



Collier – Lee - Charlotte Traffic Incident Management Team

June 8, 2016

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Bud Gruber	Bald Eagle Towing	Lakshmi Gurram	Charlotte Co. - Punta Gorda MPO
Chris Williams	FDOT	Vincent Lee	Lucent Group D1 TMC
Rory Howe	Parsons	Ray Mikol	HNTB
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Bob Diezi	Road Ranger
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Richard Fimbel	DBI Services
Brian Raimondo	Lee County MPO	Rich Lisenbee	Charlotte County
Robbie Brown	FDOT	Alexander Velez	DBI Services
Lina Cerquera	FDEP	Bill Floyd	Lee Co. Emergency Management
Jon Kulko	Cape Coral Police	Joe Saladino	Prompt Towing Service
Patrick McGowan	Lee Co. Port Authority	Dwayne Cooper	FHP
Carlos Najarro	Lee Co. Port Authority	Raul Corbo	Anchor Towing
Mathew Loebis	Risk Management	Daniel Lourdes	Anchor Towing & Marine Towing
Patrick O'Grady	Cape Coral Police	Jose Orama	San Carlos Park Fire & Rescue
Kevin Salsbery	FDOT	Dennis Petracca	Lee Co. Sheriff's Office
Benjamin Loeser	FDOT	Greg Coggins	Lee DOT
		Joseph Bowers	FHP
		Amy Perez	FDOT
		Heidi Hoffman	FDEP

Call to Order: The Collier-Lee-Charlotte TIM Team meeting was held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 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.

Additionally, Christopher (Chris) Williams was introduced as the new District 1 ITS Operations/TIM Team Coordinator/Road Ranger Program Project Manager. Mr. Williams brings with him a strong background and a wealth of knowledge in the service community, including experience as both a law enforcement officer and a firefighter. We look forward to Mr. Williams leadership and contribution with the District One TIM Teams.

Agency News:**Road Rangers**

The team spoke about how there have been several recent incidents involving Road Rangers. One of the recent incidents involved several vehicles on the Howard Frankland Bridge on May 26, 2016 which left a Road Ranger in critical condition. To view the news video that was provided to the team on the incident, please click on the following link: <http://www.fox13news.com/news/local-news/145344555-story>

Additionally, Bob Deizi informed the team about a Road Ranger that had recently saved a baby's life that was in a back seat of a car by performing CPR.

Towing and Wrecker News

The Towing Agency stated that they recently formed an advisory board with Tesla Motors to help in their manufacturing.

Other Agency News

DBI Services is currently preparing for the hurricane season. Additionally, they are in the process of training with first responders on items such as hurricane preparedness, one-way evacuation and cable barriers.

The TIM team members asked for any updates on the topic from the last TIM Team meeting that occurred in April 2016 in regards to their concern with guardrails that are being installed on a nearly 100-mile road project on Alligator Alley. The guardrails being installed are meant to keep drivers out of a deep canal in the Everglades. However, the new guard rail does not give enough room for broken down vehicles or emergency responders. Emergency responders use the grass or emergency lane to get to accidents, and claim that guardrails are going to make accidents worse and cause greater delays for the thousands who drive across the Everglades daily. Additionally, there is also a concern that cars that crash into the guardrail will be pushed back into moving traffic. The team was informed that the Department of Transportation was aware of the issue and there are no updates at this time. However, any updates will be provided to the team in the future.

Lee County Emergency Management informed the team that the recent tropical storm Colin was a good exercise for the agency. The storm only caused some flooding in certain areas but there were no major issues. Tropical storm Colin was the third named storm so far this year, and a busy hurricane season is anticipated.

The Florida Highway Patrol discussed with the team their concern with the Road Rangers availability during afternoon peak times around 5:30pm - 6:00pm. The Road Rangers may be in the process of working another call or heading back to the garage etc. However, the Road Ranger supervisor stated they would follow up with the Road Ranger staff and make sure the Road Rangers are efficient and available to the first responders.

