

## Implementation Guidelines for Use of Traffic Diversion Plans

### Purpose

Diversion route plans were developed in cooperation with state police, local police, fire, EMS, public works officials, the business community, and regional planning organizations. Through this cooperative effort, incident management stakeholders are familiar with diversion route information and their roles when the plans need to be implemented. After plans have been prepared, meetings are held to discuss procedures to implement the plans and to distribute copies to all emergency responding agencies and emergency dispatchers.

### Scope

Responders arriving at a traffic incident should, within 15 minutes of arrival on-scene, estimate the magnitude of the traffic incident, the expected time duration of the traffic incident, and the expected vehicle queue length, and then should set up the appropriate temporary traffic controls for these estimates.

**I. PLANS** - Diversion plans are to be readily accessible for use by all responders including dispatch services responsible for communicating with responding agencies.

- A. Diversion of traffic will be initiated after an assessment has been completed by the Incident Commander or their designee and has determined that the clearance of the scene will require closing all or part of the roadway facility
- B. Installation of traffic control devices detailed on the diversion plan(s) will be determined by the Incident Commander or its designee based on assessment of scene and expected duration of closure.
- C. The diversion plan (s) that will be utilized for closures will be identified and the notification process initiated by the Incident Commander or their designee.

**II. NOTIFICATION** - The Incident Commander or their designee on scene or their designee will provide the appropriate plan code noted on lower right corner of plan (Ex. DP-91N-19) and a contact phone number to the dispatcher who will relay information to those in the notification chain.

- A. Local Police Department - Upon notification of a diversion plan being activated, the department will:
  1. Identify those intersections which require monitoring and establish traffic control as needed.
  2. Coordinate with other local agencies and stakeholders who may assist or be affected by the diversion.
- B. Connecticut Department of Transportation Highway Operations Center who will
  1. Contact appropriate State personnel and regional agencies based on need
  2. Adjust signal system timing on diversion route if applicable
  3. Monitor and support scene traffic management utilizing intelligent transportation system (ITS) technologies and other traffic systems available to the traveling public.
    - a. Activate changeable message signs, where available
    - b. Activate highway advisory radio system,
    - c. Monitor traffic cameras if available within the incident area for traffic queuing, incident status and support incident command on scene.

- d. Activate alert notification through CTRoads which is a traveler information service hosted by CTDOT that provides information on incidents, road closures, construction, lane closures, real-time live traffic cameras, weather alerts/forecasts, travel times, and traffic speeds. Go to <https://ctroads.org/>
4. Implement diversion assurance signing on the detour route if needed.

### **III. CLEARING**

- A. When the incident no longer requires diversion of traffic, the Incident Commander on scene or their designee will notify dispatch who will in turn advise those parties in the notification chain of reopening of traffic.
  1. State and Local Police Departments as required, and
  2. CTDOT Highway Operations Center
- B. Upon receiving notification that the incident is cleared, the entities above will be responsible for notifying any agencies, organizations or stakeholders that were contacted by them during the activation of diversion routes.
- C. Dispatch or the Incident Commander or their designee will be notified immediately if there is a delay or issue related to clearing operations along diversion routes.