Toward Data Driven Traffic Incident Management
Improving Access to Freeway Crash Data

July 2020
Bay Area Incident Management Task Force

60+ agencies and 50+ meetings since 2012
Key Task Force Activities

- Provide opportunities for cross-discipline training
- Host meetings and scenario workshops
- **Develop, implement, assess strategies to enhance safety & coordination**
- Conduct post-incident reviews
- Develop traffic incident communication guidelines
Startup in Residence (STIR)

16 week residency that connects government agencies with startups, via challenged-based procurement, to co-develop technology products that address real civic challenges.
Traffic Incident Dashboard

Before CHP Incident Feed

After Dashboard to Track Performance

Partnership w/ mySidewalk
Anatomy of an Incident: 6/29/19 Bay Bridge

- **Response Time:** 25 min.
- **Roadway Clearance Time:** 4 hr, 58 min.
- **Incident Clearance Time:** 5 hr, 23 min.

**Events:**
- 4:28 AM: Incident Reported
- 4:34 AM: SIG Alert Issued
- 4:53 AM: Oakland Fire at Scene
- 5:17 AM: Start Big Rig Tow
- 8:08 AM: Coroner Stuck in Traffic
- 8:26 AM: All lanes except lane 5 open
- 9:26 AM: All lanes open
Recent Incidents Page

- Automatically updated daily
- Incidents volumes lower than average due to shelter in place
Incident trends

Number of Incidents through Previous Month

40,358 incidents  
Incidents To Date This Year

-12,845 incidents  
Year Over Year Change

Source: Caltrans PeMS

Incidents by Month by Year

Source: Caltrans PeMS
Shelter-in-Place vs. Present

3,582 incidents
Q2 2020 to Date

35,038 incidents
Q1 2020 Total

Source: CHP Media Feed

Incidents by Week over past 13 Weeks

Shelter in place order

Source: CHP Media Feed
Shelter-in-Place Impact

- As incident volumes increase, median and 90th percentile clearance times are decreasing
- **Median**: 50 to 44 minutes
- **90th Percentile**: 180 to 131 minutes
Incident Clearance Times

- Crashes were driving increase in clearance times through April
- Crash clearances times were down in June and July
Incident Clearance Times

- 90th percentile clearance time is down from peak in April 2020.
Semi-Truck Incidents

Truck Incidents Over Time

124 truck incidents
Previous Month
San Francisco Bay Area

6.3% of incidents
Previous Month
San Francisco Bay Area

246 truck incidents
Typical Month
San Francisco Bay Area

6.2% of incidents
Typical Month
San Francisco Bay Area
BAY AREA TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

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