



Collier - Lee Traffic Incident Management Team

October 15, 2008
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Jay Anderson	Stay Alive Just Drive	Hank Graham	Division of Forestry
Mark Anderson	DBi – Collier	Bud Gruber	Bald Eagle Towing
Peggy Bagaason	Red's OK Auto & Truck Repair	Patty Hill	Red's OK Auto & Truck Repair
Thomas Baker	Baker's Towing & Recovery	Bruce Hutcheson	DBi Services
Sandra Betts	Collier County Sheriff	Douglas Leffin	Collier County Sheriff
Carlos Bonilla	FDOT	Mike McClead	Coastland Auto Road Rangers
Robbie Brown	Lee County DOT	Alex Mirones	SMART SunGuide TMC
Ashley Cerbone	Lee County DOT	Mike MeeHan	511/Traffic.com
Bill Clemens	Bonita Springs Fire & Rescue	Patrick O'Rourke	DBi Services
Mike Cowart	DBi – Pembroke Pines	David Parks	Global-5
Tom Curran	FDOT	Mark Perez	ACT
Krystle Davis	Lee County DOT	Brian Raimondo	Lee County MPO
Jen Eversole	FDOT	Bill Rippy	FHP
Nicholas Favazzo	Lee County EMS	Joe Saladino	Prompt Towing Service
Pat Fowler	Red's OK Auto & Truck Repair	David Tarquino	S&T Towing of SW FLA
Glen Fox	Alligator Towing	Phil Tindall	Collier MPO
Kevin Fox	Alligator Towing	Robert Tipton	Collier County DOT
Frank Gentilquore	Alligator Towing	Jim Wells	FHP
Montague Gonsalves	City of Cape Coral	Les Williams	Collier County EMS
Nestor Gonzalez	Road Rangers	Ted Smith	Delcan Corp
		Don Olson	FDOT
		Christina Florez	VANUS

Call to Order: The Collier-Lee TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, October 15, 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:

SWIFT SunGuide Center

Carlos Bonilla, FDOT District One ITS Operations Manager provided an update: The Contractor is finalizing the outstanding punch list items. The opening of the Center is dependent on the acceptance of all of the ITS field devices. Participating Departments will begin moving in and

staffing the center ASAP. The tentative date for the SWIFT SunGuide Center to become operational is March 2009. The FHP Regional Communications Center has a two phase move-in plan to achieve uninterrupted operational capabilities.

Southwest Florida 511 System

As part of the development of the new Statewide 511 System, focus groups were asked what their main concerns were; the majority of the focus groups indicated that accuracy and timeliness are the number one issues. The new 511 system has used accuracy and timeliness as two of the standards when designing the system. Southwest Florida 511 plans to only include US 41 and I-75 in the 511 system. This approach optimizes customer demand, accuracy and timeliness of the information. It is anticipated that a soft launch will be in January 2009 and a full public launch in March 2009. These dates are tied to the operational start date of the new SWIFT SunGuide Center (RTMC) in Fort Myers. According to Don, 97% of the calls are for information along I-75, 2% are for US 41 and only 1% is for all other roadways. Don provided a screen shot of the new 511 system website.

Rapid Incident Scene Clearance

The RISC invitation to negotiate is now advertised on the MyFlorida website. The following is a link for the advertisement and bid document:

- http://vbs.dms.state.fl.us/vbs/ad.view_ad?advertisement_key_num=73259
- http://vbs.dms.state.fl.us/vbs/boiler_plate.pdf_list?advertisement_key_num=73259&pui_code_str=5500&dept_ad_num_str=ITNDOT08091006WC

Don will look into the possibility of using the rest area near Mile Marker 70 as a staging area.

Incident Management

The following is the updated contact information for emergency response:

- To request Emergency Response from FDOT on I-75: **DBi** 239-567-2043
- To request Emergency Response from FDOT on I-75 Bridges: **ICA** 1-866-335-9696
- To request Emergency Response from FDOT on I-75 iROX: **ICA** 1-866-335-9696
- To request Emergency Response from FDOT on other State Roads: **FDOT Emergency Management** 1-877-876-0628 – Kevin Salsbery

Kevin Salsbery is the new FDOT District One Emergency Coordination Officer.

