



Pennsylvania Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (PennTIME)

Wednesday August 23, 2023

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Meeting Location: EMS West (Pittsburgh), Online Microsoft Teams Meeting Option

Attendees (🗳 indicates online participant)

William Ahlgren, Cranberry Township Police Dept.

William Baird, Midway VFD 🗳

Christopher Bendl, American Trauma Society PA Div. 🗳

Gabby Benson, Drive Engineering 🗳

Damon Bishop, Autobase

Nathan Bordner, PA Turnpike Commission

Jeff Bowman, Highway Safety Network 🗳

Domenic D'Andrea, SPC 🗳

Ben DeVore, PennDOT

Leanne Doran, Safety Advocate

Justin Eberly, VFIS

Stephen Evangelista, PA Turnpike Commission

David Gaffney, PennDOT 🗳

Diane Garber, East Hempfield Township 🗳

Eric Hawkins, Fairview Township Fire Dept. 🗳

William Howard, PA Turnpike Commission 🗳

Arthur Kaplan, The Kaplan Group 🗳

Nathan Keel, PA Turnpike Commission 🗳

Song Kim, LEBCO MPO 🗳

Chris King, DVRPC 🗳

Edwin Kline, Delaware County EMA 🗳

Debra Laudenslauger, Safety Advocate 🗳

Jennifer Layman, PA Turnpike Commission

Katie Lizza, PSATS

Ernest Logan, Leetsdale Fire Dept/PennDOT

Richard Mason, Autobase

Dan Miller, Exeter Township Vol. FD 🗳

Keith Miller, RIDC

Sherry Morgan, Morgan Towing/PA Towing Assoc. 🗳

Naomi Morris, PA Turnpike Commission 🗳

Justin Neff, DVRPC 🗳

Kim Nunemaker 🗳

Michael Pack, PA Turnpike Commission 🗳

Randy Padfield, PEMA

Christopher Parker, PA Turnpike Commission

Maria Pichini, PA Turnpike Commission 🗳

Ryan Pietzsch, National Safety Council 🗳

Nolan Ritchie, PA Senate Transportation Committee 🗳

Paul Sabol, City of Pittsburgh Bureau of EMS 🗳

Timothy Sarver, Autobase

Evan Schoss, SPC

Lori Shenk, Northwest EMS 🗳

Donald Shutt Jr., NDC4 Regional EMA 🗳

Todd Smith, PA Turnpike Commission

William Spaeth, Sellersville Fire Dept. 🗳

Josh Spano, SPC

Todd Tilson, PA Turnpike Commission

Kevin Tobias, PennDOT 🗳

Brian Toseki, PA Turnpike Commission 🗳

Dan Walston, FHWA 🗳

Dave Wolfe, Drive Engineering

Ana Younger, PennDOT 🗳

Meeting Notes

- Dave Wolfe introduced the meeting
 - Previous interest in taking these meetings on-the-road, highlighting the reason that this meeting was held in-person at EMS West in Pittsburgh
 - As a common theme, most of the presentations in this meeting highlight Western PA
- Meeting began with a viewing of the “Faces of the Fallen” video showing responders who have lost their lives in traffic-related incidents since the last quarterly meeting
- There have been 13 responder deaths across the country this quarter
 - Two of which were from Pennsylvania
 - Total amount of 2023 LODD now stands at 24



- Sean Giles, a firefighter from Erie County, was struck just 3 days prior to this meeting
 - Todd Leiss provided additional context on this incident
 - He was struck while directing traffic at a crash scene
 - The area where he was responding is straight and a location that Fuller Hose Co frequently assists
 - Two lanes in both directions and is very wide, making it difficult to shut down
 - Driver was arrested after the strike and was cited for driving under suspension
 - Fourth time in a month
 - Todd discussed need to develop SOGs or SOPs for handling incidents on roadways
 - Especially in crash hot spots
 - Todd discussed need for harsher consequences for those who strike responders in the line of duty
 - Especially those already facing driving related charges (as in this case)

Aircraft Crash with Entrapment on the Pennsylvania Turnpike Exit 242, Chief Eric Hawkins, Fairview Township Fire Department

