



I-95 Corridor Coalition

NASTO

Weather-Related and Other Significant Events Operational Response Information Coordination Regional Communication Program



**I-95 CORRIDOR
COALITION**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary.....	3
1.0 Introduction.....	4
1.1 NASTO Oversight Group.....	4
1.2 Current State of Information Sharing in the NASTO Region.....	5
Figure: TMC-TMC Communications.....	7
1.2.1 Current Closure Triggers in the NASTO States.....	8
2.0 Regional Operational Response Information Coordination Communications Program. .	10
2.1 Contact Protocols.....	11
2.2 Regional Information Sharing – Content.....	15
2.3 Multi-State Response Coordination Conference Calls.....	15
2.3.1 Post Conference Call Activities.....	17
2.4 After Action Review.....	18
3.0 I-95 Corridor Coalition Collaborative Decision Tool.....	18
4.0 Summary	20
Appendix A – NASTO Project Deliverables	
Appendix B – Sample Coordination Conference Calls Procedures	
Appendix C - Sample State Severe Weather Response Plans	
Appendix D - I-95 Corridor Coalition Trigger Point Guidance and Sample Maryland and Massachusetts Event Classification Tables	
Appendix E – Sample Incident Reporting Form	
Appendix F – Sample After Action Review Form	
Appendix G - TMC Reference Desk Sheets for Significant Events Communications Coordination	

Executive Summary

NASTO has recognized the need for situational information coordination between states during significant weather-related events. This document presents the deliverables for the work performed for the NASTO States by the I-95 Corridor Coalition (see Appendix A). The overall goal of the work is to establish a NASTO significant weather-related events information exchange group and regional communications program for activation during an event.



Though the scope of this project was defined as pertinent to significant weather-related events occurrences, the plan presented herein can be applied not only to weather events, but also to other types of significant or hazardous events which may occur.

This project defines the information exchange program, presenting a plan for a regional communications approach for situational information sharing. Information was obtained from the NASTO States, and reviewed by the NASTO Oversight Committee, using a variety of mechanisms including surveys, telephone interviews, and meetings, along with the application of in-house I-95 Corridor Coalition staff expertise.

Overall, NASTO States want to be telephoned when there is a significant event in a neighboring state which could impact traffic on the major roadways in either or both states. This document reviews the current state of information sharing in the NASTO Region, and current facility closure triggers are provided as background information. This snapshot of current closure protocols improves the management of expectations between NASTO states as well as helps to define areas of future improvement.

Detailed contact protocols are provided herein, as defined by the NASTO States, including who is to call whom and under what circumstances. While conducting this project, the I-95 Coalition worked with the Agencies to implement the identified process improvements. Each state should periodically review this plan to update it as needed and check implementation status to ensure all communications trees are in place and ready for activation should the need arise. Further, the I-95 Corridor Coalition plans to periodically review this plan with its Regional Highway Operations Groups and other Coalition Committees to ensure that emerging updates are shared among the states.

Included for ease in communicating among the various states are the up-to-date contact telephone numbers for each NASTO State's Transportation Management/Transportation Operations Centers (TMC/TOCs) and TMCs external to the NASTO States along the Eastern United States coastline. The non-NASTO States are included since they could come into play when such events as major hurricanes occur which are heading northward from Southern States' geographies, as in the case of recent events.

Finally, the processes for activation, timing, and content of regional conference calls, including post-call followup and the After-Action review process, are defined. Sample State conference call processes, severe weather response plans, and event classifications are included as background reference in this plan's appendices, along with TMC Reference Desk Sheets for Significant Events Communications Coordination.