



## Collier - Lee Traffic Incident Management Team

June 11, 2008  
Meeting Minutes

### **Attendees:**

| <u>Name</u>        | <u>Agency</u>                                   | <u>Name</u>      | <u>Agency</u>                           |
|--------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Benjamin Abes      | Lee County EMS                                  | Bud Gruber       | Bald Eagle Towing                       |
| Jay Anderson       | Stay Alive Just Drive                           | Bruce Hutcheson  | DBi Services                            |
| Mark Anderson      | Florida Independent Towing<br>& Recovery Assoc. | Paul Lefeure     | Bald Eagle Towing                       |
| Mark Anderson      | DBi – Collier                                   | Douglas Leffin   | Collier County Sheriff                  |
| Thomas Baker       | Baker's Towing & Recovery                       | Michael Myers    | ICA                                     |
| Sandra Betts       | Collier County Sheriff                          | David Parks      | Global-5                                |
| Chris Birosak      | FDOT  | Bill Rippy       | FHP                                     |
| Robbie Brown       | Lee County DOT                                  | Gene Rogers      | South Trail Fire Protection &<br>Rescue |
| Bill Clemens       | Bonita Springs Fire & Rescue                    | Joe Saladino     | Prompt Towing Service                   |
| Raul Corbo         | Anchor Towing                                   | Nolan Sapp       | Golden Gate Fire & Rescue               |
| Mike Cowart        | DBi – Pembroke Pines                            | John Scarpellino | Telvent Farradyne – RTMC                |
| Tom Curran         | FDOT  | Phil Tindall     | Collier MPO                             |
| Krystle Davis      | Lee County DOT                                  | Robert Tipton    | Collier County DOT                      |
| James Drzymala     | Lee County Sheriff                              | Jim Wells        | FHP                                     |
| Glen Fox           | Alligator Towing                                | Doug Young       | Bumper to Bumper Towing                 |
| Kevin Fox          | Alligator Towing                                | Ted Smith        | Delcan Corp                             |
| Frank Gentilquore  | Alligator Towing                                | Don Olson        | FDOT                                    |
| Montague Gonsalves | City of Cape Coral                              | Christina Florez | VANUS                                   |
| Nestor Gonzalez    | Road Rangers                                    |                  |   |

**Call to Order:** The Collier-Lee TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at Florida Highway Patrol, 4700-3 Terminal Dr., Ft. Myers. Ted Smith and Don Olson facilitated the meeting.

**Introductions:** Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

### **Update on TIM Initiatives:**

#### Statewide 511 System

The sensors along I-75 have been activated. The information will be available on-line, [www.swfl511.com](http://www.swfl511.com) or via phone. Motorists can request information on a segment or mega-segment and travel time information will be provided. Travel times are currently available from MM 101 to MM 170.

### Road Rangers

The Road Ranger patrol will be reduced beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. As a reminder, the Road Ranger vehicles have the ability to tow vehicles. It has been noted that Road Rangers have been placing the red tags on vehicles and notifying FHP; this assisted in identifying a stolen vehicle.

### RISC

The RISC Program was initiated on the Florida's Turnpike; at this time, the RISC Program has been activated approximately 270 times with bonus' being paid 94% of the time. The RISC Program is an incentive based program with incentives and liquidated damages. FDOT has decided to implement the RISC Program statewide beginning in District 1. At this time, the RISC program in District 1 will only cover I-75 and I-275 only.

Per the scope, a rotator is required but keep in mind that this is an Invitation to Negotiate. The RISC contractor will be responsible for vehicle fuel clean-up; incident requiring hazmat will handle differently.

Although more than one RISC contractor is allowed per region, FHP has the right to limit the number of contractors in a specific region. This is due to the required time that it will take for FHP to inspect and approve the various vehicles for multiple contractors. Vehicles not approved by FHP cannot be used at a scene.

### **DVD Training Video:**

Ted Smith played a DVD video that was developed by the Wisconsin TIM Team. The video demonstrated the principles to be used during an incident including:

- First on scene
- Safety vest
- Use of warning devices
- Protect motorist, responders and evidence using emergency vehicles
- Additional emergency vehicles should help protect, not hinder
- Identify and communicate incident command post
- Five areas (size dependent on incident)
  - Advanced warning area
  - Transition area for merging lanes
  - Buffer area for safety
  - Work area
  - Termination area to resume normal lane operations

This training video can be used as a training tool. The primary focus is on team effort, working together to orchestrate the management of a scene. Responding vehicles typically do not have enough resources on hand on their own, but by combining resources a scene can be made safer.

