



Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

*August 10, 2010
Meeting Minutes*

Attendees:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Agency</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Agency</u> |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Gene DeToma | AAA | Phil Catalano | FDOT |
| Chanyoung Lee | CUTR/USF | Thom Scrivner | FDOT |
| Bruce Hutcheson | DBI Services | Scott Meabon | North River Fire District |
| Richard Schuldt | DBI Services | Bob Agrusa | Manatee Co. Public Works |
| Ted Smith | Delcan Corp | Mike Kenyan | Manatee SO |
| Jeff Tobergate | FDEP | Brandy Boccuti | Metric Engineering, Inc. |
| Bill Fuller | FDOT | Charles Stratton | Metric Engineering, Inc. |
| Chris Birosak | FDOT | Shawna Slate | Metric Engineering, Inc. |
| John Baumann | FDOT | Bob Diezi | Road Rangers - Dist. 1 |
| LK Namdam | FDOT | Jim Quinn | Sarasota SO |

Call to Order: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010 at 1:30 PM at Sarasota County Public Works, Sarasota, Florida 34240. Charles Stratton, Bill Fuller and Ted Smith facilitated the meeting.

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

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Newsletter

Charles encouraged all attendees to verify and update, if necessary, all of the contact information on the sign-in sheet in order to ensure that all attendees will receive the newsletters or any TIM related email news.

SWIFT SunGuide Center

The SWIFT SunGuide Center has been operational 24-hours per day since January 19, 2010. The Center is able to provide incident management through cameras and detectors located throughout Collier and Lee Counties. Sarasota and Manatee Counties are not fully instrumented with ITS equipment yet, but the Center is able to provide response in those areas through a variety of contacts and shareholders in those areas. Charlotte County ITS equipment is currently being installed, and the contractor anticipates an operational system by the end of the year.

The District has started on the development of the Design-Build Criteria Package for the ITS system in Sarasota and Manatee Counties. The District anticipates letting the project in September 2011, with a two-year construction timetable. The completion of these two counties would provide District One with ITS devices on I-75 from the northern district limits in Manatee County through to the southern district limits in Collier County.

Road Rangers

Bob Diezi briefly reviewed the District 1 Road Ranger response statistics for the month of July through August 10, 2010. Those statistics include a total of 2,637 assists including 125 maintenance of traffic assists to other agency responders, 596 responses in Manatee County, 339 responses in Sarasota County, 113 responses in the Sarasota/Port Charlotte overlap area, and Charlotte, Lee, and Collier Counties had 1,589 collective responses. Also during this timeframe, a total of four fatalities occurred.

There is larger concern in the area currently under construction from River Road to SR 681. The posted speed through the construction zone is 70 mph, and no break-down lanes exist. A small 2-foot grassy strip was added, but responders are having difficulty with motorists knocking down MOT, and the Ranger vehicles getting stuck in the mud. The contractor's previous two attempts to have the limit lowered was unsuccessful. *This item of concern has been noted under the Action Items list.*

The Road Ranger schedule through the upcoming holiday season is being developed. Christmas falls on Saturday, and New Year's Eve fall on Friday this year. Bill Fuller has communicated with FHP in the southern area of the District to determine their needs. Expanded coverage may be provided, but it isn't felt that the level of Road Ranger service that was provided in 2009 will be necessary for 2010.

Towing and Wrecker News

AAA reports there will be a new contract issued next month rotation of their service wreckers. In answering another Team member question, the representative explained that all towing companies registered on their contract are required to complete a response vehicle inspection and driver background checks in conjunction with FHP, FDOT, and AAA.

Training

The TIM Team watched the fifth and final module of the video *TIMe4*. Additionally, copies of the video are being made available to any agency interested. To obtain a copy, interested parties can contact Bill Fuller via email at William.Fuller@dot.state.fl.us.

Other National, State, and Regional Items to Note:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has contracted two consultant firms to develop lobbying and marketing strategies for state legislators and leadership positions around the United States regarding the three laws determined to be conducive to safe, quick clearance. The three laws include the "Move-It" law, "Move-Over" law (only 31 states currently have a similar law), and an authoritative statute that gives law enforcement, transportation, or traffic incident responders legal authority to expeditiously remove vehicles and debris out of roadways while being exempted from liability. Additionally, lobbying efforts for full-service service patrol program (similar to Florida's Road Rangers) funding. State legislatures are viewing service patrol programs as strictly minor motorist assistance, and not crucial for the spending of public funds. The developed lobbying activities will highlight the incident management responsibilities of the patrols, and ensure all legislative representatives have an understanding of the value of initiatives.

The National Unified Goals (NUG) Summit will convene in Baltimore in September. Traffic Incident Management responders from all over the national will be in attendance. Further information can be found on the National Traffic Incident Management Coalition website located at <http://timcoalition.org>.

Many programs nationally and locally are developing guidelines and handbooks for traffic incident management. The Federal Highway Administration has developed a field guide, and the State of Georgia is in the process of developing theirs. FDOT District Four has just recently developed an incident management handbook that's got some good items in it.

A Birmingham, Alabama Traffic Management Center recently had vandals cut the cable duct and penetrate their fiber optic cable for their system. This particular vandal is believed to be a copycat stemming from other incidents of hacking at TMCs around the country. It is believed that there is a communication channel out there that is telling people how to do this.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is continuing to work with Toyota on the investigation of the crashes related to the recent recalls for brake system problems. Toyota is contending that some of their data validates their claim that 23 of the investigated crashes involved operator error by the operator mistakenly applying the accelerator rather than the brakes. This information is contrary to what has been promoted by NHTSA regarding the interlock system and the "fly-by-wire" system, and that this is an electronic problem. To complicate the situation, there is evidence surfacing that the electronic vehicle controls are vulnerable to manipulation wirelessly by hackers.

