



Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

December 8, 2009

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
John Brown	City of North Port	Richard Dickerson	Longboat Key
Bruce Hutcheson	DBI Services	Shawna Slate	Metric Engineering, Inc.
Ted Smith	Delcan Corp	Andy Nunez	Metric Engineering, Inc.
Chris Birosak	FDOT	Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering, Inc.
Thom Scrivner	FDOT	Scott Meabon	North River Fire District
Jeff Tobergte	FDEP	Keith Drake	Sarasota/Manatee MPO
Thomas Przybylowicz	FHP	John Gibbons	SWFRPC

Call to Order: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009 at 1:30 PM at the Sarasota County Public Works Office, 1001 Sarasota Center Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida. Charles Stratton and Ted Smith facilitated the meeting.

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

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Newsletter

No Newsletter feedback provided.

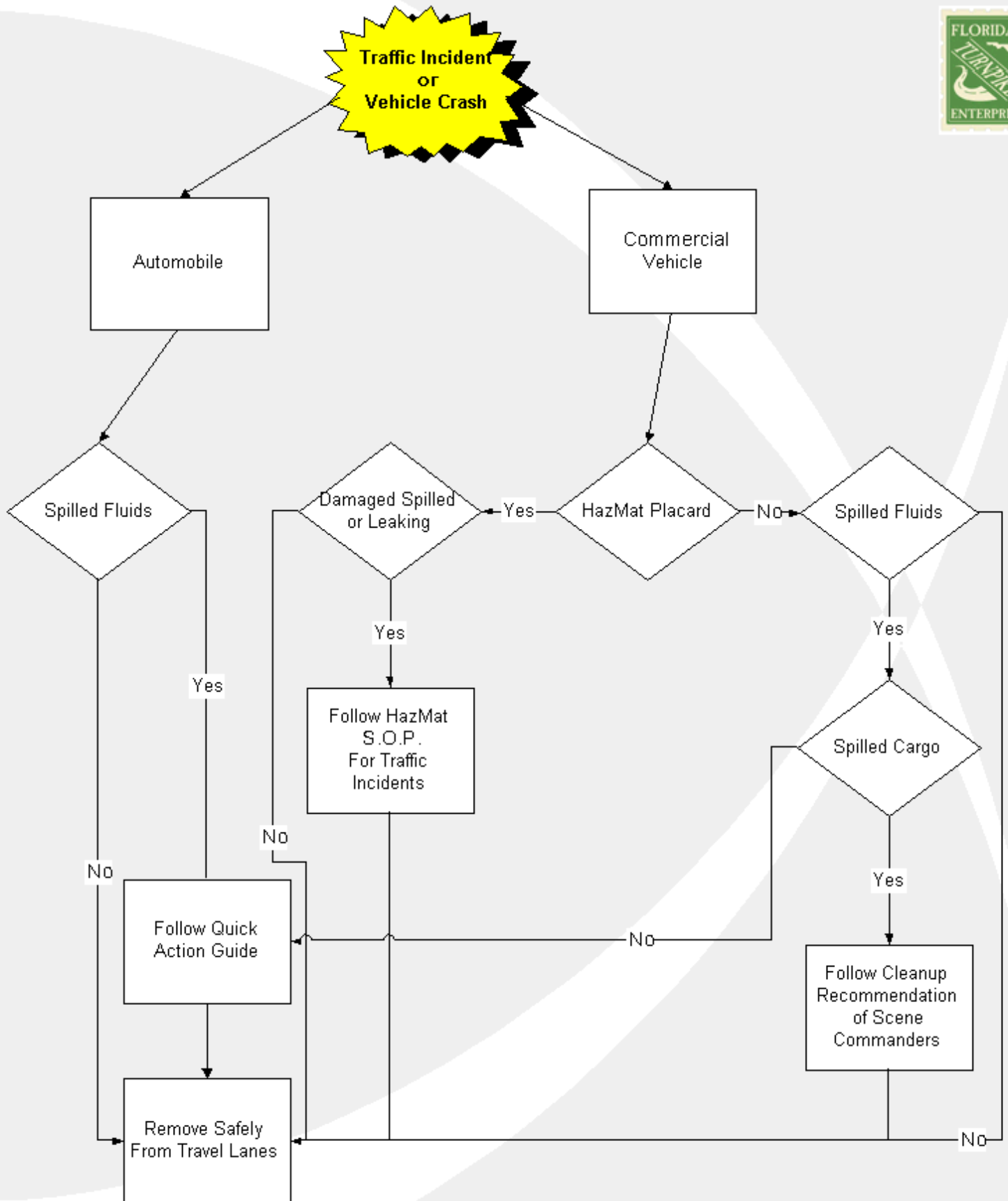
511 Next Generation

The next generation of 511 technology was deployed in July 2009. Charles and Ted encouraged the TIM Team to participate in 511 notifications and to pass it along to others who may benefit from the service. Chris emphasized that notifications will be passed along to users via text or email each time the 511 system is updated. There were no updates from 511 Operations.

SWIFT SunGuide Center

The SWIFT SunGuide Center, a regional transportation management center, will become operational in mid-January 2010, housing many of the essential emergency management personnel across several entities. Many of the operators will be participating in a rigorous training.

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise Vehicle Spill Decision Flowchart



Road Rangers

The Road Rangers are preparing for the upcoming holiday season, including the extended hours of operation.

