

The Wisconsin Responder



WisDOT's TIME Program Quarterly Newsletter

Fall 2022

wisconsin.gov/time



Mike's Minute



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ETO/TIME Program Manager

Well - summer has come to an end and we begin preparations for the winter months. We are very fortunate to have WI DNR - Hazardous Spill Team and Canadian National Railroad Police conducting presentations for all regional TIME meetings. If you missed your meeting, feel free to join us for one of our remaining meetings (refer to page 4). Thank you to our first responder community for supporting Move Over or Slow Down day on 10/15. Your support, especially via social media is greatly appreciated!

A special thank you to the Spooner Fire Department and Fire Chief Darren Vik for sponsoring a TIM Train-the-Trainer (TtT) program on Saturday, October 8th. Six new volunteer TIM instructors are ready to assist the NW WisDOT region with future TIM classes. For 2023, we are planning a TtT class in the spring at the Grand Chute Fire Department (date TBD) and in the fall within the WisDOT SW Region. If you are interested in sponsoring a TtT class, please reach out to myself or Naydene.

Thank you for continuing to serve...stay safe, *Mike*

Wisconsin TIME Progress

Total to be Trained
39,698

September 2020
40.3%

September 2021
44.3%

September 2022
48.9%

National Goal is **55%**

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“Respect Your Roadside Heroes” – Crash Responder Safety Week 2022

Wisconsin's emergency responders work tirelessly to save lives and keep our highways safe, responding to approximately 128, 296 traffic crashes in Wisconsin that included 593 fatalities in 2021.

Crash Responder Safety Week (CRSW) is set for November 14-18, 2022. This year's theme is “Respect Your Roadside Heroes.” The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) and the TIME program support this effort to remind motorists nationwide of the dangers first responders face every day while working in or around live traffic.

CRSW is an opportunity for all responder communities to join together and raise awareness about the important, dangerous job of crash response. Public education and effective traffic incident management practices help keep motorists safe, reduce needless secondary crashes, and save lives. Together we remind drivers to move over or slow down when encountering emergency scenes. The goal of CRSW is to educate every emergency responder, driver, and passenger, about how they can play their part in ensuring safe responses at roadway incident scenes.



WisDOT, along with our first responder agencies and organizations, is marking CRSW with Governor Evers' proclamation, message boards on Wisconsin highways, a WisDOT social media campaign, a WisDOT Transportation Connects Us podcast, traffic incident management training classes and the lighting of the Hoan Bridge in Milwaukee.

State Laws Aim to Protect Responders on the Highway

This Crash Responder Safety Week, WisDOT is calling attention to one of the newest legal protections for first responders. Gov. Tony Evers signed the [emergency response area law](#), also known as Act 115, into law in December 2021.

The law requires drivers to maintain safe work zones on the roads by banning cell phone use and creating new penalties for drivers who injure or kill a worker where there are visible signals or flashing lights.

Fines double for certain traffic violations when crews are out doing highway maintenance, construction, utility work, and emergency or roadside response. If a driver injures a worker, they may be fined up to \$10,000, jailed for nine months, or both.

This new measure is in addition to the state's Move Over law, which requires drivers to move over or slow down when approaching an emergency vehicle with its lights flashing.



New Law Enforcement Guide Available on Wisconsin Tribal License Plates



WisDOT has a new resource for Wisconsin and nationwide law enforcement to easily access information about tribal license plates that are currently in circulation.

WisDOT's divisions of Transportation System Development, Motor Vehicles, and State Patrol worked together to create a reference guide to help law enforcement search the statewide law enforcement system for registration information. The WisDOT webpage, wisconsin.dmv.gov/tribalplates, displays images of plates currently in circulation along with contact information for each tribe.

WisDOT CAV Update – In Just Under Two Years

In early 2021, The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) published the [WisDOT CAV Strategic Work Plan 2021-2023](#) describing the department’s goals and objectives to position the state of Wisconsin to integrate connected and automated vehicles (CAVs) and related emerging technologies into the state’s transportation system. Two such objectives are to understand the expectations and needs of law enforcement and first responders when encountering CAVs, including crashes, on Wisconsin roadways and offer technical information and education resources to local law enforcement and first responders. To accomplish these objectives, the WisDOT Law Enforcement and First Responders Subcommittee was formed.

Communication Channel	% of Respondents
TIME Training	44%
TIME Newsletter Articles	35%
State or industry sponsored technology demonstrations	30%
WisDOT website, research links, and/or webinars to CAV developments	32%
First Responder conferences	26%

**Communication channel preferences for law enforcement and first responders based on the 2021 survey*

WisDOT’s internal Law Enforcement and First Responders Subcommittee (LE&FR Subcommittee) kicked off in March 2021 with the intent to identify actions to work towards accomplishing the objectives outlined in the strategic plan. To better understand the needs of the law enforcement and first responder community, the LE&FR Subcommittee reached out to the Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) partners via survey in the summer of 2021. The survey sought insight into current knowledge and perceptions about CAVs, benefits and challenges of CAVs, technology upgrades as it relates to CAV, and an opportunity to provide additional

comments. Of the almost 600 survey respondents, many noted the need for continued communication and education regarding CAV technology in addition to training resources.

