



Getting Results from Regional Traffic Incident Management Teams



TIM Teams Collier-Lee-Charlotte, Sarasota-Manatee, Polk



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Florida Department of Transportation



The Highway Incident Problem



- 50 - 60% of congestion is caused by incidents
- 13 - 30% of crashes are secondary incidents
- Incident responder injuries are significant
- Incident caused congestion nears **\$80 Billion** annually (Sarasota – Total cost = \$198 million)



Definitions

- Incident
 - *Any non recurring event that causes capacity reduction or increased demand*
- Incident management
 - *The organized cooperative effort of multiple agencies to detect & verify incidents, respond & manage the scene, manage traffic & provide traveler information, and clear the incident*
- TIM Team
 - *A **Traffic Incident Management Team** is a group of organizations meeting regularly to identify issues, and develop improved incident management operations through coordination, communication and cooperation*



The TIM Team Approach



- Create long term plan for sustained benefits
- Use facilitation style to maximize participation
- Foster institutional cooperation
- Provide value to participants





TIM Teams Develop Candidate Improvement Opportunities



- Incident detection/verification
- Prompt, effective response
- Site management and safety
- Traffic management during incidents
- Motorist information
- Safe and quick clearance
- **Communication-Cooperation-Coordination**



TIM Team Participants



- Law enforcement
- Fire-rescue
- Emergency Management
- Transportation
- Medical Examiner
- Hazardous materials teams
- Asset management contractors
- Towing and Recovery
- Road Builders on major projects



TIM Team Logistics



- Quarterly or bi-monthly meetings
 - *Different agency venues*
- Respect members' time, 2 hour max
- Broad distribution of agendas and minutes
- Team notebooks for compilation of materials





Multi- agency training opportunities



TIM Team Activities



- Long range work plans
- Tabletop exercises
- Share problems, issues, resources
- Develop response plans & procedures
- Develop response criteria
- Define roles & responsibilities
- Agency facility tours



TIM Team Accomplishments

- Agency notification & resource guide
- Vehicle fluids and fuel spill policy
- Promotion of Emergency Stopping Sites for I-75
- Input on the median cross-over master plan
- Initiated and coordinated efforts to provide dedicated Troopers on Alligator Alley
- Formalized FHP procedure for expedited tow call-out
- Developed a TIM Team Web Site



www.swfltim.org

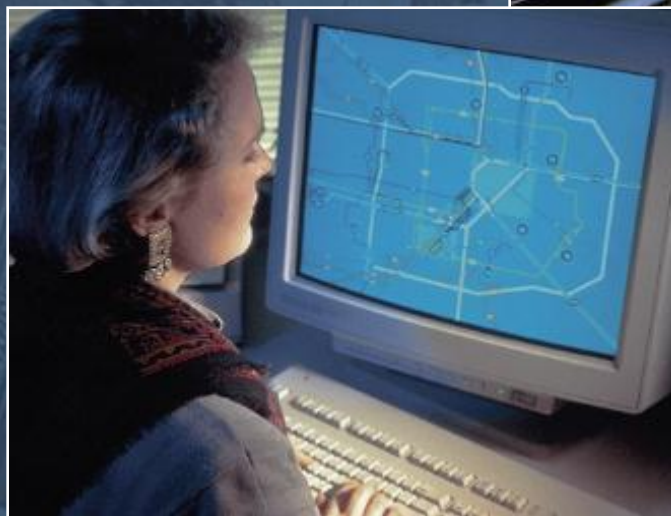
Additional TIM Team Accomplishments



- First responder checklist
- Freeway incident severity levels
- Post incident debriefing format
- Emergency Lighting MOU
- Scene parking guidelines
- Promoting the effort to establish a Public Safety sub-station on the Alley



TIM Team support of Regional Traveler Information



Regional Transportation Management Center in Fort Myers



The Challenges Ahead



- Maintaining continuous improvement
- Putting the plans into action
- Sustaining the momentum
- Dealing with changing personnel
- Increasing pressure to improve



TIM Team contacts



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