



Collier – Lee - Charlotte Traffic Incident Management Team

February 8, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Bud Gruber	Bald Eagle Towing	Scott Robbins	HNTB/FDOT
Chris Williams	FDOT	Gene Rogers	South Trail Fire
Rory Howe	Parsons	David Tarquino	S&T Towing of SW FLA, Inc.
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Mark Taylor	A Budget Towing
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Joseph Bowers	FHP
Brian Raimondo	Lee County MPO	Don Donakowski	Cape Coral PD
Casey Allo	Lee County	Billy Rippy	FHP
Richard Fimbel	DBI Services	Mark Roberts	FDOT
Bill Floyd	Lee Co. Emergency Mgt.	Kevin Salsbery	FDOT
Frank Gentilquore	Bald Eagle Towing	Chris Spears	G&C Auto Towing
Vincent Lee	FDOT RTMC/STMC	Alicia Harris	Lee Co. Emergency Mgt.
Albert Dunton	Superior Towing	Clint Meek	Jaimes Towing and Recovery
Deise Hannemann	FHP	Brian Angelson	South Trail Fire
Glenn Hedgecoth	FHP	Shari Hurst	HNTB D1 TMC
Dominic Konieczki	Lee Co. Sheriff's Office	Patrick McGowan	Lee Co. Port Auth. Police
Lee Mayfield	Lee County	Chris Oncken	Wanted Dead or Alive Towing
Ben Loeser	FDOT	Robert Ortiz	Road Rangers/Anchor Towing

Call to Order: The Collier-Lee-Charlotte TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 9:30 AM at SWIFT SunGuide Center, 10041 Daniels Parkway, Fort Myers, Florida 33913. Chris Williams, Charles Stratton and Rory Howe facilitated the meeting.

Introductions:

Team members introduced themselves and the agencies they represent.

Agency News:

Road Rangers

The team was informed that the Road Rangers are currently in the process of obtaining new identification badges. The Road Rangers will also be completing several training courses in the upcoming year, such as the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) training and a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) certifications.

Towing and Wrecker News

The team was informed that Frank Gentilquore, Bald Eagle Towing, was named the “2017 Towman of the Year”, for his dedication and support to the Towman’s causes for increased safety, professionalism and respect. Frank has been a true champion in both the towing industry and the Traffic Incident Management community. To learn more about the American Towman and current topics in the towing industry, please visit the following website: <http://towindustryweek.com/>

Bald Eagle Towing informed the team that the American Towman Magazine is sponsoring the “Spirit of America”, which involves a tow truck transporting a casket from Honolulu, Hawaii and ending in Baltimore, Maryland at the November 2017 American Towman Exposition. The event will need the help from several law enforcement and other agencies throughout the drive. More information will be provided to the team, when available.

Other Agency News

The Traffic Management Center (TMC) informed the team that they are almost at full staff.

The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) informed the team that their staffing resources are down at this time.

Additionally, to learn more about joining the FHP agency, please visit <http://beatrooper.com/>

The Greater Naples Fire Department informed the team that they have acquired the Ochopee Fire Department and assumed fire station # 63 since November 1, 2016. Since the station has been acquired, the Greater Naples Fire Department has doubled their response since before the November 1, 2016 date.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Rory Howe presented to the team about “Making the Connection between the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) training and Connected Vehicles.”

About the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) Research:

- Congress authorized the SHRP 2 in 2005 to investigate the underlying causes of highway crashes and congestion in a short-term program of focused research
 - Safety
 - Reliability
 - Renewal
 - Capacity

- The National TIM Responder Training Program is the first reliability product being rolled out under SHRP-2

Safety Research:

- Unprecedented data on driver behavior
- Naturalistic driving study
- Demographic backgrounds
- Physical, psychological and medical conditions

Renewal Research:

- Filled in the gaps in research and development (R&D)
- Alternative methods of providing DOTs more information to deliver projects faster and easier

- Simplify access to info on best practices.....
 - Performance measures
 - Utilities
 - Interaction with RR's
- Can speed up project delivery or address causes for delays

The US Department of Transportation advances deployment of connected vehicles to prevent hundreds of thousands of crashes.

- National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA):
 - 2015 = 35,092 deaths across the US.
 - 7.2% increase over 2014
 - 94% human choice or error

To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Charles Stratton informed the team about the 2017 National Work Zone Awareness Week which will take place April 3-7, 2017. National Work Zone Awareness Week is an annual spring campaign held at the start of construction season to encourage safe driving through highway work zones. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones.

