IMPLEMENTING

A TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT AREA AT WILDFIRES

"FIRST 15" MINUTES: INITIAL ACTION ITEMS

- Notify traffic operations.
- Position blocking vehicles.
- Don high visibility apparel.
- Establish Incident Command/Unified Command Post; if already established, check in with IC.
- Consider assigning a Safety Officer and an upstream "spotter," if necessary.
- Estimate incident or condition magnitude, expected duration, and vehicle queue (backup) length.
- Assign trained and qualified personnel to traffic control.
- Establish a traffic incident management area (TIMA), reassess every 15 minutes, and revise as needed.
- Identify and request needed resources (law enforcement, HAZMAT, towing/recovery, department of public works, department of transportation, medical examiner if fatalities occurred, and crash investigators if a crash occurred).

The Advanced Warning Area and Transition Area of the Traffic Incident Management Area are governed by factors including topography, weather, and the anticipated length of the incident. Wildfires can be long-term events and, therefore, law enforcement and the Department of Transportation must be engaged at the incident management level and appropriate plans, resources, and oversight obtained and implemented.

PERSONNEL MUST DO'S

- All responders must wear department-issued, identifiable, ANSI/ISEA 107-compliant high visibility apparel, a helmet, and eye protection. Emergency responders working within the right-of-way and engaged in emergency operations that directly expose them to flame, fire, heat, and/or hazardous materials may wear retroreflective turnout gear that is specified and regulated by other organizations, such as the National Fire Protection Association.
- Only trained and qualified personnel should conduct traffic control.
- Maintain situational awareness.
- Never turn your back to traffic.
- Work in the shadow of the blocking vehicle.
- Use spotters to look out for moving vehicles.

VEHICLE MUST DO'S

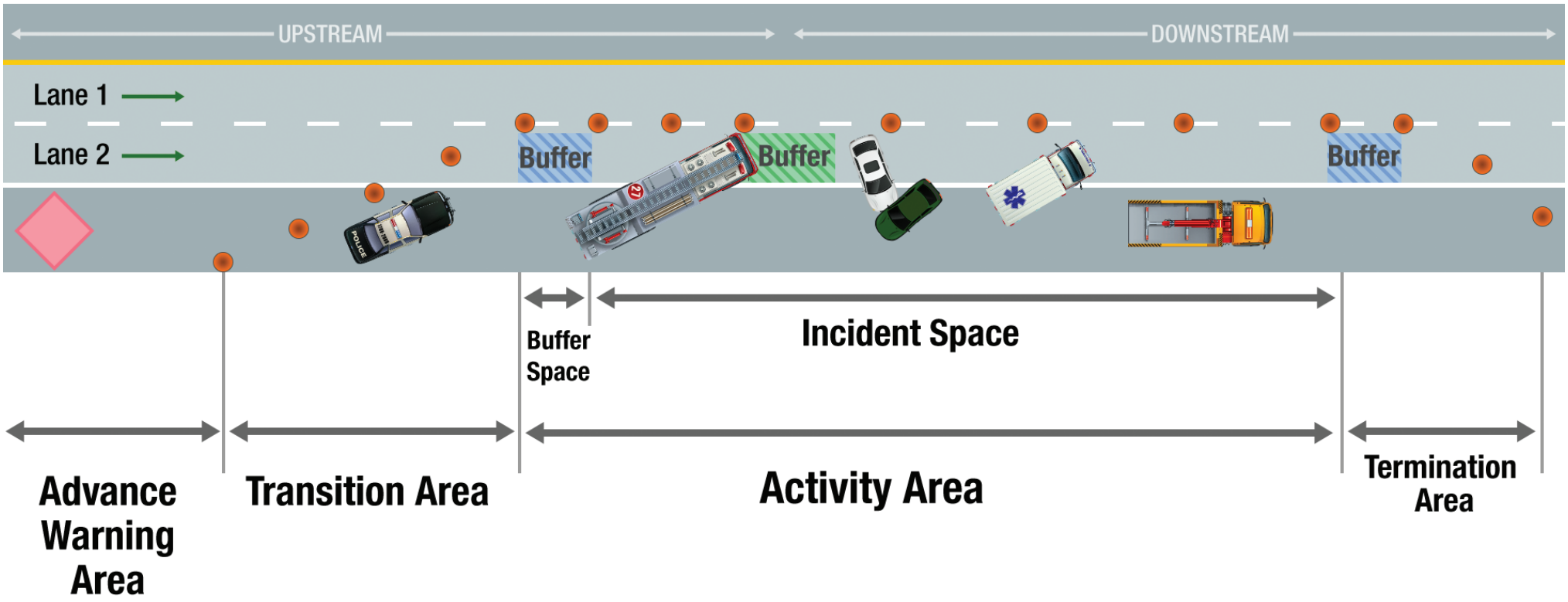
- Limit the number of responding vehicles to only those necessary for response.
- Park all emergency vehicles on the same side of the roadway.
- Stage vehicles not active in response off the roadway.
- Position blocking apparatus in an angled block to protect personnel.
- Activate emergency lighting appropriate to conditions.
- Extinguish forward-facing white lights on emergency vehicles.

ROADWAY RESPONSE CONSIDERATIONS

- Time of incident.
- Whether vehicles can be moved from the roadway.
- Traffic volume / congestion.
- How many (if any) lanes should be closed (rule of thumb is affected lane +1).
- Emergency vehicle access routes.
- Increased volume on detour routes.
- How quickly can lanes be reopened.
- Need to avoid secondary incidents.
- How to make the scene safer.
- Periodic updates to command on vehicle movement, significance, and duration of the event.
- Minimizing time on scene to limit exposure.
- Availability of proper equipment and trained personnel to manage or direct traffic.
- During apparatus backing, use a backer/spotter or two to ensure safe movement.

Traffic Incident Management Area (TIMA)

also known as a Temporary Traffic Control Zone (TTC)



COMMUNICATE COORDINATE COOPERATE

TRAFFIC CONTROL BASED ON INCIDENT MAGNITUDE AND DURATION

INCIDENT MAGNITUDE	EST. RESPONSE DURATION	TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES
Minor	Less than 30 minutes	Notify traffic operations if the roadway is one where a minor delay can impact traffic or road closure is needed.
Intermediate	30 minutes to 2 hours	Notify traffic operations, establish a TIMA, consider DOT-DPW response to assume longer-term traffic control duties.
Major	More than 2 hours	Notify traffic operations, request DOT-DPW response early, establish a full work zone/close roadway.

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