DBi requested that Road Rangers notify them whenever they see FDOT assets damaged; they are a valuable additional "set of eyes". DBi would prefer to receive duplicate notifications from TIM Team members than none at all. DBi needs to be able to tie the asset damages to the responsible party as detailed in documents such as police crash reports. GPS coordinates of the Interstate Incident and basic details of the asset damages will be very, very helpful. DBi indicated that they are not always receiving notification of incidents within Charlotte County by the Sheriff's department. They cannot show up to an incident if they are not notified. Don will contact the Sheriff's office to learn of their recommended solution and to respectfully offer the opportunity for FDOT to fund a presentation and update of TIM Team initiatives by national TIM expert, Ted Smith. Once the new SWIFT SunGuide Center is operational, it is planned to have one call number to report incidents, and the RTMC will act as the information hub to notify TIM Team stakeholders. By having one number to call, the confusion created with changing of contracts, vendors and personnel will be minimized. Carlos Bonilla will look into implementing a paging/alert system once the Center is operational.

Road Rangers

As a reminder, the Road Ranger hours of patrol have been reduced. iROX Service Patrols operate 24/7 in the construction zone. I-75 Road Ranger Service Patrols are on Alligator Alley between 5AM and 10PM on weekdays. As of today, there are no viable outside sponsorship offers to supplement the program.

The Road Rangers are using the FDOT "Red Tag" when they see an abandoned vehicle on the roadside. Below is text of the "RR Red Tag" but the actual tags are FDOT orange in color.

Sorry we missed you, but you were not here when we arrived to offer assistance.



NOTICE

This tag is displayed to notify the motorist responsible that this vehicle will be removed as designated by Florida Statutes 316.1945(1)(a)11 and 316.194(3)(b)2

This vehicle will be towed away if not removed after six (6) hours.

Date ___/___/___ Time ___:___ Unit # _____

Call *FHP (*347) for assistance

FHP Vehicles

FHP is considering using the new Charger as patrol vehicles. They are currently being used by some Troopers during a test period. Once the test period is over, FHP will determine if they are going to change or stay with the Crown Victoria. Captain Wells offered details about some of the qualities he likes about the Ford Crown Vic that are significant advantages to consider such as; it is a proven vehicle, has good equipment storage capacity, and occupant safety features.

Safety Responder Vests

As a reminder, Federal Regulation 23 CFR 634 requires that all agencies working within the right-of-way on Federal-aid highways comply with the provisions no later than November 24, 2008. For additional information, please visit www.respondersafety.com.

Maintenance of Traffic Training for Incident Responders in Florida

USF's College of Engineering Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR), under contract with FDOT, created an MOT training course for first responders. Don provided an overview of their training. The official course is anticipated to be offered in 2009.

It was noted that the numbering scheme on the MOT training differs from national convention. Although there is no national lane numbering standard, typically the lanes are numbered from the median out. Don will speak with CUTR before finalizing the course.

It was also noted that the International Association Chiefs of Police had completed some extensive research and modeling on scene safety. Don was asked to look into this before publishing the CUTR training course.

Critical Traffic Incident Review

One of the TIM initiatives is to promote Critical Traffic Incident Reviews (CTIRs). CTIRs are an important tool that can be used to help cement relationships and open the lines of communication. CTIRs can be requested by any TIM Team member agency involved in an incident response and should be done within a reasonable time after the incident so details can be collected. The actual responders that were at the scene are typically involved in CTIRs. The incidents are then reviewed in detail, including timelines. Don will look into the past process for requesting a CTIR and what the timeframe should be after an incident based on best practices.

TIM Team – Quality Management/Future Direction:

Newsletter

Don Olson mentioned the TIM newsletter, inquired if all the members received the newsletter, and identified the topics included in the September Newsletter. Don asked if anyone had questions or wanted to be added to the mailing list. The newsletters and addendums can be found by clicking on 'Document Archives' at <http://www.swftim.org>. Newsletters are an opportunity for TIM Team member agencies to provide information about themselves, their respective discipline mission and role at an incident scene.

Incident Reviews:

There were no agency requested incidents to review.

Construction/Maintenance Update:

Weekly project information can be found on the FDOT website:

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

iROX – I-75 Road Expansion Project

The iROX project is two weeks away from the one year anniversary. The project is currently 100 days ahead of schedule. New lanes are being paved from Golden Glades to Immokalee. Four out of 24 bridges have been completed. Drainage work is in progress between Daniels and Colonial.

Additional information on the iROX project can be found on the project website, www.iROX75.com.

Scheduled 2008 Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

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