Brandy Boccuti informed the team about the 2017 Lifesavers National Conference that will take place March 26-28-2017 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The theme for the 2017 conference is "Celebrating 35 Years of Delivering Solutions to Today's Critical Highway Safety Problems." Lifesavers is the premier U.S. highway safety meeting dedicated to reducing the tragic toll of deaths and injuries on our nation's roadways. Drawing over 2,000 participants in 2016, Lifesavers continues to be the "must attend" conference since its start in 1982. Each year, Lifesavers provides a forum for the presentation of proven countermeasures and initiatives that address today's critical highway safety problems.

To learn more about the event, please visit the following website: <http://lifesaversconference.org/>

Lee County Emergency Management presented to the team on the Southwest Florida Regional Evacuation Planning Effort. Below are some key points that were made during the presentation:

- Most difficult area of the county to evacuate by Atkins North America – 2012
- Labeled as a Special Hurricane Preparedness District by FDEM
 - High risk of storm surge inundation
 - Extremely high regional evacuation times
 - Limited roadway capacity
 - Limited sheltering capacity
 - Large mobile and manufactured home populations
 - Large elderly population

The Lee County, West Coast, and Broward County, East Coast, surge zones and evacuation times maps were compared. The map showed Lee County having a large disadvantage and being more prone to flooding and surges.

The following table is the population at risk from hurricanes by evacuation zone:

County	Up to Zone A	Up to Zone B	Up to Zone C	Up to Zone D	Up to Zone E
Lee	104,882	329,027	509,382	580,010	657,895
Collier	149,477	252,138	325,937	338,934	342,278
Charlotte	77,504	164,106	187,436	191,996	192,175
Manatee	45,583	74,362	108,656	179,470	278,548
Sarasota	22,776	76,104	219,136	317,406	348,403
Region 6 Coastal Counties	296,117	895,737	1,350,547**	1,607,816	1,819,299

Planning Timeline:

- November 2013 – Current
 - Planning meetings to address regional evacuation concept of operation and resource management gaps
 - Partners included:
 - ✓ Region 6 Emergency Management Programs
 - ✓ Local response partners (LE, Fire, Transportation, School Districts)
 - ✓ Additional state agencies (FDLE, FDOT, FDOH)
 - ✓ Region 7 counties
- Summer 2016 – Spring 2017
 - FY 2015 SHSGP funding for Hagerty Consulting to assist with planning efforts
- November 2016
 - Meetings with FDEM leadership and ESF Leads
 - ✓ Law Enforcement and Transportation
 - ✓ Logistics
 - ✓ Mass Care

Next Steps:

- Spring 2017
 - Regional Evacuation Guide
 - Regional Evacuation TTX (March 10th)
- Spring/Summer 2017
 - NMETS Beta Testing

Additionally, the possibility of having fuel trucks to help first responders during emergency evacuation events was discussed.

Also, the Florida Department of Transportation is analyzing hurricane evacuation strategies and looking at implementing a hard shoulder evacuation lane instead of contraflow.

Contraflow lanes utilize the lanes normally dedicated to the opposite direction of travel whereas hard shoulder running allows through traffic to travel on existing shoulders. In regards to the hard shoulder lanes, one of the shoulders will be designated for the traveling public and the other shoulder would be used for emergency responders.

Lastly, There will be a regional table-top exercise taking place in March 2017, in Lee County, which will include representatives from all 10 counties in the region. One of the breakout sessions that will be included in the meeting is transportation issues.

To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

The team reviewed the yearly (2016) Swift SunGuide report. To view the report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

The team reviewed the following recent major incidents as a lessons learned:

- 01/06/2017 - I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker 145
- 01/19/2017 - I-75 Southbound at I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker 70
- 01/20/2017 - I-75 Northbound at Mile Marker 90
- 01/29/2017 - I-75 Southbound at Mile Marker 63

To view the incident SWIFT SunGuide Event Chronology report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

FDOT Construction Update

Charles Stratton reminded the team that the District 1 Roadwatch construction report is available to all first responders. To view the weekly District 1 RoadWatch construction report, please visit the following website: <http://www.fdot.gov/info/D1/news/newsreleases/default.shtm>

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 <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/D1/news/newsreleases/default.shtm>.

Future Meetings:

The next Collier-Lee-Charlotte County TIM Team will be held on April 12, 2017 at 9:30 AM 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 Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 644.1898 or via email at cstratton@metriceng.com or Chris Williams, FDOT District 1 ITS Operations/ TIM TEAM Coordinator/ Road Ranger Program Project Manager at (239) 225.1915 or via email at Chris.Williams@dot.state.fl.us