



Charlotte - Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

*June 10, 2008
Meeting Minutes*

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Robert Day	SC Emer. Management	Thom Scrivner	FDOT
Gene DeToma	AAA	Dale Stephenson	Holmes Beach Police Dept
Keith Drake	Sarasota/Manatee MPO	Ted Smith	Delcan Corp
Nestor Gonzalez	Anchor Towing/RR	Don Olson	FDOT
Bruce Hutcheson	DBi Services	Christina Florez	VANUS
Thomas Przybylowicz	FHP		

Call to Order: The Charlotte-Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, June 10, 2008 at 1:30 PM at the Sarasota County Public Works Office, 1001 Sarasota Center Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida. Ted Smith and Don Olson facilitated the meeting.

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

Update on T I M Initiatives:

Road Rangers

The statewide budget for the Road Ranger program has been cut in half. The FDOT is currently negotiating to see if additional funding is available through other channels. Another funding option for Road Ranger contractors is the use of advertising dollars. This option is now supported by FDOT. At this time, the existing Road Ranger contract in District 1 prohibits the use of advertisement on the Road Ranger vehicles. Unfortunately, many of the Road Ranger contractors are not prepared to solicit sponsors and don't expect to see advertising revenues.

One option FDOT is considering is migrating the program from a motorist assistance program to a 'Full Function' incident response program. This may help the perception that the Road Rangers are there to help respond to incidents reducing congestion and improving safety and that providing gas to stranded motorist is not their primary function.

The Department would like to change the image of the Road Ranger Service Patrol (RRSP) from Motorist assistance as a primary mission. The primary function of the RRSP is to respond to any incident that will impact traffic in order to provide safety alert to oncoming traffic, provide MOT to the incident scene, and clear the road of incidents. While RRSP does help distressed motorists, it is because this situation is defined as a traffic incident that can impact safety, cause on-looker delay, and motorist distraction ... which sometimes leads to secondary incidents.

In addition, one FDOT district is looking at implementing an “Insta-Tow” program that would call-out a tow truck prior to arrival of law enforcement and allow a service vehicle to clear the scene as long as there are no injuries. At this time, there are two similar programs that exist nationwide. The Turnpike is planning on implementing this innovative program. A program like this will need cooperation between law enforcement and tow personnel.

RISC

At this time, the RISC program in District 1 will only cover I-75 and I-275 only. Training is needed for Troopers who will be inspecting the vehicles prior to them being approved for use. Training is also needed to clarify what the criteria are for activating the RISC program.

Agency News:

Manatee Emergency Management is receiving bi-weekly updates regarding the US 301/I-75 closure. Weather permitting, they anticipate the completion of the clean-up to be completed by the end of July. The signal timing plans used were from a 2001 evacuation study. A new study should be completed by December 2008.

I-4 Contra Flow Drill was completed. District 7 timed how long it took the FDOT crews to prepare and stage. There is no resulting information released as of yet.

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 or www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/tims_0408.pdf.

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, and identified the topics included in the May 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 TIM Team member. These binders are a useful resource to help share the TIM Team initiatives, prepare for agency staff meeting briefs and organizing TIM Team publications. 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 or as requested.

Additional Topics

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.

Incident Review:

There was an I-75 rollover incident at MM224 which caused the closure of US 301 and SB I-75. The incident was more of a traffic incident than a fire incident. There was a massive response from all personnel; there were three to four law enforcement personnel at all major intersections to assist in diverting traffic. From all indications the process went as smoothly as possible. More details from the after incident review will be forth-coming.

Construction/Maintenance Update:

Weekly project information can be found on the FDOT website:

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

Scheduled 2008 Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, August 12, 2008
Tuesday, October 14, 2008
Tuesday, December 9, 2008

Attachments:

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