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  

DATE: September 28, 2020  

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

SUBJECT: Announcement for the November 2020 “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 accidents, improve the efficiency of the transportation system, and improve air quality in the Dallas-Fort Worth region. In 2019, the 16-county Dallas-Fort Worth region experienced 130,342 total reportable crashes, of which 44,554 were injury crashes, and 679 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, 116 classes have been offered at the first responder level to 3,240 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, 29 classes have been offered at the executive level to 1,027 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 web page www.nctcog.org/TIM.

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. Those 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.

Due to concerns and restrictions related to COVID-19, we are hosting the TIM ELC “virtually”. You are invited to attend the free virtual Traffic Incident Management Executive Level Course scheduled for Thursday, November 5, from 10 am to 12 pm. A link to the meeting information is included at www.nct cog.org/TIMTraining.

To RSVP for this virtual course, please contact Barbara Walsh of NCTCOG at 817/695-9245 or bwalsh@nct cog.org. We look forward to your participation on November 5, 2020.

Michael Morris, P.E.

CF:bw

cc: Natalie Bettger, Senior Program Manager, NCTCOG
Assistant Fire Chief John Glover, Town of Flower Mound Fire Department
Lieutenant Daniel Plumer, Dallas County Sheriff’s Department