- May 31st, aircraft crash that straddled the boundaries of PennDOT and the PA Turnpike
- Total clearance time of 14 hours and 35 minutes
- A number of take-aways from this incident were highlighted in the presentation by Chief Hawkins
- Aircraft crashed with entrapment on PA Turnpike Exit 242
 - Fairview Fire Dept. was dispatched at 2:30 PM and the first EMS unit was to the scene in about 90 seconds.
 - Many Fire and EMS agencies were involved as well as Med Evac helicopters, State Police, PEMA, PennDOT, FAA, and H&S Towing
 - Many of these agencies do not typically work together
 - The involved plane was a Cessna 180 carrying two passengers and roughly 60-85 gallons of fuel.
 - The time from dispatch to extrication of the pilot was roughly 20 minutes
 - Passenger extricated in roughly 45 minutes from the dispatch time
 - The passenger was entangled in the sheet metal wrap of the plane
 - Due to brittleness of the involved materials, hand tools were more useful to the extrication process than more powerful hydraulic tools
 - Passenger was provided two tourniquets from the beginning of the process, however surgeon was requested in order to amputate right leg
 - The entanglement was one of the main challenges of this incident
 - Second challenge was amount of fuel on the ground of the incident scene
 - Foam blanket was laid over scene to protect responders, mitigate fumes, etc.
- Response went very well for the sheer number of responders on scene and the technical work involved at every stage
 - Communications were clear between all involved parties
 - Command structure at scene was equally important



- Fairview Twp FD has the highest command, only trumped by PA State Police.
- Traffic management was not a major issue at this scene
 - The turnpike quickly shut down the interchange once notified of the severity
 - There was a delay in notifying PennDOT due to Fairview Twp FD typically responding to PTC-specific incidents, although I-83 mainline was largely unaffected
 - Ana Younger highlighted that coordination of signs and information between PEMA, PennDOT STMC and District 8 also contributed to the lack of impact on I-83

Reports from the Western Front – Pittsburgh EMS Updates, Paul Sabol, Division Chief, City of Pittsburgh Bureau of EMS

- Tow truck driver, Husam Shuibat, was recently struck and killed on I-376
 - Not first responder to be killed on this portion of parkway
 - Collectively a better job must be made to avoid these types of deaths
- Attendees of PennTIME meetings should bring colleagues along in future to raise awareness across disciplines of dangers faced
- PennSTART class was held in Westmoreland on the 12th to educate attendees on TIM – TIM Technical Specialist
 - Roughly 12-14 people attended and are awaiting certification
- Crash hot spots in/around Pittsburgh over the past 15 years have been analyzed
 - PennDOT has worked with the Pittsburgh Department of Mobility and Infrastructure implementing engineered solutions for hotspots
 - One solution was adding in tenth-mile mileposts in certain areas
 - Has helped in identifying incident scenes and dispatching
 - High friction surface treatment is being applied to I-376 westbound
 - Previously done to Eastbound side
 - Dramatically reduced number of calls coming from area by mitigating rollovers and making it easier to stop
- Access was recently granted to utilize MView
 - Made viewing PennDOT cameras much easier
 - Essentially able to create very own mini video wall, similar to what would be available at TMCs
 - Brandy Warner, Project Manager (Video and TIM Data Management) can be contacted for similar access.
 - RA-PDMVIEW@pa.gov OR 717-409-3462
- New helmets have been distributed to rescue personnel
 - Aim to have them provided to all personnel in near future
 - Fit more securely than traditional fire helmets
 - Will offer better protection at incident scenes
- Class 3 Public Safety Vests
 - Have sleeves, unlike class 2



- Increasing visibility will give motorists more time to react and increase safety of responders
 - Breakaway design to allow responders to escape vests in event that they are snagged
- Guardian LED Lights
 - Wearable 360-degree lights to increase responder visibility
- Pi-Lit Sequential Flares
 - Pricey alternative to traditional flares or cones
 - Highly visible
- Emergency Plugs
 - Going on all rescue trucks
 - Used on EVs (including Tesla)
 - Tricks vehicle into thinking that it is being charged
 - Powers off vehicle
 - Does not stop thermal runaway
 - Roughly \$950
- Dave Wolfe referred back to funding limitations for some of the equipment mentioned by Paul:
 - SPC has monthly newsletter with funding/grant opportunities for first responder disciplines
 - Grant writing can be cumbersome for volunteers already giving time to their respective agency
 - Todd Leiss suggested partnering with neighboring jurisdictions or look to make it a countywide effort
- Todd Leiss further reviewed the PennSTART training
 - Fire Department Safety Officer Association teamed up with Emergency Responder Safety Institute (part of ResponderSafety.com)
 - Put out a TIM Technical Specialist Certification
 - Based off of NFPA Certification
 - Fairly easy standard to meet
 - Put out traffic cones, roadside safety, etc.
 - August 12th morning training including discussions of specific scenarios
 - Walk around of fire apparatus
 - Where/what equipment is stored
 - Lighting
 - Virtual reality was used in class setting
 - Skill Stations
 - Final step was taking written certification exam
 - Uncertain number of passes, but it should be all or most
 - Limited class to invite-only this time to ensure success
 - Next time it will likely include wider audience
 - First time nationwide that this was taught as a group



