies and local agreements Joint Operations Policy Statement, Open Roads Policy, and Open Road Agreements.
- Change state legislation/laws to protect responders and ensure safe quick clearance





### Innovative Towing and Recovery Programs

Parson is the industry leader providing safe, quick clearance in congested roadway situations via innovative towing and recovery programs.

- Faster coordinated and consistent response
- Highly trained towing company employees utilizing inspected/certified equipment
- Program management









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