



## Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

October 9th, 2012

Meeting Minutes

### Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Shane Hayes	Atkins/FDOT Asst.	Keith Drake	Manatee/Sarasota MPO
Richard Fimbel	DBI Services	Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering
Ben Ybarra	DBI Services	Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering
Gary Millsaps	Delcan	Bob Diezi	Road Rangers - Dist. 1
Kevin Salsbery	FDOT	Jerry Palmer	SQG Sarasota County
Bill Fuller	FDOT	Jim Quinn	Sarasota Sherriff's Office
		Donald Olson	Student ITS

**Call to Order:** The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, October 9th, 2012 at 1:30 PM at Sarasota County Public Works, Sarasota, Florida 34240. Bill Fuller, Gary Millsaps, and Charles Stratton facilitated the meeting.

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

### **Agency News:**

#### Road Rangers

Mr. Bob Diezi, Road Ranger in District One, briefly reviewed the District One Road Ranger response statistics. Please see below the breakdown of incidents/activities for the month of September and the third quarter (July, August, and September).

DISTRICT ONE ROAD RANGER RESPONSE STATISTICS		
TYPE OF SERVICE	SEPTEMBER 2012	THIRD QUARTER
TIRE	335	1,618
MOT	542	4,527
FUEL	205	627
WATER	78	2155
PUSH	3	41
MECHANICAL	104	29
AGENCY ASSIST.	28	1,222
RED TAG	N/A	1,810

DISTRICT ONE ROAD RANGER RESPONSE STATISTICS		
TYPE OF SERVICE	SEPTEMBER 2012	THIRD QUARTER
CRASHES	488	600
DISABLED	1,623	276
ABANDONED	213	17
DEBRIS	659	308
VEHICLE FIRE	14	112
OTHER	38	517
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,330</b>	<b>13,859</b>

Mr. Bill Fuller informed the team that the Road Ranger contract was re-awarded to Anchor Towing. He also informed the team that the Road Rangers will be receiving new trucks with the new contract.

Mr. Bill Fuller informed the team that the Road Ranger schedule is available to anyone upon request. To request the schedule, please contact Mr. Fuller at (239) 225-9815 or via email at [william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us)

#### Towing and Wrecker News

No agency news.

#### Other Agency News

The Lee County Emergency Operations Center is currently in the process of moving into their new business building, and is anticipating to be completely moved in by late December.

#### **Update on TIM Initiatives:**

##### National/State/Regional

Mr. Gary Millsaps presented on the Ten Cones of Highway Safety. The Ten Cones of Highway Safety are as follows:

1. There is No Substitute for Training
  - The core of everything we do
  - Listen, learn, do
  - Gather experience, become experienced
2. Multi Agency Coordination and Communication are a Must
  - Incident viewed as: Orderly flow disrupted, treat the injured, restore order
  - Orchestration and Communication are critical
  - Unified Incident Command is Essential
  - Jointly developed SOP's
  - Ongoing Communication, Review, and Refinement are Indispensable
  - Coordination and Communication are a must
3. Limit Your Exposure, Limit Your Time
  - The more equipment and personnel, the more exposure
  - Make sure there is enough equipment and personnel, but keep to a necessary minimum
  - The risk is greater the longer you stay on-scene
4. Give Traffic Plenty of Warning
  - In a perfect world, all traffic could be diverted
  - Managing traffic would be easy if there were no vehicles

- In the real world, delays cause stress, everybody's in a hurry, and tempers are short
  - Five years ago, "Road Rage" was never known
  - Advance warning can help
  - Arrow boards, flares, cones, police cars, and detour routes
  - Message Signs have been effective
  - Use whatever means necessary to give traffic plenty of warning
5. Protect the Scene with Apparatus
    - Can provide a protective shield
    - Better to lose equipment than personnel
    - Properly positioned, the apparatus can provide tons of fortification around the incident
    - Always arrange apparatus assuming it will be struck
    - Park apparatus at an angle with front wheels turned
    - Help create a safer zone of response and protect the scene with apparatus
  6. Always Work Away from the Traffic
    - Stay out of traffic
    - Often the focus is on others and we forget to safeguard ourselves
    - Move away from the traffic area, don't be a target
    - Watch traffic flow before getting out of your vehicle
    - You're of no help if you become a victim
  7. Be Prepared to Shut Down the Roadway
    - Not always popular, but must be an option
    - Closing the roadway clearly eliminates the chance of a secondary incident
    - Can have negative effects:
      - Diverting traffic to other areas that may already too congested
      - Taking vehicles from highways to residential areas or past schools, hospitals, etc.
      - Anticipate the possibilities and be prepared to shut down the roadway
  8. Be Seen and Not Hurt
    - Old presumption: "The more lights the better"
    - Lights can be blinding to safe drivers, and a deadly attraction to those impaired by alcohol or drugs
    - Lights draw attention to the apparatus but obscure the emergency personnel
    - Reduce the amount of emergency lights with greater emphasis on traffic controls
    - Provide illumination to the scene
    - Police vehicles tend to slow down traffic
  9. Dress for the Occasion
    - Have proper reflective gear
    - Turnouts and EMS garments may not be enough
    - Wear the reflective gear
    - Appreciate the Safety Officer who makes you wear them - he's just trying to keep you alive
  10. Accountability Matters
    - It's all about responsibility
    - Take the safety of the entire organization seriously
    - When on the highway:
      - Take care of yourself
      - Look out for others
      - Keep your eyes open
      - Don't do anything dangerous
      - Consider assigning one person as a Safety Officer to monitor every highway traffic scene

Mr. Bill Fuller informed the team about a texting and driving campaign that AT&T has launched. AT&T created several programs designed to both educate and help prevent texting while driving. Today, the company launched a free, online virtual simulator where users may enter their phone number and begin virtually driving using their mouse and keyboard. While "driving," the user's actual phone will receive a text prompting them to respond. The goal of the simulator is to show that even a quick glance down to review the message or a quick response can cause your virtual car to crash, similar to what might happen when one reviews a message or text while actually driving. AT&T is also sending an in-vehicle simulator around the country to college campuses to provide a more realistic experience where users can get behind the wheel of an actual car equipped with a demonstration similar to the online virtual simulator.

