

Towing & Recovery Incentive Program

Poster Session – Institute of Transportation Engineers
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WHAT IS TRIP?

TRIP is a quick clearance incentive program that partners DOT with heavy-duty recovery companies and pays a monetary bonus for **clearing** commercial vehicle wrecks **within 90 minutes**.



WHY TRIP?

TRIP's key objective is to **STANDARDIZE** towing response and facilitate the **safe and quick clearance** of commercial vehicle crashes on the Interstate system

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **TRIP is activated for all commercial vehicle crashes that impact lanes of travel**
- **Activation is handled by Agency Personnel, State Police, Safety Service Patrol Operators or others as designated**
- **45-60 minutes Response/ 24/7**
- **90 minutes roadway clearance**
 - **Once Notice to Proceed is given by Incident Commander**
- **Timekeeper: Traffic Management Centers with input from Incident Commander**
- **Incentives: \$2,500 to \$3,500**
- **Disincentive = \$600 (3 hrs. mark)**

TRIP ACTIVATION CRITERIA

When designated vehicle types are involved: **ACTIVATE TRIP!**

Vehicles - DOT Class 5, 6, 7 and 8:

- ✓ Truck Tractor Semi-Trailer Combinations
- ✓ Trucks over 26,000 lbs. or Bobtail Tractors
- ✓ Large Motor Homes (40'+) and Motor Coaches
- ✓ Busses
- ✓ Aircraft (activate in any incident involving aircraft)

Incident Types:

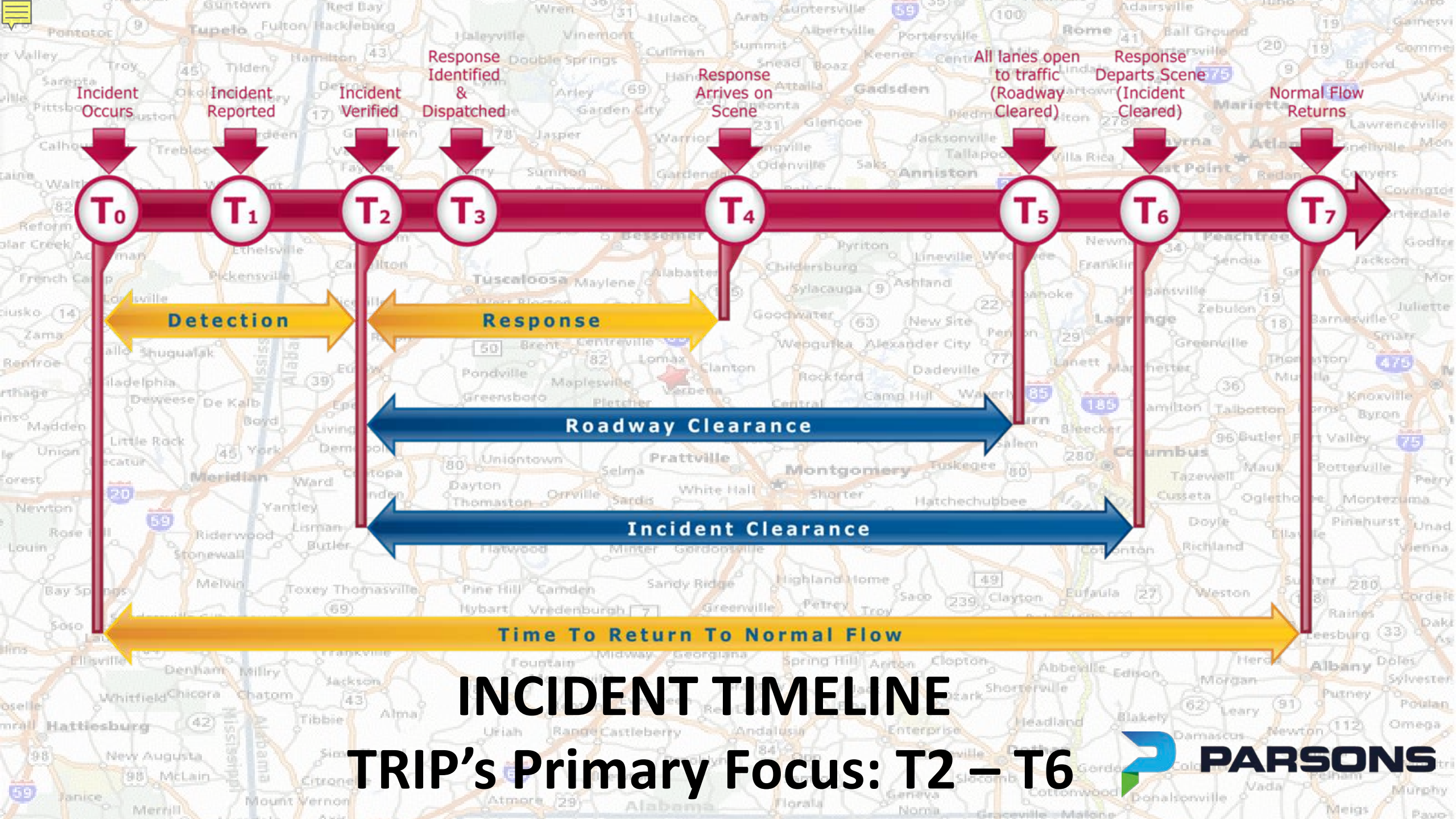
- ✓ Rollover blocking any travel lanes
- ✓ Multiple truck crash
- ✓ Jack-knifed and not drivable
- ✓ Lost Load on or affecting travel lane(s)
- ✓ Load Shifted on or affecting travel lane(s)
- ✓ Lost tandems / axle or buckled trailer affecting travel lane(s)
- ✓ Fire with tires burned off or cargo spilled

