TO: Regional Transportation Council
       (Primary and Alternate Members)
       Mayors, City Managers
       Surface Transportation Technical Committee
       County Sheriffs, Police Chiefs, Fire Chiefs
       Medical Examiners and Transportation Providers

FROM: Michael Morris, P.E.
       Director of Transportation

SUBJECT: Announcement for the May 2022 “Virtual” Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course

As the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) developed Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Training courses to initiate a common, coordinated response to traffic incidents that will build partnerships, enhance safety for emergency personnel, reduce upstream traffic crashes, improve the efficiency of the transportation system, and improve air quality in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. In 2021, the 16-county Dallas-Fort Worth region experienced 128,847 total reportable crashes, of which 20,144 were injury crashes, and 876 were fatal crashes. These statistics prove that training for agencies responsible for managing and clearing traffic incidents is extremely important and have demonstrated the ability to improve responder and motorist safety and to significantly reduce the length and size of roadway closures.

Since February 2003, 123 classes have been offered at the first responder level to 3,358 students in the areas of police, fire, department of public safety, towing, EMS, Mobility Assistance Patrol, transportation agencies, and media representatives. Additionally, since February 2005, 32 classes have been offered at the executive level to 1,201 decision and policy makers. It is important to note that the NCTCOG TIM Training Course is equivalent to the course offered by Federal Highway Administration (FHWA); however, the NCTCOG course content is specific to the North Central Texas region. NCTCOG TIM Training Course participants can also earn continuing education credit for Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE), Track Type II Fire, and Texas Department of State Health Services for EMS. For your reference, summaries of the regional attendance levels for the NCTCOG’s First Responder and Manager Course and the Executive Level Course can be found on NCTCOG’s Traffic Incident Management Training Program website at www.nctco.org/TIMTraining.

Although the NCTCOG TIM training has been very successful, it can be even more successful with the assistance and continual involvement of decision makers such as you. In order to have compliance at the first responder level, it is of vital importance that agency decision makers have an understanding of what is required of all responders during an incident; this includes police officers, fire fighters, tow truck operators, roadway construction crews, and mobility assistance crews, etc. Understanding the importance of incident management training, the
Texas Commission on Fire Protection passed Rule 435.29 in July 2015, which requires completion of a minimum four-hour FHWA Traffic Incident Management program for all certified firefighters before December 1, 2020. Additionally, TCOLE incorporated a four-hour TIM training component into the Basic Peace Officer Course curriculum for new cadets/recruits as of April 1, 2020.

The Executive Level Course provides you with an overview of the two-day First Responder and Manager Course. Additionally, the Executive Level Course also includes a preview of the updated ANSI vest standards. Agencies that have participated in the training prior to 2013 are strongly encouraged to attend again, as major course updates have occurred since then, as well as updates to legislation and best practices. Important to note is that agency attendance, from both police and fire agencies, at the TIM training will continue to be a scoring component in future NCTCOG incident management-related funding opportunities.

You are invited to attend the virtual Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course scheduled for Thursday, May 5, from 10 am to 12 pm. A link to the meeting information is included at [www.nctcog.org/TIMTraining](http://www.nctcog.org/TIMTraining).

Please register at [www.nctcog.org/TIMTraining](http://www.nctcog.org/TIMTraining) or contact Barbara Walsh of NCTCOG at bwalsh@nctcog.org or 817-695-9245. We look forward to your participation on May 5, 2022.

Michael Morris, P.E.

CC: bw

cc: Natalie Bettger, Senior Program Manager, NCTCOG
Ron Moore, Town of Prosper Fire Rescue Training Officer
Lieutenant Daniel Plumer, Dallas County Sheriff's Department