

Midcoast Traffic Incident Management Group Agenda
December 19th, 2024 at 1000
Knox County EMA - 301 Park St, Rockland and Via Zoom

1) Welcome and Introductions

2) Review of Meeting Minutes from August 27th, 2024 (Attachment A)

3) Area Incidents / After Incident Reviews

Meeting attendees are encouraged to discuss recent area incidents and after incident reviews.

4) Outreach

BACTS Staff will lead discussion on outreach opportunities within the region.

5) Technology

BACTS Staff will lead discussion on various technology opportunities within the region.

6) Construction Season

For updates and discussion.

7) Training Updates

BACTS Staff will provide an update on TIM training opportunities.

8) Other Business

BACTS will discuss creating goals and objectives for the group.

Discussion on other business.

9) Upcoming Meetings

March 13th, 2025 and June 12th, 2025

Attachment A

Midcoast Traffic Incident Management Group Agenda August 27th, 2024 at 1000 Via Zoom

1) Welcome and Introductions

Name	Representing
Jacob Stein	BACTS
Emily Huber	Lincoln County EMA
Dale Rowley	Waldo EMA
Curtis Brown	LCRPC
Rand Maker	Lincoln County Sheriff
Dan Garber David Allen Darryl Belz	Maine DOT
Paul Smeltzer	Waldoboro Fire Chief

2) Review of Meeting Minutes from May 14th, 2024 (Attachment A)

3) Area Incidents / After Incident Reviews

DOT mentioned an incident on Route 1 in Woolwich with extended closure, noting communication glitches and internal DOT issues. Lincoln County Sheriff shared his experience of driving through the detour, highlighting inadequate road conditions for tractor-trailers. DOT confirmed the incident was a commercial vehicle accident and discussed the length of closure and public complaints.

DOT suggested reaching out to local departments to establish pre-signed detour routes to avoid communication issues during closures. DOT also discussed the importance of proper communication and participation in the group to improve emergency response.

DOT referenced the bridge strike incident involving a windmill blade that closed Route 1. Both DOT and Waldo EMA shared that they were notified late about the incident and the lack of communication with both organizations may have worsened detours and increased the impact of the incident. This incident was highlighted as an incident that proves the importance of including local EMAs in notifications and the need for better communication channels.

4) Outreach

BACTS Staff discussed efforts to start groups in Augusta and Lewiston-Auburn. Idea was floated of bringing in a topical speaker like Lifelight at a future meeting. This would make the meetings more informative and offer helpful knowledge for responders.

BACTS staff proposed attending meetings or gatherings of different agencies and disciplines (EMS Chief meeting, conferences, Fire or Sheriff association meetings) in order to share what TIMs is and why it matters.

5) Technology

BACTS Staff discussed the contracts that DOT has out to purchase more TIMs technology. Drones and message boards are a slower rollout but they are coming. Drones require someone to be trained before an agency can receive the device so that can make the rollout more difficult.

Communication upgrades to EMS vehicles are available for opt-in but that can result in more cost in future as agencies will need to pick up service costs after initial deployment subscription ends.

Distribution of technology as a way to open discussions with Sagadahoc County was a suggestion in order to get more buy-in and to improve communication.

6) Construction Season

An update on the progress on Route 1 in Woolwich and the completion of the Springbrook bridge.

Rand Maker inquires about the checked blocks on roads, which are survey points for new technology like Lidar.

The team discussed the construction on Route 174 in Prospect and the need for a detour, with David Allen noting the project's completion.

Darryl Belz mentioned an upcoming bridge inspection on the Memorial Bridge in Belfast, which will result in lane closures.

7) Training Updates

Bangor training in October and two Crash Responder Safety Week trainings (Train the Trainer in Augusta and standard training in Bangor)

The issue of volunteer departments not being able to send people to trainings during the day was raised again. The logistics of two hour night time sessions taught over two days or Saturday trainings in the fall/winter is still under discussion.

Possible TIMs refresher training in the works from FHWA but timeline is very uncertain.

Potential online self-guided training desired by Steve Landry but may not occur soon

8) Other Business

9) Upcoming Meetings

August 13th, 2024 and November 12th, 2024