TRIP-QUALIFYING CRASHES



SAFE, QUICK CLEARANCE

- Safety of responders is #1 priority
- Tactical decision-making
 - Move it? Or work it?
- Reduce the amount of time on major crash scenes
- Safety of the motoring public
 - Keep lanes open whenever possible
 - Facilitate traffic flow and minimize queue
 - **Reduce/eliminate likelihood of secondary crashes**



Incident Occurs

Incident Reported

Incident Verified

Response Identified & Dispatched

Response Arrives on Scene

All lanes open to traffic (Roadway Cleared)

Response Departs Scene (Incident Cleared)

Normal Flow Returns

T0

T1

T2

T3

T4

T5

T6

T7

Detection

Response

Roadway Clearance

Incident Clearance

Time To Return To Normal Flow

INCIDENT TIMELINE

TRIP's Primary Focus: T2 – T6



WHO ARE OUR STAKEHOLDERS?

- Towing Community
- Law Enforcement
- DOT Highway Operations Staff/Incident Managers
- Safety Service Patrols
- Traffic and Operation Centers
- Fire and EMS
- Public
- Media
- And Many Others ...

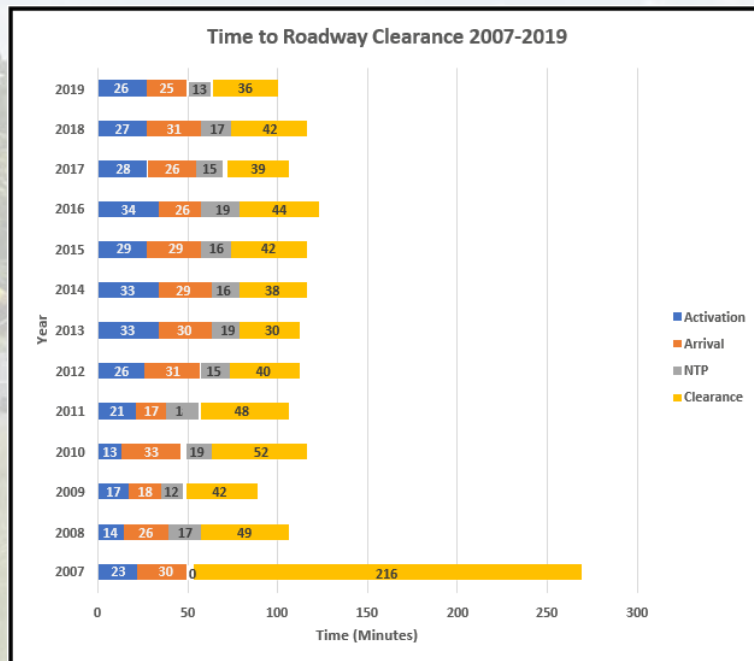


TRIP PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- **KEY TO VALIDATING THE BENEFITS OF TRIP**
 - Reduction in Travel-Lane Blockage
 - Reduction in Response Times
 - Improvements in Roadway Clearance Times
 - Reduction in Overall Incident Duration
 - Reduction of Secondary Crashes
 - Dollar Saving from Reduced Congestion
 - **Data Equals Dollars**

CURRENT TRIP PROGRAMS

GEORGIA DOT /ATLANTA TRIP PROGRAM -Established 2008



- Independent program evaluation completed in 2011
- Cost savings PER INCIDENT = \$456,396
- Percentage of Savings = 71%
- Financial benefit of TRIP for 2018 & 2019 = \$9,154,431
- Benefit / Cost of 11:1 up to 33:1

VIRGINIA DOT/RICHMOND TRIP PROGRAM - Established 2017

- Pilot program established December 2017
- 2017-2021: Over 240 TRIP crashes
- Lane clearance improvement: 2+ hours for lost cargo CMV crashes
- Meeting incentive goals: 80+% success first 42 months.



AGAIN... WHY TRIP?

- TRIP is a proven formula for success in clearing commercial vehicle crashes
- Standardizes towing response
- Extremely effective at safe, quick clearance when designed and managed properly
- Focus is on both responder and motorist safety
- Reduces secondary crashes
- Brings responders together
- Elevates the towing community to true incident management professional
- Enhances TIM concepts and practices already in place
- Uses the existing towing resource as a baseline



THANK YOU!

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