Pennsylvania State Police

Timeline: Interstate 276 Eastbound Multi-Vehicle Crash

LEGEND

- Events Occurring on I-476 SB
- Events Occurring on I-276 EB
- PSP Incident Commander When at I-476 SB Crash
- PSP Actions
- Assorted Emergency Responder Actions

Goal 1: Life Safety- All injured removed by 10:40 hrs

Goal 2: Incident Stabilization- Scene stabilized when Plan X EB was implemented at 08:38 hrs. Plan X WB was implemented at 10:30 hrs

Goal 3: Release Queued Traffic- All traffic relieved by 14:40 hrs, all lanes opened by 15:55 hrs

I-276 Eastbound

08:00-08:59hrs

- Crash occurred at I-476 SB (NE Extension), MM 20.6. SGT Chambers responded. — 07:40 hrs
- Crash reported at I-276 EB with all lanes blocked. 4 jackknifed tractor trailers and 10-15 cars. — 07:59 hrs
- SGT Chambers responded to crash on I-476 SB (NE Extension),MM 20.6. All lanes were blocked due to two separate crashes, one of which involved a passenger being taken by medevac. — 08:00 hrs
- Trevose Maintenance, EMS, Rob's Towing, and Fire notified. — 08:04 hrs
- 0806 hrs: TFC Barber, 1st responding investigator, arrived at scene and reported multi-vehicle crashes, roadway blocked, 1 injured. 0824 hrs: TFC Barber requested and granted Plan X. — 08:06 hrs & 08:24 hrs
- I-276 East, Willow Grove shut down. Tow trucks staged at front of blockage. Bensalem PD and other PD's walk backlog for injuries and gathered crash information. — 08:38 hrs

09:00-09:59hrs

- PEMA updated concerning implementation of Plan X by PSP Highspire. SGT Chambers called to delegate duties and obtain a status update. SGT Chambers directed tow trucks to travel WB in the EB lanes to access the crash scene. — 09:23 hrs

10:00-10:59hrs

- Queue began to be released. Additional crashes occurred in the WB lane. — 10:13 hrs
- Plan X was implemented, Bensalem interchange to Willow Grove interchange. — 10:30 hrs
- Lower Moreland PD opened the emergency exit gate at MM 346 EB to allow motorists to exit and alleviate backlog. — 10:29 hrs
- PTC District IV Superintendent John Delricci approved WB Plan X. — 10:07 hrs
- Motorists continued to be directed from the EB queue while additional crashes occurred in the WB lane. — 10:13 hrs
- Plan X implemented at I-276 WB, Bensalem interchange to Willow Grove interchange. — 10:30 hrs

11:00-11:59hrs

- 4 of 5 jackknifed tractor trailers were cleared at this time. Backlog cleared to MM 349.3 EB. 1 mile of queue cleared to 5th tractor trailer. Traffic moving slowly as scene was cleared. — 11:49-11:54 hrs
- SGT Chambers and PTC District IV Superintendent John Delricci met and discussed removal of 5 commercial vehicles and assessed overall scene. — 11:15 hrs
- Troopers continued u-turning vehicles, leaving only tractor trailers on the system. — 11:41 hrs
- Requested front-end loader at scene to start removing concrete center medial barriers. — 11:47 hrs

12:00-12:59hrs

- Rob's Towing began removing 5th jackknifed tractor trailer from the EB lanes, and towed multiple cars that were blocking the left lane. Lewis Environmental entered Willow Grove Interchange. — 12:15 hrs

13:00-13:59hrs

- Left lane of Eastbound partially open. 3 miles of the queue was cleared. — 13:15 hrs
- Red Cross arrived with water. Salvation Army already on scene (unknown arrival time). — 13:40 hrs
- Trevose Maintenance removed two concrete center medial barriers to allow EB traffic to travel WB. — 13:53 hrs

14:00-14:59hrs

- Left lane completely cleared for travel. Left lane moving slowly. — 14:41 hrs

15:00-15:59hrs

- All vehicles are towed/removed. — 15:10 hrs
- Plan X for WB lanes lifted. — 15:22 hrs
- Interstate re-opened. — 15:45 hrs
- SGT Chambers cleared WB lanes for reopening. WB traffic was slowly paced to Willow Grove interchange. All lanes were open. — 15:22 hrs
- EB lanes cleared for reopening. CPL Healey paced traffic to Philadelphia interchange and EB lanes were opened. Plan X was lifted for EB lanes. — 15:45 hrs
- SGT Chambers terminated Incident Command. — 15:55 hrs