

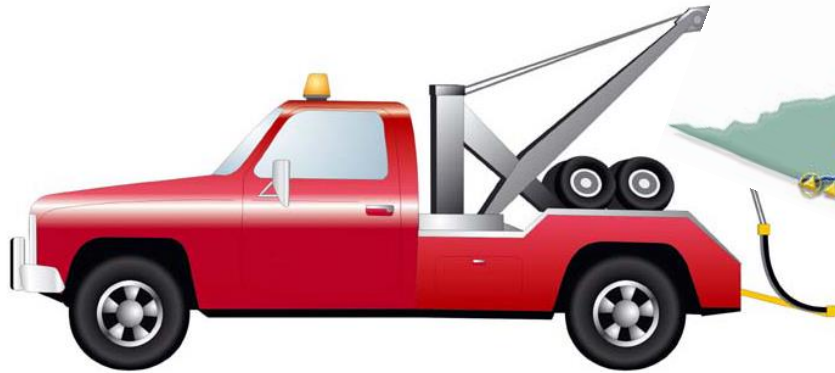


Winter Maintenance Best Practices – Virginia DOT

September 24, 2015

Attorney-Client Privilege Information which is
EXEMPT from FOIA per § 2.2-3705.1 (2)

OPERATION CLEAR ROADS



WHAT IS OPERATION CLEAR ROADS?

- Secure Towing and Recovery operations to clear the roadway quickly and safely of disabled and/or damaged vehicles and their cargos **restoring the Interstate roadway to it full capacity.**
- Secure timely dispatch of **appropriate** towing and recovery assets to an incident scene.
- Provide **multiple tools/options** to field personnel to solve unique operational issues.



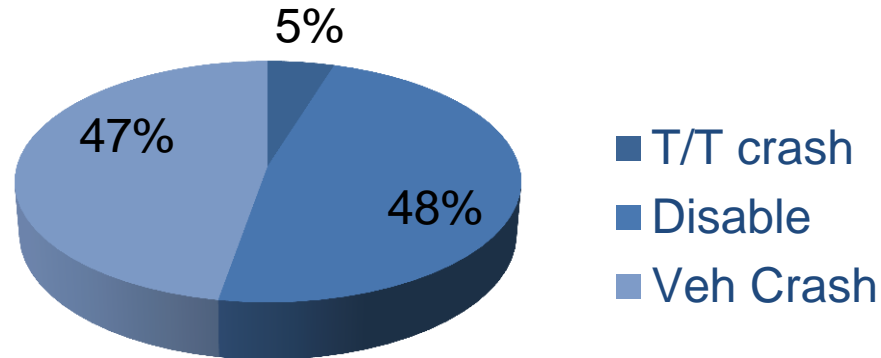
WHY IS OPERATION CLEAR ROADS NEEDED?

- Virginia's *economy will benefit from a more reliable transportation system* by reducing the duration and impact of incidents through "Operation Clear Roads".
- Operation Clear Road's is primarily focused on the **Towing and Relocation Operation** associated with Traffic Incident Management.
- From a traveler's perspective, *reliability is a measure of how much their daily trip time varies from one day to the next.*
- The current practices for towing is a *patchwork of inconsistent programs* across the commonwealth and routinely conflicts with quick clearance goals. These inconsistencies fail to provide efficient highway clearance.
- *GA and FL have proven improved Towing and Recovery Operations reduce incident duration (50%) and benefit economy (71%).*



PROGRAM STATISTICS

Current Situation – Statewide Incidents 2014



Statewide Incidents 2014	Incidents greater than 30 minutes	Average duration of All Incidents	Median duration of All Incidents
Total Incidents >30 minutes	28,671	63	53
T/T accidents	1,378	114	73
Disable vehicles	13,748	55	46
Vehicle accidents	13,545	66	58



Standby Heavy Duty Wreckers during heavy snow events

- All VDOT Districts during significant weather events expected to impact Interstate System.
- Contracted locally by District/Residency as standby resource to relocate tractor trailers from the Interstate.
 - Staged before snow falls until some bare pavement.
- Located in areas where tractor trailers can't make grades, become disabled/stuck or impacts quickly effect traffic.
- Contracts pay an hourly rate, typically \$200-300 / hour for heavy-duty wrecker.
- Last year, VDOT spent \$1.8 M.
- No long-term closures (> 4 hours) of Interstate due to tractor trailers disabled during significant w



Statewide Weather Emergency Conference Call is documented

- **Established a standard time, 10 AM for Districts to follow.**
- **Established criteria to conduct a statewide weather call**
 - **NWS Advisory affecting at least 3 Districts**
 - **Mobilization Level II or higher**
 - **Upon request by Field Operations staff or Executive Staff**
- **Established Standard Agenda**
- **Call completed within 20-30 minutes**
- **Call run by Operations Division, ADA-Field Operations**

Established a Standard Agenda

- **Participant Roll Call (Districts, Partner Agencies, Leadership)**
- **Weather Briefing from contracted meteorologist**
 - **Precip type, start/end times, amount by District**
 - **Temperature/wind profile**
 - **Forecast confidence**
 - **Post-event forecast**
- **Each District reports Plan or Operational Status**
 - **Mobilization Level**
 - **Summary of Road Conditions, Traffic Incidents or Road Closures**
 - **Status of District Staffing and Residencies staffed for 24/7 operations**
 - **Materials Status**
 - **Equipment Status**
 - **Traffic Operations Center staffing status**
 - **Status of Tunnels, Ferries and Moveable Bridges**
 - **Any interagency coordination**
 - **Any unmet needs**
- **Divisions or Agency partners report statewide status**

Divisions provided guidance on what to report

IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Status of Network availability and usage <input type="checkbox"/> Coordination with VITA for special requests <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	▪
Maintenance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Status of Welcome Centers/Rest Areas <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Equipment Status <input type="checkbox"/> Statewide Fuel Status <input type="checkbox"/> Coding information for the financial management system/maintenance management system. <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	▪
Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Status of 511 Virginia <input type="checkbox"/> Status of Operational Tools <input type="checkbox"/> Status report from ESF-1 Transportation Desk <input type="checkbox"/> Status of Statewide Emergency Declarations <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	▪
Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Report any VDOT employee serious injuries or fatalities <input type="checkbox"/> Summary of anticipated safety concerns for the event <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	▪
Commun. /Public Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Status of News media requests <input type="checkbox"/> Update on public messaging <input type="checkbox"/> Other 	▪