

#### **Center for Accelerating Innovation**



Improving Transportation System Management and Operations by Tapping the Potential of Crowdsourced Data

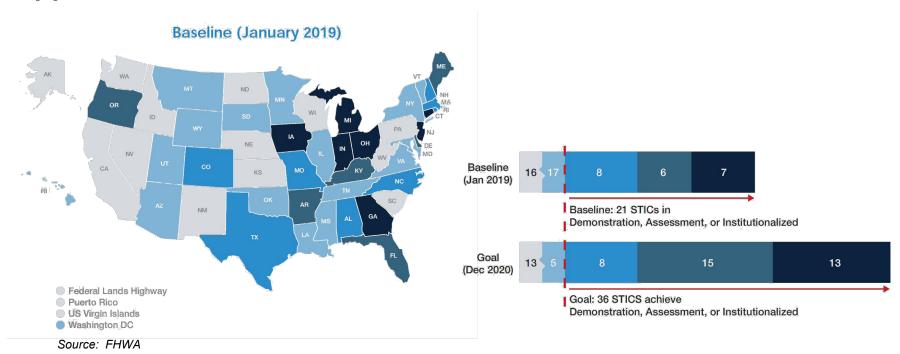
Source: Pixabay

## Using Crowdsourced Data for Traffic Incident Management

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# FHWA Every Day Counts Round Five (EDC5) Crowdsourcing Innovation Goal

To increase the number of agencies that use crowdsourcing to better operate the transportation system through new, cost-effective, and proactive operational strategies and applications.





# Real-Time Monitoring: A Weakness in Incident Management

## There are 4 primary limitations in our typical approach to real-time monitoring:

- Big gaps in geographic coverage.
- Lags in timeliness of information.
- Cost to build-out and maintain field equipment.
- Jurisdictional stovepipes.

These limitations reduce the ability to efficiently and (cost) effectively detect and respond to incidents.





Source: FHWA



## Crowdsourcing Overcomes Monitoring Challenges

Because data is sourced whenever and wherever people travel, crowdsourcing...

#### **Eliminates Geographic Gaps**

- find out what happens between sensors
- find out what happens in rural regions, arterials, and other streets with few sensors
- find out what happens beyond jurisdictional boundaries

#### **Improves Information Timeliness**

Data can be pushed real-time to TMC

#### **Improves Cost-effectiveness**

- some data is free, little cost to 'ingest' data
- some data at cost point better than new monitoring infrastructure outlays



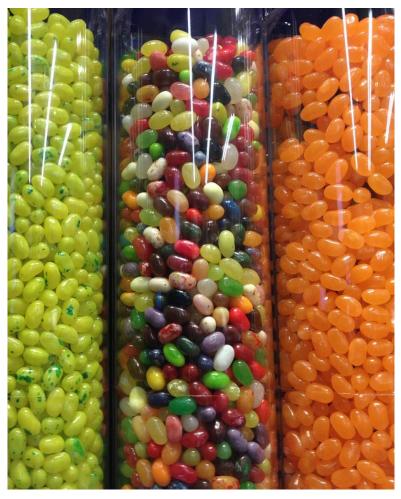
### **Sources of Data**

- Extracted from social media platforms.
- Acquired from third-party crowdsourced data.
- Collected from specially developed mobile apps or mobile infrastructure.

## Data is sourced whenever and wherever people travel



### Types of Data



Source: Pixabay

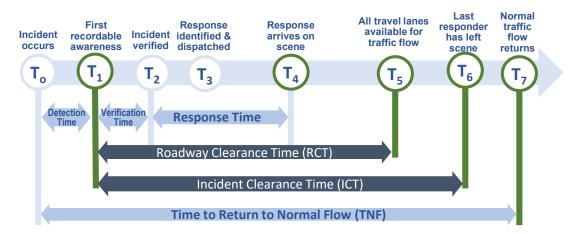


### Crowdsourcing for Traffic Incident Management

Real time and archived crowdsourced data as a stand alone data feed or integrated with other data and ideally integrated within agency processes can help with:

- Incident detection
- Incident response
- Manage end of queue
- After action review

- Traveler information
- Safety Service Patrol planning
- Future expansion of CCTV and other ITS Technologies



Crowdsourced data can shift T1, T4, T5, T6, and T7 to the left, thereby

reducing DT, RCT, ICT, and TNF and also

reducing the likelihood of secondary crashes.



