

FDOT Performance Measures

Departure Duration

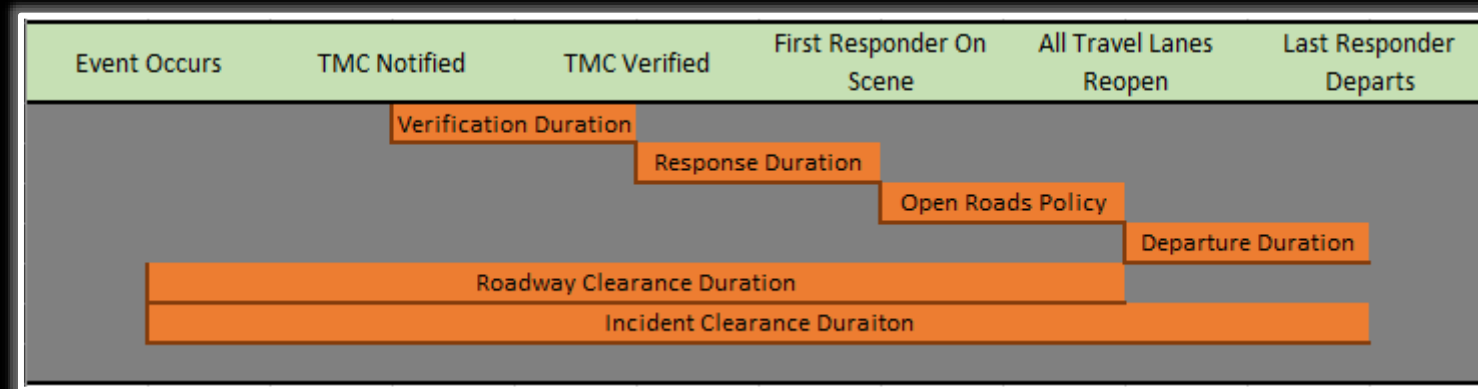


- Verification Duration
- Response Duration
- Open Roads Time
- Roadway Clearance Duration
- **Departure Duration**
- Incident Clearance Duration

A look into the importance of responder departure duration.

Departure Duration Defined

- Departure duration is measured from the time all travel lanes have reopened to the time the last responder departs from the scene.
- Many factors influence departure duration such as vehicle recovery, cleanup confined to a shoulder, ongoing investigations, recovery of TTC equipment, etc.



Why is it important to clear the scene?

- Responders remaining on scene create a distraction to passing motorists. Shifting their focus away from the road and on to the scene.
- The presence of solitary law enforcement vehicles often elicits a driver braking/slowing response even when drivers are at or below the posted speed limit.
- The potential for a responder to be struck by another vehicle is compounded by each unnecessary minute spent on the roadside.



Protecting What Is Important

- The Emergency Responder Safety Institute publishes current data on struck-by-vehicle fatalities.
 - In 2020, 46 first responders were struck and killed by vehicles while responding to traffic incidents:
 - 17 LEOs
 - 4 Fire/EMS
 - 21 Tow Operators
 - 1 Mechanic
 - 3 DOT Employees or Safety Service Patrols
 - This represents a 2 fatality increase from 2019, despite lower traffic levels due to COVID-19
- 3 struck-by-vehicle fatalities so far in 2021.

Keeping Things Moving, Safely

- Prompt departure from the scene of an incident is key in:
 - Reducing distractions
 - Keeping consistent speeds and throughput on the freeway
 - Eliminating unnecessary exposure to secondary crashes and incidents.
 - Protecting first responders and the motoring public



We Understand

- Some actions and processes must be performed on scene.
 - Solicit additional assistance for TTC and visibility when extended occupation of the roadside is required.
- Remind your responders to assess whether a roadside activity poses an unnecessary danger to themselves or an unnecessary distraction to the free flow of traffic.
 - Can the activity be successfully performed elsewhere?