



**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

Douglas B. MacDonald
Secretary of Transportation

Transportation Building

310 Maple Park Avenue S.E.
P.O. Box 47300
Olympia, WA 98504-7300

360-705-7000
TTY: 1-800-833-6388
www.wsdot.wa.gov

September 14, 2007

Washington State Traffic Incident Management Coalition:

On behalf of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), I would like to welcome you to the first Washington Traffic Incident Management Coalition (WATIMC) Conference. I believe that with the talent and leadership assembled, solutions to clearing roads will quickly emerge.

As a forerunner to present Traffic Incident Management (TIM), WSDOT and the Washington State Patrol, working closely with the tow industry, responded to the traffic incident demands of the Seattle and Tacoma 1991 Goodwill Games. Many lessons were learned during those early years of TIM.

Now, 16 years later, I am pleased to acknowledge the progress made in keeping our roadways clear and responders safe. One tool WSDOT is pleased to endorse is the National Unified Goal (NUG) on Traffic Incident Management. The NUG is a well-crafted plan, focusing on the goals of responder safety, safe, quick clearance, and prompt, reliable interoperable communication. The NUG will be key to the effective management of traffic incidents on state highways.

September 18th marks a great day with the formation of the WATIMC. Groups with different missions will be joined together with the common good of others in mind. This will set the benchmark for traffic incident operations throughout the state and once again demonstrate to partners nationwide that Washington remains a forerunner in transportation incident management.

I wish you all the best as you collectively embark down this road to attaining the three goals of traffic incident management.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paula J. Hammond'.

Paula J. Hammond, P.E.
Interim Secretary of Transportation