### **Examples of Crowdsourcing for TIM**

- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet use of Waze and HERE for Incident Detection and After Action Reviews
- Indiana Department of Transportation use of INRIX for end of queue warning and incident detection.
- Utah DOT and Delaware DOT State-developed apps for traveler information and event/road weather reporting
- SSP Planning for Maryland DOT and other Agencies
- DC DOT using probe vehicle data to assess strategic locations for additional CCTV camera installation.



#### **KYTC - Incident Detection & After Action Reviews**

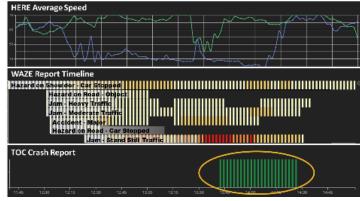
**Goal:** Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) needed more timely incident detection across more roadways.

**Action:** Created email alerts for use by TOC staff using combination of HERE and Waze data.

**Outcome:** Alerts clarify presence of events earlier than speed-based detection.

- Alerts enable TOC staff to craft a quicker response.
- TOC processes were improved to expedite/improve traveler information.
- Integrated visualization supports a more effective after action review.



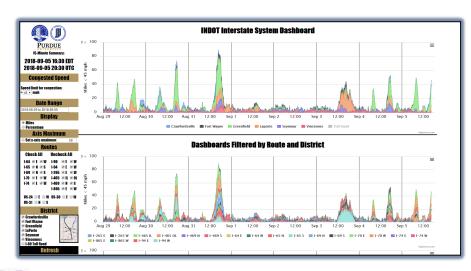


Source: Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

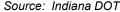


## End of Queue Management & Incident Detection

- INDOT purchases real-time probe data
- Interstates made into 2000+ segments
- Download speed data every 60 seconds
- "Traffic Ticker" developed by INDOT & Purdue University to process, visualize and use data