Hearing the signal from TIME members for more CAV resources, the LE&FR Subcommittee began the information campaign for law enforcement and first responders across the state. As part of the information campaign, the LE&FR Subcommittee began including CAV articles in *The Wisconsin Responder*, WisDOT’s TIME Program quarterly newsletter. To date, articles have been included in five consecutive newsletters and have covered topics ranging from an overview of CAV technology and what technology is on the road today, survey results and summary, autonomous driving systems being developed across the U.S., and the Work Zone Data Exchange project. These articles can be found on the [WisDOT TIME Program’s website](#). Article topics have been selected based on feedback from the survey to ensure information delivered is what the law enforcement and first responder community wants the most.

Survey respondents indicated a desire for in-person opportunities. To accomplish this task, the LE&FR Subcommittee has presented at 24 regional TIME meetings, four TIME Coalition meetings and two Governor’s Conference on Highway Safety conferences between March 2021 and November 2022.

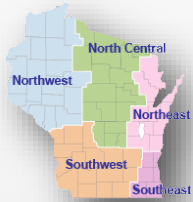
The campaign continued with the LE&FR Subcommittee working on a law enforcement and first responders specific CAV training initiative. The training is designed to provide basic information on CAVs, the legal status of CAVs in Wisconsin and managing incident scenes that include a CAV. The Department piloted the training at the Gateway Technical College in Racine to law enforcement and first responders TIM instructors. The pilot included a demonstration of the Racine Badger, an automated shuttle, which is located at the technical college. Due to the location of the Racine Badger, TIM instructors from the southeast region and surrounding areas were invited to participate. Participants were asked to provide feedback on the training, including gauging level of effectiveness of the training and applicability of information provided. While the LE&FR Subcommittee is analyzing the results of the feedback, many participants found the training very helpful and would like to see updated versions as the CAV technology advances in the future. The subcommittee will continue to review the participants’ input and revise the training as needed with the goal of including a CAV component in the statewide traffic incident management training that WisDOT hosts.



**Photo from the WisDOT CAV First Responder Training and Racine Badger Shuttle Demonstration*

The LE&FR Subcommittee thanks the TIME partners for their participation in working with the department on CAV-related activities over the last year and a half and looks forward to continuing the partnership.

2022 Fall Regional TIME Meetings



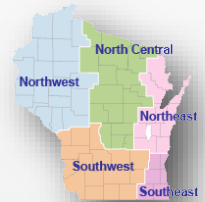
October 27, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Southeast Region

Microsoft Teams Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Call in Number: 608-571-2209

Phone Conference ID: 362 933 74#



November 3, 2022
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Northeast Region

Microsoft Teams Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Call in Number: 608-571-2209

Phone Conference ID: 608 419 788#



November 10, 2022
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

North Central Region

Microsoft Teams Meeting: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Call in Number: 608-571-2209

Phone Conference ID: 724 345 673#

Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) meetings are conducted in each of the five WisDOT regions. They address current construction projects, connected and automated vehicle workgroup updates, reviews of traffic incidents, and specialized training topics. The meeting agendas will be sent out a week before the meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting in your region, please feel free to join another region's TIME meeting. We look forward to your participation!

Hi—Viz PPE Protects First Responders

As of 10/08/2022, 38 first responders (13 Law Enforcement, 12 Tow/Recovery, 8 Fire/EMS, 4 RST/FST and 1 DOT) have lost their lives in struck-by-vehicle incidents across the country. Sixty-one percent of those first responder deaths involved either assisting disabled vehicles or at crash scenes. (www.respondersafety.com)

On an annual basis, the WisDOT TIME program participates in the FHWA TIM Capability Maturity Self-Assessment. Question #38 asks the following question: *Are TIM responders following high-visibility safety apparel requirements as outlined in the MUTCD?*

Our goal is a simple approach. High-visibility safety apparel requirements are followed by all TIM responders. While on-scene, responders will remind individuals without high-visibility safety apparel about requirements. Let's watch out for each other !



Special Events and Conferences



November 2022

- Crash Responder Safety Week (11/14-11/18)
- Winter Awareness Week (11/14-11/18)
- Snowplow Driver Appreciation Day (11/28)

December 2022

- Impaired Driving Prevention Month

January 2023

February 2023

- Wisconsin EMS Association Conference (2/1-2/4)
- Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation Conference (2/5-2/8)
- Wisconsin Sheriffs & Deputy Sheriffs Association Conference (2/12-2/15)

March 2023

- Flood Safety Awareness Week (TBD)
- Governors' Conference on Emergency Management & Homeland Security (TBD)
- Wisconsin State Firefighters Association Conference (3/9-3/11)

April 2023

- National Public Safety Telecommunications Week (4/9-4/15)
- National Work Zone Awareness Week (4/11-4/15)
- Tornado & Severe Weather Awareness Week (TBD)

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