The Cape Coral Police Department informed the team that they are trying to set up or create their own Road Ranger-type truck for their local county to help with accidents. They stated they will keep the team updated on the status.

The Lee County Port Authority updated the team on the Terminal Access Road Widening project, which consists of widening the Terminal Access Road to six lanes from Interstate 75 connector to Air Cargo Lane. It will include adding curbing, signage and markings, lighting, landscaping, permitting and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approvals. The agency stated that there will be only lane closures at night but nothing that would greatly affect the traveling public.

Update on TIM Initiatives:**National/State/Regional**

Rory Howe presented to the team Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). On July 6, 2012, President Obama signed into law P.L. 112-141, the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21). MAP-21 provides needed funds and represents a milestone for the U.S. economy:

- The first multi-year transportation authorization enacted since 2005
- Funds surface transportation programs at over \$105 billion for fiscal years (FY) 2013 and 2014
- Transforms the framework for investments to guide the growth and development of the country's vital transportation infrastructure.

Some example details that are included in MAP-21 are as follows:

FHWA's Performance Measures & Standards/Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)/DOT's – 4/12/2016

- Track Number of fatalities
- Rate of fatalities per VMT
- Number of serious crash injuries
- Rate of serious injuries per VMT
- Number of non-motorized fatal and serious injuries (Bicycles, etc.)

Push for Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to include the following:

- Emergency response
- Incident management
- Weather response
- Tolls
- Congestion management
- Carrying out support activities
- TIM Teams
- "The provision of support for maintaining relationships with all responders!"
- Self-assessments (FHWA Performance measures)
- 5.9 GHz Vehicle to Vehicle and Vehicle to Infrastructure within 3 years

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 National Stop on Red Week Campaign. The campaign will take place August 7-13, 2016.

- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for children age 4 and the second leading cause of death for children age 3 and 5-14.
- In 2013, more than 697 people were killed and an estimated 127,000 were injured in crashes that involved red-light running.
- Motorists in urban areas are more likely to be injured in crashes involving red-light running than in any other type of crash.
- Red-light runners are more than three times as likely as other drivers to have multiple speeding convictions on their driver records.

- More than 36 percent of drivers continue to run red-lights and take risks, despite the fact that 55 percent of the participants said it is a very serious threat and 73 percent acknowledged that running red-lights is unacceptable.

Charles Stratton informed the team about the 22nd Annual IACP Training Conference on Drugs, Alcohol, and Impaired Driving. Conference will take place August 13-15, 2016. The IACP Drug Recognition Expert Section (DRE) Section has hosted this annual training conference since 1994. This training conference provides certified drug recognition experts, physicians, toxicologists, prosecutors, and other traffic safety professionals with a forum in which to share information, best practices and lessons learned in law enforcement drug recognition settings. Though the technology and practices have changed and are constantly evolving, the conference provides consistent training, professional development, and a national forum for drug recognition experts and others with a professional interest on a broad array of new and emerging issues.

The annual training conference features a mix of plenary sessions and concurrent workshops that are designed to keep attendees up to date on the latest practice and science of drug recognition. This year, topics will include the traffic safety implications of ending marijuana prohibition, the use of Oral Fluid Testing for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, and improving Drug Recognition Experts (DRE) evaluation and report writing, among many others. Networking events enable conference attendees to meet new colleagues and establish a professional rapport that often extends well beyond the event. To learn more about the event, please visit the following website: <http://www.iacp.org/dreconference>

The April 2016 SWIFT SunGuide Reports was reviewed with the team. To view the full report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

Charles Stratton informed the team about the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Traffic Incident and Events Management Knowledge Management System (KMS) website.

The KMS is a national repository of traffic incident management (TIM) resources, good practices, lessons learned, and other tools that are relevant to TIM practices for all disciplines. FHWA believes that sharing information among TIM program planners and practitioners will yield stronger TIM programs at the local, regional, tribal and state levels. This will result in the safer and quicker clearance of incidents, as well as improve motorist and responder safety.

