

PURPOSE

The Penobscot County Traffic Incident Management Group, is a body of traffic incident management stakeholders consisting of law enforcement, fire and rescue, and transportation agencies interested in enhancing traffic incident management on I-95 and I-395 in Penobscot County. This plan has its' origins in southern Maine and has been adapted to suit the needs in this area. Incident-related traffic flow issues are an increasingly significant challenge for the Greater Bangor area as witnessed by the number of crashes, unusual weather events and other events that have caused traffic circulation issues in the area.

An incident is defined as any non-recurring event that causes a reduction of roadway capacity or an abnormal increase in demand. Such events include traffic crashes, disabled vehicles, spilled cargo, highway maintenance and reconstruction projects, and special non-emergency events (e.g., ball games, concerts, or any other event that significantly affects roadway operations).

Although the problem most often associated with highway incidents is traveler delay, by far the most serious problems are the risk of secondary crashes and the danger to response personnel serving the public at the scene.

The magnitude of these problems can be severe. Incidents critically limit the operational efficiency of the transportation network and put all users of the network at risk.