

**BALTIMORE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION
BALTIMORE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD**

**RESOLUTION #18-9
ADOPTING ACTIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR IMPROVING THE MANAGEMENT OF
TRAFFIC INCIDENTS ON THE REGION'S ROADWAYS**

WHEREAS, the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board is the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, encompassing the Baltimore Urbanized Area, and includes official representatives of the cities of Annapolis and Baltimore, the counties of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, Howard, and Queen Anne's as well as representatives of the Maryland Department of Transportation, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Maryland Department of Planning, the Maryland Transit Administration, and Harford Transit; and

WHEREAS, traffic safety is a key component to public safety and it is recognized that the safety of emergency responders while managing traffic incidents is paramount to this belief; and

WHEREAS, unnecessary lane closures, a lack of a quick clearance mindset and unwillingness to cooperate with other incident responders increases the risk of responder and motorist injuries; and

WHEREAS, collaboration and communication during the detection, response, clearance, and recovery phases of a traffic incident may not always be consistent; and

WHEREAS, traffic incidents have the potential to cause secondary crashes, increase traffic congestion, increase air pollution, have a substantial economic impact and affect quality of life; and

WHEREAS, excess emergency lighting, especially forward facing lighting, may adversely impact the safety of incident responders, motorists and pedestrians.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region, adopts the actions and procedures (see Attachment 1) for improved management of traffic incidents.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the Baltimore Regional Transportation Board as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Baltimore region adopts the aforementioned resolution on January 26, 2018.

Date

Catherine Pugh, Chair
Baltimore Regional Transportation Board

Actions and Procedures for Improved Management of Traffic Incidents

1. Urges all response agencies to implement Federal Highway Administration-endorsed traffic incident management responder training for all personnel that respond to traffic incidents;
2. Recognizes that in most cases, travel lanes could be opened more readily without compromising patient care, HAZMAT mitigation or the crash investigation;
3. Applauds any and all efforts to work in a cooperative manner and collaborate through effective communication with all responder disciplines at traffic incident scenes;
4. Encourages the adoption of policies and procedures for the safe, effective, quick clearance of traffic incidents within 90 minutes consistent with the Traffic Incident Management National Unified Goal (NUG); and
5. Recommends that all response personnel be familiar with and adhere to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices standards as related to temporary traffic control and emergency vehicle lighting.