PennDOT District 11 TIM Initiatives, Ben Devore PE, Allegheny County Manager

- Mobile Barrier Truck
 - Purchased by central office
 - Previously used in D6 (Philadelphia area)
 - Example showcasing truck blocking four lanes of I-95 near PHL in order to provide safety for overturned truck and spilled asphalt scene
 - Took 4-5 units prior to trucks arrival
 - Will be up to PennDOT to get repaired or replaced
 - No extra unit sitting around
 - Self-sufficient work site
 - Generator and work lights
 - Can be made up to 130 ft long
 - Features crane and bucket
 - Many configuration options (left or right)
 - DMS could theoretically be added to top of barrier
 - Will focus use on construction zone protection
 - Dave Wolfe asked about use in IM applications
 - Challenges
 - Training for driving around Pittsburgh
 - Limited deployment area based on roadway geometry
 - Scouting will need to be conducted to determine where/how it can travel
 - Storage at most sheds will not be possible
 - Will be coordinating with Tunnel Maintenance for potential shared operation/use capabilities
- Every Day Counts 7 (EDC-7)
 - Includes different TIM initiatives
 - UAS
 - Debris Removal Systems
 - Emergency Vehicle Lighting
 - Advance Warning Tech
 - Emergency Vehicle Preemption
 - TIM Tech for EMS to Support Post Crash Care
 - Baseline survey completed
 - Stakeholder meetings in the near future
 - FHWA Kickoff in near future
- Chris King added that he will also be involved in EDC7 effort

Pennsylvania Safety Transportation & Research Track (PennSTART) Update, Keith Miller, Director of Site Development, Regional Industrial Development Corporation (RIDC)



- RIDC is private non-profit focused on economic development
 - Develops industrial/technology sites
 - Creating jobs and diversifies local/regional economies
- Building a new site in partnership with PennDOT, PA Turnpike, Carnegie Mellon University, Westmoreland County and Westmoreland County Community College
 - Training site for public safety training
 - R&D of emerging transportation tech
- Phase 1 will focus on safety training component
- Additional phases will focus on the high-speed oval test track
- Pilot training at RIDC Westmoreland on August 12th
 - ~10 attendees all received certifications
 - Additional trainings are projected to be held every quarter
- Map showcasing the site was shared
 - Existing parking lots will be used as training sites in Phase 0
 - 2.7-acre, 1.3 acre, and 5 acre lots available
 - Community College has rooms available for classroom portions of training
 - PTC has painted striping for trainings
 - Existing trees will be removed during winter to make room for 16-acre configurable area in Phase 1
 - Signalized and unsignalized intersections
 - Allows users to configure however they need
 - Construction of highspeed oval in Phases 2 & 3
 - Aiming to integrate existing topography (curves, elevation changes), trees, etc.
 - Will include intersections
 - Construction anticipated to begin in 2024
 - Conceptual designs include (but are not limited to)
 - Open areas for truck staging
 - Signalized road crossings
 - Overhead bridge
 - Roundabout
 - Signalized urban corridor
 - Urban Signalized Intersection
 - Rural Signalized Intersection
 - Vertiport
 - Helipad
 - Example Rail Line
 - High Speed Test Loop w/ On/Off Ramps
 - Parking Lot
 - Signalized High Speed Intersection
 - Rolling Hill Area
 - Overhead Tolling Gantry



- Queue Preemption
- ATMS
- Ramp Meters
- CCTV
- DMS
- Academic Building w/ Loading/Garage Area
- A training committee has been established to help shape the design of this facility

TIM Task Force Development Committee Reports, Evan Schoss, Chris King, DVRPC & Josh Spano, SPC

- Pittsburgh City Tunnels TIM Team
 - July was off as usual as it is a busy month with budget planning
 - August was also off due to consultant health issues
 - In person meetings starting again in September
 - Great involvement from PennDOT and first responder groups
 - Meeting conducted discuss truck rerouting needed for Helen Street Ramp Closure period of McKees Rock Bridge Project
- I 79 / I 76 Cranberry TIM Team
 - In-person meetings starting again in September
 - Great involvement from local first responder groups and cross jurisdictional collaboration
 - Have been working on method for better outreach with GIS
 - Attempting to locate responders servicing interstates
 - 206 Fire Depts and 64 EMS identified
 - Many are not regularly contacted
 - Reaching out to see if they would like training
- DVRPC EV Task Force
 - Recently released the Electric Vehicle Fire Fighting and Scene Management Checklist
 - Put together to raise awareness of EV incident considerations
 - Will be updated and maintained continuously
 - Should be paired with hands-on training and individual vehicle maintenance instructions
 - Several in-person meetings have been hosted recently
 - Good attendance at each
 - Various topics including Incident Response Issues, After Action Reviews, Struck By Data Collection Projects, HAAS Alerts, Safety Stand Down: Lithium Ion Batteries, EV Preparedness, etc.
 - Upcoming Meetings
 - Delaware County, 9/12 – Heavy Wrecker Discussion
 - Burlington County, 9/22 – Other IMTFs TBD
 - Eastern Transportation Coalition, 11/2 – Delaware Valley Highway Operations Group