Practitioners will find useful resources on such topics as:

- Guidance and Policy
- Quick Clearance Legislation
- Training and Outreach
- Agreements
- After Action Reviews (AARs)
- Traffic Management Center (TMC) Operations
- TIM Committee Formation and Sustainability

FHWA will rely on TIM program managers, committee members, and practitioners, either independently or through the National TIM Network, to collect and provide additional good practices, lessons learned, and other tools that will aid jurisdictions to implement strong, sustainable TIM programs in their localities. FHWA encourages TIM practitioners to submit resources to the KMS as part of their regular TIM operations.

It is important to note that FHWA's goal is to capture formal good practices, such as TIM Guidelines, policy documents, and memorandums of understanding, as well as informal good

practices. Examples of informal good practices include: a success story realized from the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP-2) TIM Responder Training; how a local police department helped improve motorists' awareness of their state's Move Over law; or how a metropolitan planning organization contributed to the success and sustainability of a region's TIM program. To capture these informal good practices, as they might not already be documented, practitioners can use the simple Lessons Learned template.

Ease of Use - Visitors have several easy options to search the KMS, such as by industry topic, state, or keyword. Visitors can also view the "Most Popular" and "Recently Added" resources. In addition, registered users can submit their own resources for inclusion in several simple steps. The KMS also has various user-friendly and interactive features, such as the option for registered users to comment on a resource or rate its usefulness, email the resource to a friend, or ask a question. Questions will be answered by the KMS administrators. To learn more and to access the database, please visit the following website:

<http://kms.timnetwork.org/index.php>

Charles Stratton informed the team that the 2016 Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) has been released. The ERG is revised every four years, and is available free to public safety agencies in all states and territories through designated state coordinators' offices. The 2016 version of the ERG includes general revisions, expanded sections, and added guide pages for absorbed gases. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is distributing approximately 1.7 million free copies of the guidebook to firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and law enforcement officers nationwide.

PHMSA partnered with the [National Library of Medicine](#) to provide free Smartphone versions of the ERG which is also part of its "[Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders](#)" that will be available later this year. Printed copies of the 2016 ERG will be available for sale to the general public through the U.S. Government Printing Office Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>

Richard Fimbel, DBI Services, presented to the team on The "Other Side" of Implementing an Emergency One-Way Traffic Evacuation Plan. Mr. Fimbel covered two major components of Emergency One-Way Traffic Evacuation plans and why it is so important for all stakeholders to be actively involved with both sides of the evacuation equation.

The first component is the initial technical and logistical portion of developing a one-way plan. In this area, he discussed several of the Emergency One-Way Traffic Evacuation plan that Florida has developed, what the normal triggers are to initiate the plan, and what some of the potential challenges of setting up and operating the plan. This includes the significant amount of resources needed to implement a one-way plan, including the significant amount of manpower, which would need to be pulled from their standard operations to support a One-Way operation and the massive amount of equipment needed to properly and safely facilitate the plan.

The second major component or the "Other Side" of any Emergency One-Way Traffic Evacuation plan focuses on the human factor, the evacuees and the cities, counties and towns which will be receiving the evacuees. Most of these receiving / host cities, counties and towns may not be directly affected by the physical characteristics of the storm and if they are going to be brushed by the storm, and if they were, the effects would most likely occur at least 48 hours after they start receiving a massive influx of people. To view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swftim.org>

Rory Howe reviewed with the team a recent Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) crash as a "lessons learned". The incident occurred on 04/26/2016 at I-75 Southbound at Golden Gate

Parkway. The crash involved a semi-trailer which caught fire under the Bridge. RISC was activated. Additionally, the incident did involve a spill. Traffic was detoured at mile marker 105 and back on at the ramp.

To review the entire presentation along with the SWIFT SunGuide Event Chronology report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>.

FDOT Construction Update

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 <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 August 10, 2016 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