

Collier – Lee - Charlotte Traffic Incident Management Team

June 11, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Name Bud Gruber Rory Howe Richard Fimbel Michael McGee Tim McMullen Robbie Brown Jay Anderson Gene Rogers Dianne Flanagan Jordan McKnight Greg Suszek Agency Bald Eagle Towing Delcan Corporation DBI FDOT FDOT Stay Alive just Drive South Trail Fire Collier Sheriff National Park Sevice USFWS Florida Panther Name William Harris Guy Francese Bob Murphy Nolan Sapp Conner Cardwell Rich Lisenbee Gary Harrell Brian Raimondo Brandy Boccuti Charles Stratton Bob Diezi Kevin Fox

Agency Golden Gate FIre FHP Charlotte County Charlotte/Punta Gorda MPO Lee County MPO Metric Engineering, Inc. Metric Engineering, Inc. Road Ranger Alligator Towing FHP FDOT FDOT

<u>Call to Order</u>: The Collier-Lee-Charlotte TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 9:30 AM at SWIFT SunGuide Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33913. Rory Howe, and Charles Stratton facilitated the meeting.

The team was reminded that the new goal for the TIM meetings will be "practicing what we preach": the goal will be to keep meetings to 90 minutes!

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

Agency News:

Road Rangers

Mr. Bob Diezi informed the team that recently Road Ranger Truck 104 was struck by a motorist going about 65 mile per hour near Alligator Alley. The Road Ranger himself was seated in the back of the truck at the time. There was proper maintenance of traffic (MOT) set up at the scene at the time of the incident; but the motorist went through the cones that were set up. The Road Ranger was not seriously hurt. However, the motorist did sustain serious injuries.

Also, Mr. Diezi informed the team that Road Ranger Bob Green is receiving the employee of the month award. Mr. Green went above and beyond while out on route when he helped a stranded family that was broken down on the road; resulting in the family writing a letter of gratitude to the FDOT for Mr. Green and his help and professionalism in their time of need.

The 3rd Quarter Road Ranger Performance Measures Report was provided to the team. To view the report, please visit the TIM team website at: <u>http://www.swfltim.org</u>

Towing and Wrecker News

No Agency news.

Other Agency News

The Florida Highway of Patrol informed the team about the "Move Over - Slow Down - Save a Life" Campaign. During the month of June, law enforcement officers will work together to better educate the public about the law and the threat that ignoring it can pose to first responders.

The Florida Department of Transportation, D4 informed the team that there has been recent road closures because of smoke and fire events.

Additionally, they informed the team that a task work order has been issued for flip down signs that can be used with the smoke and fire incidents that will help guide the motorist with diversions in such events.

Mr. Bob Murphy, Project Manager at AECOM, presented to the team about the FDOT District 4 Smoke/Fog Task Force.

An overview of the topics that Mr. Murphy covered about the Smoke/Fog Task Force was:

- Fire/smoke closures
- Inter-District coordination
- Reduce crashes
- Maintenance of traffic maps
- Agency coordination and communications

The objective of the task force is:

- Motorists and responder safety
- Reduce crashes
- Improve inter-agency communications

To view the entire presentation, please visit the TIM team website at: http://www.swfltim.org

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Mr. Rory Howe spoke to the team about advanced warning at traffic incidents to help promote responder safety.

An incident scene should be considered a temporary work zone: an area of impact that must be secured and that must be balanced with the need to control traffic flow. Reducing the incident duration is also important because that will reduce the risk of secondary incidents. There are various traffic control devices available to incident responders. Guidelines for application, use, and placement can be found in Part 6 of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Some of the devices are used during the initial traffic control as a temporary measure; others are set up with longer term traffic control in mind. Whatever their intended duration, these traffic control devices help to secure the incident scene and provide protection for incident victim, responders, and the motorists passing by the incident.

- Traffic control components at an incident, same as in standard maintenance of traffic work zones, can be broken into four major areas:
- Advance warning area (advance warning signs, cones, flares, or emergency vehicles)
- Transition area (strategic use of tapers)
- Activity area (channelizing devices)
 - Buffer space (protected by energy absorption or attenuation devices or official vehicles)
 - Work or incident area (responders)
 - Termination area (strategic use of tapers)

Additionally, the video "Concepts of Advance Warning" that was produced by the

<u>Respondersafety.com</u>, was provided to the team to further educate on advanced warning. To view the video, please visit the TIM team website at: <u>http://www.swfltim.org</u>.

Mr. Charles Stratton informed the team about WAZE and FDOT data sharing partnership.

- Four Ways to Receive Updates on Traffic and Roadway Conditions via Florida 511
- Call 511 toll free for updates in English and Spanish
- Visit <u>http://www.fl511.com/</u> for interactive roadway maps showing traffic congestion and crashes, travel times and traffic camera views
- Download the free Florida 511 mobile app available on google play and ITunes
- Follow one of the 12 statewide, regional or roadway-specific feeds on twitter

The WAZE smart phone application is available for free.

- Available on iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch on ITunes, Google Play Market; or by visiting<u>https://www.waze.com/</u> from a smart phone
- WAZE Offers A Number of Hands-free Features, such as:
- Voice-guided turn-by-turn navigation
- Voice-activated user reporting of road hazards, construction, incidents, and congestion
- Voice commands to user-set "favorite places" like "home" or "office;" and automated verbal notification of upcoming incidents or conditions

Mr. Gene Rogers presented to the team the about best practices in communications. Communication needs to be accurate, clear communication. Responders need meet the quick clearance goals and improve safety for themselves and accident victims.

Verification involves collecting sufficient information on the nature of the incident including identifying:

- Type and level of incident
- Exact physical location
- Number of vehicles involved
- Lanes affected
- Injuries, entrapment
- Color and type of vehicles involved

To view the video, please visit the TIM team website at: <u>http://www.swfltim.org.</u>

Quarterly Performance Review:

The Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RICS) 3rd Quarter Report for District Once and the Incident Management Monthly Report is now available. The report is available on the TIM website at www.swfltim.org.

FDOT Construction Update

Mr. Charles Stratton requested that all TIM Team members make sure they are receiving the District One Weekly Road Watch Reports and to contact him if there were any concerns.

Active Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Completed Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Anticipated Future Construction:

No updated information was provided by the TIM Team.

Additional construction information is available on the FDOT Road Watch website located at <u>http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/construc/constmap/d1.shtm</u>. This resource is updated on a weekly basis.

Future Meetings:

The next Collier-Lee-Charlotte County TIM Team will be August 13, 2014 at 9:30AM at the SWIFT SunGuide Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33913.

As always, please continue to visit the TIM Team website for updates, and also help support our TIM Team by providing the TIM Team website to others that may be interested in joining our team! http://www.swfltim.org/

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the District One TIM Team Manager, Mr. Bill Fuller at (239) 225-9815 or via email at <u>william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us</u>.