Training Committee Reports, Justin Eberly, VFIS

- Changes coming to virtual pilot of Train the Trainer program from FHWA
 - Training will be provided to instructors
- Emergency Vehicle Driver training program update to be released next year
 - Will have dedicated TIM module for Fire and EMS vehicle operators
- PSP reached out to Todd Leiss about doing a train the trainer class
 - Likely in the next month or two in the Skippack area

FHWA Training Data: Todd Leiss, Jacobs & Dave Wolfe, Drive Engineering

- Nationwide map shared showing % of responders trained in each state
 - Training percentages in Pennsylvania has decreased by four percent since map was last updated
 - 63.7% to 59.9%
 - 4% decrease in total trained and 7.6% increase in responders to be trained
 - Attributed to a change in how calculations are conducted
 - Likely FHWA trying to get more accurate numbers
 - There appear to be discrepancies in what FHWA says vs what the state says in terms of these stats
 - PA used to be in the top 10 most trained states but isn't any longer under these new calculations
 - FHWA data shows 100% of PA law enforcement, towing and recovery, transportation/public works, and "other disciplines" personnel are trained in TIM
 - Data is from tabs Katie Belmore sends out on behalf of FHWA
 - Dan Walston, FHWA noted that these stats don't appear to add up with the 59% overall trained in PA statistic
 - There appears to be some sort of disparity in data used or how stats are calculated
 - Trying to get accurate figures on TIM training is very difficult
 - PennTIME will look into getting updated/more accurate figures
 - FHWA should be getting this data from the state, so this is likely an issue at the state level
 - Donald E Shutt Jr. noted that it is difficult to get younger generations interested in classroom trainings
 - They seem to prefer hands-on training
 - Dan Walston reviewed the most recent data available and confirmed that PA IS actually in the top 10
 - Dave suggested that he, Dan, Justin Eberly, Todd Leiss, and anyone else interested meet to go over this data at a later time
 - Sources of data need to be identified



- Trainers need to be reminded to send in data as Todd Leiss cannot always be present to collect it himself

Public Education & Outreach Committee Report, Lori Shenk, Northwest EMS

- “Low hanging fruit” for ways to enhance education and get it to motoring public
- Brooke Donati is a high schooler who has decided to promote Slow Down Move Over through her 4-H diamond project at the Schuylkill County Fair
 - She has been fundraising all year for her volunteer fire companies
 - Aiming to help purchase emergency scene equipment
 - Collected signatures on a SDMO banner
 - Brooke will be attending two more events this year to promote SDMO and fundraise
- Don’t miss small opportunities to educate the public. they can make a big difference
 - Outreach does seem to be working overall
- Debra Laudenslager met a prospective Eagle Scout who also recognized first responders at a local heroes festival in Carlisle
 - Promoted SDMO and discussed Tyler Dierolf
- Tylers Ride Dates
 - September 23rd
 - Motorcycle Ride, Car Show, Trucks, Dauphin County Critical Incident Stress Management Team, and a K9 Unit
- “Beasleybest.” Community of Caring
 - Scripts written years ago to play on 66 radio Beasley Media Group stations
 - Can get up to 20 million listeners a week
 - Not all 66 stations are specific to PA
 - Endings will be revised to reflect PennTIME, NJTIM, etc.
 - Raise awareness about responders and efforts like SDMO
 - Scripts were recently updated
 - One script was played for the group
 - Will be reaching out to Beasley to get them involved in Crash Responder Safety Week Public Fair Show

National Fire Academy TIM Summit

- October 20-22, 2023
- ~200 attendees

National Move Over Day

- October 21st 2023
- Please post on social media if possible

National first Responder Safety Week



- November 14-18 2023
- Please post on social media if possible

Open Discussion/Closing Remarks

- No comments were made online or in-person
- Thank you to EMS West for hosting!

Meeting concluded at 3:00 pm