Mr. Bill Fuller informed the team about Transpo 2012. The event is ITS Florida's bi-annual gathering of consultants, vendors, and government officials. This year, it includes a half day of presentations aimed at traffic incident management, which includes experts discussing the issues that responders encounter every day. Responders can attend the Tuesday, October 30th sessions and visit the Exhibit Hall for only \$25. To take advantage of the discount, responders must contact Lauren with CMC Associates at 850-224-7775 for registration prior to the event. For more information please visit: <http://www.itstranspo.org/>.

Mr. Bill Fuller and Mr. Gary Millsaps updated the team about the Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2). As a reminder, the program was created by Congress to address the challenges of moving people and goods efficiently and safely on the nation's highways. This short-term research program addresses four strategic focus areas:

- **Safety** - The role of human behavior in highway safety
- **Renewal** - More efficient highway project delivery
- **Reliability** - Congestion reduction through improved travel time
- **Capacity** - Improved integration of community, economic, and environmental considerations for new highway capacity

SHRP 2 has developed a new multi-agency national TIM training program named National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training. The final pilot course will be conducted in September in Knoxville TN. After this, the training course will be handed over to FHWA for full implementation. This multi-agency training equips responders with a common set of core competencies and assists them in achieving the TIM National Unified Goal (NUG) of strengthening TIM programs in the areas of:

- Responder safety
- Safe, quick clearance
- Prompt, reliable, interoperable communications

Mr. Fuller and Mr. Millsaps explained to the team that in late January they will be putting together a SHRP 2 training class. The two day module will be presented into a four hour, one day class. It was further explained that they are looking to find volunteers from different agency backgrounds who can be trained to become trainers in their area of expertise.

For more information, contact Paul Jodoin, Transportation Specialist, 202-366-0731 / [www.ops.fhwa.gov/eto](http://www.ops.fhwa.gov/eto); or Bill Fuller at (239) 225-9815 / [william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us).

Mr. Bill Fuller reviewed recent major incidents with the team.

The major incident occurred on 09/18/12 at I-75 Northbound at Exit 200/SR 681 in Sarasota County.

- Gravel truck lost control and went on to its side; spilling 20 tons of crushed stone
- Duration: 263 minutes
- First Notified: 06:09:40
- RISC Completion Time: 08:29:00

### **Strategic Direction for TIM Teams 2011-2012**

Mr. Charles Stratton and Mr. Bill Fuller spoke to the team about the Local Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The multi-agency TIM Team has taken the initiative to establish a series of Agency Memorandums of Agreements or MOUs. The incident response agencies have the responsibility to do whatever is reasonable to enhance the safety of our transportation system. This is a team effort to reduce the risk to all incident responders, secondary crashes, and delays associated with incidents, crashes, roadway maintenance, construction, and law enforcement activities.

The draft “Local” TIM MOU has been distributed for review to each participating agency. The MOU includes the following:

1. Identify local Agencies that will support the TIM program and sign the agreement
2. A local Open Roads Policy that will establish time goals for roadway and incident scene clearance times
  - Identify how the data will be collected, analyzed and reported to the TIM Team
  - Identify how often the reports will be reviewed to determine whether progress is made in achieving the established time goals
3. Define Incident scene roles and responsibilities for each participating agency
4. Establish a local incident scene Lighting Policy
5. Establish a local incident Communication Policy or a commitment from each participating agency to notify FDOT’s SWIFT SunGuide Center
6. Define how often this document will be updated

Mr. Fuller explained that the MOU is intended to provide the framework and guidelines to promote a collaborative effort by and between the TIM Team Agency Members within Collier, Lee, Charlotte, Sarasota, Manatee, and Polk Counties, to further refine and promote the TIM program within FDOT District One. Parties to this Document recognize and understand the importance of data and resource-sharing and public safety through efficient and timely use of TIM. However, the associated MOU’s do not obligate the TIM Team Agency Members, or the TIM Team Agency Member representatives to commit or donate funds, equipment or personnel to the association’s activities or initiatives. The TIM Team Agency Members do, however, commit to participating in collaborative efforts intended to advance the interest of the TIM program for the benefit of public safety.

Mr. Fuller updated the team informing them that there were some minor revisions to the MOU and is currently being reviewed by legal.

### **FDOT Construction Update**

Mr. Bill Fuller 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/construc/constmap/d1.shtm>. This resource is updated on a weekly basis.

**Future Meetings**

The next Sarasota-Manatee County TIM Team will be December 11th, 2012 at 1:30pm at the Sarasota County Public Works, 1001 Sarasota Center Blvd., Sarasota, Florida, 34240.

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.swftim.org/>

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](mailto:william.fuller@dot.state.fl.us).