The Governor of Pennsylvania is looking to promote camera use to detect uninsured motorists. The insurance and registration databases in Pennsylvania are sophisticated enough that they can match a tag number to a name and thereby determine people driving without insurance.

Using ACN, Automatic Crash Notification, similar to OnStar data can be received from a vehicle that has been involved in a crash. This data can be captured by a 911 operator or a dispatch operator from fire rescue, law enforcement, and EMS. The data can be given immediately to responders, such as the speed of the vehicle at the time of the crash, how many people were in the vehicle, whether seat belts were being worn, and the G forces involved in the crash. By providing the available data to responders, they are able to "pre-triage" response. They are able to determine which vehicles are likely to have the worst injuries, and emergency practitioners will be able to have a more rapid response in getting trauma surgeons to the operating theater.

Review of Recent Major Incidents

No major incidents were discussed.

TIM Self Assessment for 2010

Participation in the 2010 Self Assessment was greatly appreciated. The Team received a score of 59.8 in 2010, slightly below the 2009 score of 63.8. The areas identified for improvement are: Develop multi-agency agreements; utilizing traffic control procedures for the end of incident traffic queue; and establish training goals.

These top-three goals will be addressed in further detail in all future Team meetings. Additionally, the current queue protection standard operating procedures developed by Manatee

and Sarasota County Sheriff's Offices that involves the use of Community Service Officers will be forwarded to Bill Fuller for review. *This item has been noted under the Action Items list.*

Presentation

Mr. Bill Fuller of the Florida Department of Transportation provided a short presentation regarding the *SWIFT SunGuide Facility Hurricane and Severe Weather Plan*. Presentation materials will be made available on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swfltim.org>.

Mr. Ted Smith of Delcan Corporation provided a short presentation regarding *Specialty Towing and Roadside Repair*. Presentation materials will be available on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swfltim.org>.

Strategic Direction for TIM Teams 2010

No new information was discussed.

FDOT Construction Update

Active Construction:

- I-75 from North of River Road to North of SR 681

Completed Construction:

- I-75 from University Pkwy to SR 70 Milling and Resurfacing Project.

Anticipated Future Construction:

- A roadway widening project is anticipated to start in 2011 from River Road South to Sumter (MP 182). Further updates to be provided.

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

Open Forum

Mr. Scott Meabon with North River Fire District shared a very minor presentation regarding magnetic LED chevrons his agency is looking at purchasing.

Action Items for Future Meetings

1. TIM Team Members will provide Bill Fuller with the end of traffic queue standard operating procedures that involves the use of Community Service Officers. The Team will review and analyze this procedure. *(Ball in court: TIM Team Members)*
2. Evaluate the 70 mph speed limit on I-75 through the construction from North of River Road to North of SR 861. *(Ball in court: FDOT/CB)*
3. Christ Biorak will contact the Regional Traffic Management Center in District 5 regarding the I-4 backup near US 192 on July 31, 2010, for additional information. *(Ball in court: FDOT/CB)*

Future Meetings

The next Sarasota-Manatee County TIM Team will be October 12, 2010 at 1:30pm at the Manatee County Traffic Management Center, Public Safety Building, 2101 47th Terrace East, Bradenton, Florida.

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 William.fuller@dot.state.fl.us.

Action Items Schedule - ITS GEC - District 1
SARASOTA-MANATEE
(FDOT)-Florida Department of Transportation (MEI)-Metric

| ITEM No. | ELEMENT | DESCRIPTION | TO | Date | Status | Ball in Court | Date Completed |
|----------|---------------|--|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | | Reviewer(s) | Assigned | Pending/Complete | (BIC) | |
| 1 | SOP | TIM Team members to bring SOP they use for the end of traffic incident's queue (Community Service Patrol used by some agencies) | TIM Team Members | 08/10/10 | Pending | TIM Team Members | |
| 2 | Safety | Some team members feel like the 70 mph speed limit in the construction area on I-75 from North River Road to SR 681 is too high. | FDOT (CB) | 08/10/10 | Pending | FDOT (CB) | |
| 3 | Communication | TIM Team member requested additional information on the I-4 back up on the 31 st of July, at the I92 interchange. DMS did not indicate that there was an incident or a delay. | FDOT (CB) | 08/10/10 | Pending | FDOT (CB) | |
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D-1 ROAD RANGER COVERAGE SCHEDULE fy 09-10

| Truck # Mile Marker | Polk | Collier | Lee | Charlotte | Sarasota | Manatee | LEGEND | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| | 101 & 102 25 - 58 | 103 & 104 49 - 105 | 106 & 107 105 - 136 | 108 & 109 136 - 171 | 110 & 111 171 - 214 | 112 & 113 214 - 234 | | | |
| Monday | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 16 hours | 5 A.M. | 9 P.M. |
| | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 16 hours | 6 A.M. | 10 P.M. |
| Tuesday | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 hours | 6 A.M. | 6 P.M. |
| | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 hours | 7 A.M. | 7 P.M. |
| Wed | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | Weekend Hours | | |
| | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 Hours | 9 A.M. | 9 P.M. |
| Thurs | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 8 Hours | 12 P.M. | 8 P.M. |
| | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | | | |
| Friday | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | | | |
| | 12 | 16 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | | | |
| Saturday | 12 | 8 | | | | 8 | | | |
| | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | | | |
| Sunday | 12 | 8 | | | | 8 | | | |
| | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | | | |

Second truck