### **TIM Team – Quality Management/Future Direction:**

#### Newsletter

Don Olson mentioned the TIM newsletter, inquired if all the members received the newsletter. Don has asked for ideas/topics to include in the future newsletters to ensure that information is relevant and valuable. Don is willing to do the research by himself or as a teammate if anyone suggests a topic to include in the newsletter. TIM Teams work! ... and all members are valued. The newsletter can be found by clicking on 'Document Archives' at <http://www.swfltim.org>.

### TIM Team Outreach Binder

An outreach binder has been developed and is available to any stakeholder. These binders are a useful resource to help convey the TIM Team initiatives. Please contact Don Olson if you are interested in receiving a binder. Don is also available to give a TIM Team Overview presentation; each presentation lasts approximately 30 minutes.

### Additional Topics

Don indicated that participants can provide agenda items. To please e-mail or call to make sure that all items of interest are included in the meetings during the year for discussion.

The US Fire Administration and the US DOT completed the Traffic Incident Management Systems Study. This study is to be used by the Fire Departments for training purposes. The study includes information on the use of warning signs, NIMS training, vehicle parking positions and incident duration. It is strongly recommended that all incident responding agencies use this study for training purposes. By using the same training information it will assist in standardizing incident response. The study may be downloaded at under 'Document Archives' on the project website [www.swfltim.org](http://www.swfltim.org) or [www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tims\\_0408.pdf](http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tims_0408.pdf).

Some stakeholder received a request to complete a questionnaire for the Lee County Traffic Control Device Study. At this time we have received limited input from emergency responders. The survey is available at <http://survey.crspe.com>.

The Collier MPO has requested information on crashes along I-75 including clearance time and incident duration. Don Olson will provide the information that he has. Once the RTMC is operational, the information will be captured.

Portable DMS boards are available to display messages instead of arrows only. There are standard messaging protocols. Typically the messages address which lanes are effected and not the type of incident. Also, the shorter the message, the better.

One of this year's focus will be on incident review. Please send Don information on any incidents you would like to review. The incident may be on other roads besides I-75. Please keep in mind that it takes approximately 10 days to receive an incident report.

### **Incident Reviews:**

#### Incident #1

Within the iROX project, a crane collapsed across I-75. One vehicle drive through the boom; there were no serious injuries. The lanes were closed for a couple of hours. There was a problem with motorists blocking the shoulders on both sides. A suggestion was brought up to do a public service announcement.

#### Incident #2

There was a fire in Collier County in the Golden Gates Estates. Residents could not evacuate to the north. The alternative evacuation route was to the emergency gate at MM93 (Everglades Blvd) along Alligator Alley. The Road Rangers were the first to respond and began creating a ramp where none existed. DBi arrived and helped. FHP indicated that the incident was handles well considering the delay in informing them that there was an evacuation problem. As a reminder, DBi will provide 'smoke' signs if notified.

### **Construction/Maintenance Update:**

Weekly project information can be found on the FDOT website:

<http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/construc/constmap/d1roadwatch.htm>

A resurfacing project on SR 82 will begin on July 7<sup>th</sup> that should last 100 days. There will be some nighttime lane closures. For additional information, please contact the Project Manager, Judy Rice at her office (239) 656-7870 or on her cellular (239) 340-4665.

*iROX – I-75 Road Expansion Project*

There will be intermittent lane closures near Immokalee. The emergency stop area at Pine Ridge will be open first. The signs will be posted 1 mile before the exit ramp. The emergency stop area at Immokalee is being paved.

Additional information on the iROX project can be found on the project website, [www.iROX75.com](http://www.iROX75.com).

**Other Team Issues:**

The I-95 Corridor Coalition is hosting a Quick Clearance Workshop in Orlando, Florida on May 12<sup>th</sup>. Registration is free, however pre-registration is required. Additional information on the workshop is attached and can be found at [www.i95coalition.org](http://www.i95coalition.org). Several TIM Team members have signed up to attend. This training will prove very valuable and demonstrate practical applications.

Scheduled 2008 Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, August 13, 2008  
Wednesday, October 15, 2008  
Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Attachments:

Meeting Notes by Christina Florez, VANUS, Inc. (305) 823-5662