Towing and Wrecker News

Ted mentioned the upcoming towing equipment expo and convention in Tampa. More information will be forthcoming.

Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC)

A new goal has been set for February 1, 2010 in concert with the SWIFT SunGuide Center operations plan. Ted briefly reviewed the RISC program, and emphasized that additional information is available on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swfltim.org>.

Ted stressed that training for Florida Highway Patrol personnel will be forthcoming. At this time, RISC is only applicable to the limited-access Interstate facilities, and can only be initiated by FHP. Additionally, pursuant to an FHP Operation Memorandum of Understanding, municipal law enforcement can request FHP dispatch a rotation wrecker for smaller “quick-tow” instances. This can be done prior to the arrival of a Trooper This Memorandum of Understanding located on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swfltim.org>.

Training

The TIM Team watched the second module of the video *TIMe4 Safety*, and the team will continue to view one module per TIM meeting.

Ted followed up after the presentation, to emphasize the importance of utilizing the traffic control resources available and upgrading the safety measures that have been deployed every fifteen minutes when on-scene.

Other National, State, and Regional Items to Note:

Las Vegas is initiating a new program whereby consultants will man “Incident Response Trucks” on behalf of the Department of Transportation.

Toronto has shown interest in adopting a program similar to Florida’s RISC program. They have been experiencing problems on their toll facilities incurring road closures longer than 6 hours.

The State of Tennessee has expanded their incident management programs to now include service patrols in each of their four major cities. They are also looking into an IRT program for rural roadways. All Tennessee programs are run without the assistance of contractors.

Georgia is in the second year of a program similar to RISC called TRIP in the metropolitan Atlanta area. The Atlanta area has seen a dramatic decline in the average incident clearance time from 259 minutes to 93 minutes. Funding for the incentives is coming through Federal grant funds through CMAC (air quality funding). Although the state lacks the funding to initiate the incentive statewide, Georgia is looking to increase the wrecker specifications, training requirements, and response requirements statewide to match those of the TRIP program.

In the Orlando area, an incident occurred where the quick-thinking of a Road Ranger was able to help prevent the death of a tow operator. The tow operator had been dispatched to clear a disabled bus, and somehow became crushed between the curb and bus. The Road Ranger was able to use a jack to move the bus laterally and remove the operator from danger.

Florida's Turnpike Enterprise is looking into developing a new strategy to reduce secondary incidents. They are training and developing an outreach program with their Road Rangers for advanced warning for traffic incidents for que protection. The outreach includes training for the fire rescue personnel in the utilization of traffic control equipment.

National objectives for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) state that each fire truck has five cones on it and training their personnel on how to use them. Other new NFPA regulations call for the marking of red or yellow reflective material on the rear of all fire equipment. North Carolina DOT was able to obtain a Federal grant to assist in defraying the costs associated with these new NFPA regulations.

Review of Recent Major Incidents

There were no recent major incidents to be reviewed. Charles stated that more emphasis will be placed on the review of incidents in the upcoming meetings, especially for the February meeting. Ted emphasized the learning and training values of reviewing major incidents.

Presentation

Mr. John Gibbons of the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council provided a presentation regarding *Regional Hazardous Materials Program*. Presentation materials will be available on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swftim.org>.

Mr. Jeff Roberts of Sarasota County provided a presentation regarding the *Bureau of Emergency Response*. Presentation materials will be available on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swftim.org>.

Strategic Direction for TIM Teams 2010

As a part of the TIM in '10 Initiative, the North Florida TPO has partnered with law enforcement, fire rescue, transportation and towing entities in north Florida to jointly develop a module-based training DVD and handbook named *TIME4 Safety*. This training contains five modules, approximately five to ten minutes in length. Topics include Traffic Control, Scene Safety, and Incident Management. The TIM in '10 Initiative goal is to have every responder go through this video and text-book training.

Additionally in 2010, more interaction between Team members is desired. This can be achieved by utilizing the many resources available on the TIM Team website located at <http://www.swftim.org>.

FDOT Construction Update

Active Construction:

- I-275 Bridge Deck Replacement – Anticipated Completion: December 2009
- I-75 from Mendoza Road to Kay Road – Anticipated Completion: January 2010

Completed Construction:

- No Completed Construction projects were discussed.

Anticipated Future Construction:

- I-75 Milling and Resurfacing from SR 70 to University – Anticipated Construction: January through July 2010

Additional construction information is available on the FDOT website located at <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/construc/constmap/d1.shtm>.

Open Forum

A Team member stressed a concern regarding a guardrail installation project that is currently on-going in Sarasota County. The installation of this guardrail is inhibiting the ability for responders, especially fire trucks, to safely u-turn without going an additional ten miles to the next location.

Jeff Roberts, the project manager for the Sarasota County ATMS project has requested a stakeholders contact list for project coordination. This will be provided.

A Team member asked about the posting of informational signs at rest areas regarding Florida's Move Over Law. These informational are posted within the District One rest areas to explain the law. Ted stressed that "defensive positioning" be training topic at each responding agency. Additionally, Ted stressed that responders should make every attempt to not ever turn their back to on-coming traffic.

Future Meetings

The next Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting will be in February 2010, and will be held at the Sarasota County Public Works Office, 1001 Sarasota Center Boulevard, Sarasota, Florida. Reminder newsletters will be published in mid-January 2010.