



Dealing with traffic crashes and other incidents in work zones requires the combined skills of many people.

- ◆ Police
- ◆ Fire
- ◆ EMS
- ◆ Highway Agency
- ◆ Contractor Personnel
- ◆ Towing Services
- ◆ Coroner/Medical Examiner
- ◆ HazMat Specialists

First Responder focus should be on Incident Response & Recovery

- ◆ **Secure and protect the scene** – assess the situation and coordinate with other first responders to prevent additional injuries and incidents
- ◆ **Aid the victims** – arrange transport for anyone needing advanced medical care
- ◆ **Manage traffic on-scene** and, if needed, **re-route traffic** – expedited **scene clearance** will allow work zone operations to resume as soon as possible

Many Regulations & Standards Apply

- ◆ **Safety & Mobility Pre-Planning** is required for all federally-funded highway construction projects
- ◆ **Traffic Control Device** standards for work zones are laid out in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)
- ◆ MUTCD guidance on **Emergency Vehicle Lights** and ANSI standards for **High Visibility Clothing** are designed to protect first responder personnel, vehicles and equipment on scene
- ◆ The **National Unified Goal (NUG)** for Traffic Incident Management puts the focus on...
 - Responder Safety
 - Quick Clearance
 - Interoperable Communications

NIMS & ICS Protocols Organize Actions

- ◆ Everyone works more effectively through integrated command/communications with joint objectives and shared safety and time-saving strategies

Three Incident Complexity Levels

- ◆ **Minor Incidents** – Less than 30 minutes
- ◆ **Intermediate Incidents** – 30 minutes to 2 hours
- ◆ **Major Incidents** – More than 2 hours

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Highway Work Zone Traffic Incident Management



- ◆ PREVENTION
- ◆ PREPAREDNESS
- ◆ COORDINATED RESPONSE
- ◆ POST-INCIDENT REVIEW

What all
First Responders
Need to Know
And Understand

MANAGING INCIDENTS IN WORK ZONES OFTEN MEANS...

Difficult Access – Limited Space
Congested Traffic – Many Partners

Pre-Incident Planning is critically important

- ◆ Establish in advance the use of alternate routes
- ◆ Consider traffic mitigation measures and work zone emergency access
- ◆ Training and tabletop exercises generate real-world benefits
- ◆ Keep first responders updated on project status/schedule
- ◆ Some projects pose special traffic issues during incidents – tunnels, long bridges, freeway-to-freeway interchanges
- ◆ Consider Queue Warning Vehicles to reduce secondary crashes
- ◆ Response plans should match site conditions

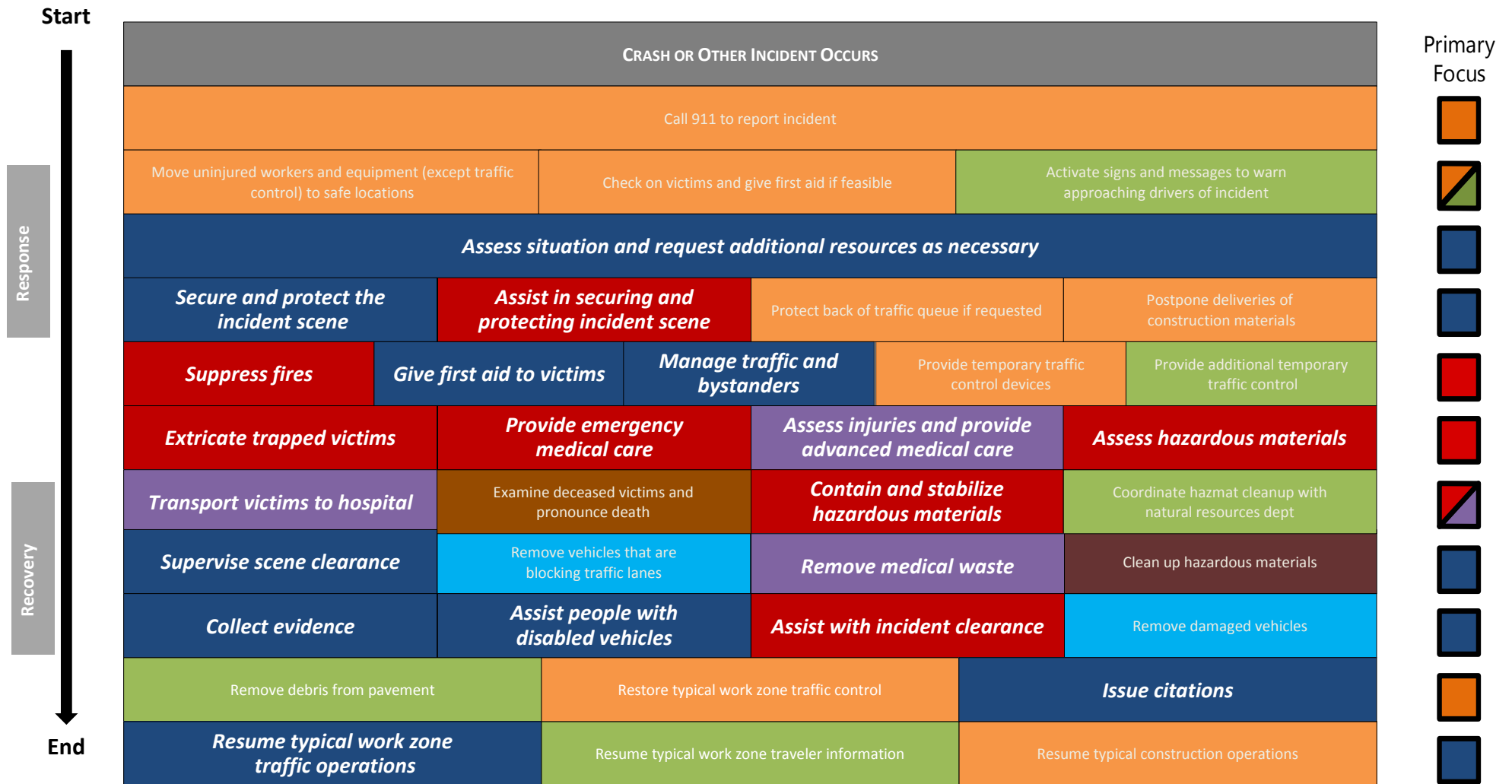
Post-Incident reviews help ensure good practices are repeated – and shortcomings are not.

WZ-TIM Success is Measurable

- ◆ Faster roadway clearance times
- ◆ Faster incident clearance times
- ◆ Fewer/less severe secondary incidents



Working Together: Coordinated Response to a Generic Work Zone Incident



LEGEND

Contractor	Highway Agency	Police	Fire Dept	EMS	Coroner/ Med Exam.	Towing Service	Hazmat Specialist
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