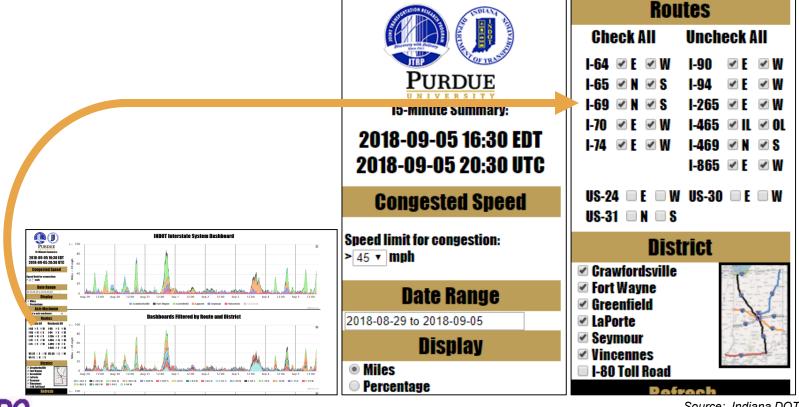






### Indiana DOT Live Traffic Ticker Tool

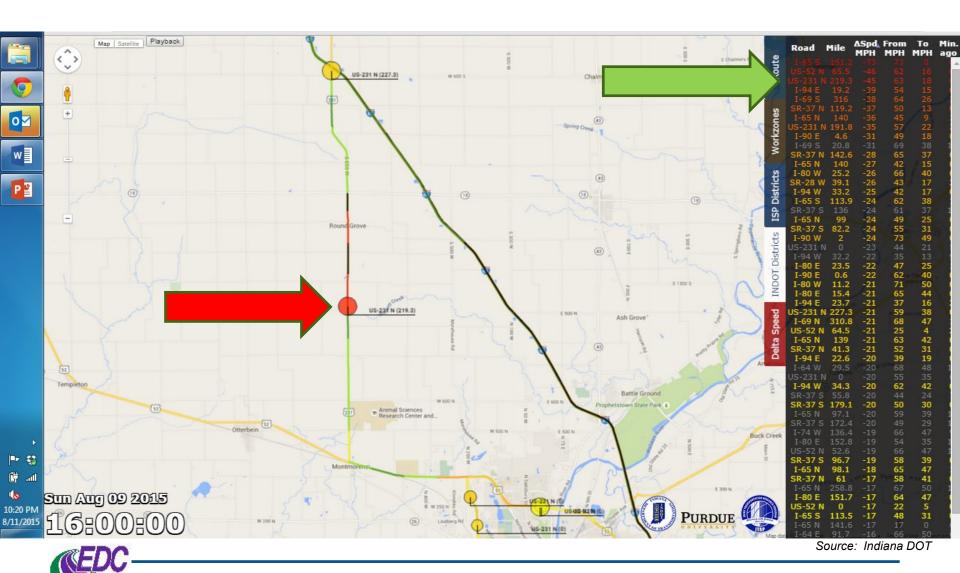
Tool ingests real-time data to offer Visual profile by segment, direction, district and other factors





Source: Indiana DOT

### Traffic Ticker's Real-Time Delta Speed Function



## Utah DOT Citizen Reporter App and the DelDOT App for Traveler Information

#### **Utah DOT Created Citizen Reporting app in 2013**



Reports received by day

150

100

50

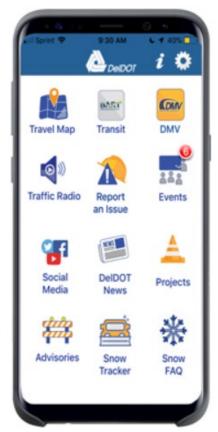
0 11/1/2013 12/1/2013 1/1/2014 2/1/2014

Outcome: highly accurate data on road conditions on highway and major arterial segments from 1K+ 'trained' reporters.

## Information shared by multiple platforms

## Delaware DOT created the DelDOT app as a single source

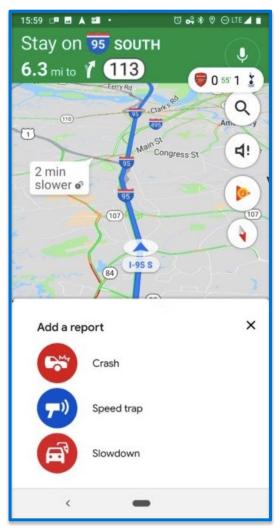
for all things traffic related including reporting roadway issues and sharing real-time information



Source: Delaware DOT



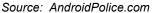
### New Technologies for Incident Detection & Response



Google introduced Crash reporting similar to Waze

Waze partnered with RapidSOS, an emergency tech company, to provide both drivers and first responders real-time data about accidents.

Inrix partnered with Information Logistics (Ilog) for an emergency alert service supporting two-way communication with drivers during emergencies.





# Crowdsourcing for Operations National Team & State/Local Support

## The National Team will be helping 30+ States and local agencies with:

- Understanding operational gaps or needs
- Identifying the right application & data
- Fostering executive & technical buy-in
- Developing technical/programmatic skills
- Defining data management processes
- Navigating funding and procurement
- Assessing architecture approaches

#### **National Team Expertise**

- Traffic Incident
   Management
- Transportation Systems Management & Operations
- Active Transportation and Demand Management
- 5 State DOT & Local Experts in Crowdsourcing
- Data Scientists



## For more information on the EDC5 Crowdsourcing for Operations Program, contact



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### **EDC5 Crowdsourcing Engagement:**

AL	AZ	СО	DC	DE	HI	IL	KY	LA
MD	ME	MN	MO	MT	NC	NH	NY	ОК
PR	RI	TN	TX	UT	VA	VT	WI	WY
ОН	OR	MA	MI	MS	SC			

<sup>\*</sup> States agencies in the bottom have not yet engaged with the National Crowdsource Team for support.

### For more information on the EDC Program

www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/everydaycounts/

Email: <a href="https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/">https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/innovation/</a>

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