



Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

*April 13, 2021
Meeting Minutes*

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering	Sam Campbell	TMC
Tom Arsenault	Metric Engineering	Shari Hurst	D1 Satellite TMC/HNTB
Justin Merritt	FDOT	Rene Kelly	D1 Satellite TMC
Robbie Brown	FDOT	Ray Mikol	TMC/HNTB
Kevin Salsbery	FDOT	Michael Swanson	Professional Towing Services
Mike Bloski	Manatee County Hazmat	Raul Corbo	Road Ranger
Shauna Griffin	FDOT	William Hall	East Manatee Fire Rescue
Trevor Wavelet	FDEP	Mike Swanson	Professional Towing
Daniel Middleton	FHP	Luis Hernanadez	D1 SWIFT SunGuide/HNTB
Phillip Waller	Bradenton PD	Steve Corbin	AutoBase
Joseph Kelly	Bradenton Police Dept.	Ryan Brown	MPO
Sean Bailey	DBI Services	Patricia Kirby	FDOT
		Steve Litschauer	Manatee Co. Emergency Mgt.
		David Burnside	Transcore
		Mary Jo Dungee	DBI Services
		Angie Gaston	DBI Services
		Scott Ellis	FDOT

Call to Order: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held virtually on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 1:30 PM via GoTo Meeting. Tom Arsenault and Brandy Boccuti facilitated the meeting.

Introductions: The team members provided their name and agency in the chat box for introductions and meeting attendance record.

Brandy Boccuti informed the team that the virtual TIM Team meeting is being provided to the TIM Team stakeholders to allow the opportunity to connect safely during this COVID19 time.

Additionally, the virtual meeting guidelines were reviewed with the team to help the meeting run more smoothly.

Agency News:**Road Rangers**

The team was informed that the Road Rangers are at full staff and they are currently running 7:00am-7:00pm during weekdays and 9:00am – 9:00pm during weekends and 24 hr coverage in the Alligator Alley. Additionally, a Road Ranger was added to the Sarasota-Manatee area which will run from 7:00pm -11:00pm.

Towing and Wrecker News

No agency updates

Other Agency News

Law Enforcement informed the team they are currently behind in staff. However, new recruits will be joining their agency in May.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Brandy Boccuti reminded the team that April is National Distracted Driving month. Distracted driving is one of the top concerns among first responders working along the highways.

- Distracted driving is an increasing threat to first responders!
- Nationwide these and other types of experiences are being felt by First Responders who are seeing an increase in people using cell phones and being distracted when passing by accidents.
- Drivers are passing by taking photos, posting to social media, and texting.

Distracted driving behavior is exposing First Responders more frequently to very dangerous traffic conditions in an already dangerous situation. To learn more, please visit the following website: <https://www.respondersafety.com>.

Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, informed the team about new helmets and head protection for emergency responders operating at roadway incidents. For over a decade, the Emergency Responder Safety Institute (ERSI), a committee of the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association (CVVFA), has advocated for the development of a purpose-designed helmet for roadway incident response.

On January 11, 2020, Lt. Eric Hill (Lubbock Fire Rescue) and Officer Nicholas Reina (Lubbock Police Department) was killed when they were struck by a civilian vehicle while working an incident on the roadway. Firefighter Matt Dawson was severely injured. In the wake of this terrible tragedy, Lt. Brady Robinette resolved to take a closer look at how different types of available helmets performed when subjected to the types of forces that occur when an emergency responder is struck at a roadway incident.

As a result of his initial research, Lubbock Fire Rescue purchased a different type of helmet to be used at their roadway responses when fire suppression is not necessary. ERSI commends Lt. Brady Robinette of Lubbock Fire Rescue on his initiative to re-examine which type of helmet best protects first responders when they work roadway incidents. To learn more, please visit [Respondersafety.com](https://www.respondersafety.com) which includes a training module on the new equipment.

Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, informed the team about the upcoming National First Responder (SHRP2) Training that will be offered virtually to the District One TIM Team on June 29, 2021. The training was developed *BY RESPONDERS - FOR RESPONDERS*, with the objective that nationally, responders acquire a common set of core competencies that promote a shared

understanding of the requirements for achieving the safety of responders and motorists, quick response, and effective communications at traffic incident scenes.

The SHRP-2 National Traffic Incident Management Responder Training is endorsed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the National Volunteer Fire Council. Participants will receive a National TIM Responder Training certificate from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) after completing the training.

Participants will focus on unified national best practices for traffic incident management. The training provides a coordinated, multidisciplinary approach with safety as the primary focus along with quick clearance to reduce roadway exposure. To learn more and to register for the training, please contact Brandy Boccuti, TIM Coordinator, at bboccuti@metriceng.com

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, informed the team on the Florida 511 live traffic cameras now available as another tool to the first responders and provided a live demonstration. The application provides up to the minute traffic information for Florida and has the ability to view the real time traffic map with travel times, traffic accident details, traffic cameras and other road conditions. To learn more, please visit the following website: <https://fl511.com>

Luis Hernandez, SWIFT SunGuide Center, presented to the team on arterial incident management and how it has grown over the last three years.

- FDOT District 1 has been providing direct incident reporting and responder coordination for State Roads and U.S. Highways for years.
- With increased communication and cooperation from local agencies, along with better reliability of third-party and crowd-sourced traffic data, we have been able to reliably cover all roads in the 12 County District.
- Snapshots to show how arterial incident management has grown over the last three years where provided.
- The District 1 TMCs are actively inviting all agencies to forward real-time incident information for coordination of state DOT resources and direct reporting to the public.
- Notify TMC by Phone 24/7: 239-225-1960 or,
- Email notifications to: D1ITS.swiftsunguidecenter@dot.state.fl.us
- The District 1 TMCs will contact local agencies to obtain incident information for reporting to the motoring public.
- TMCs will request general incident information including, to include general information on injuries/fatalities for incident severity, internal notification, and trend study purposes.
- The TMCs do not request nor disseminate personally identifiable or sensitive information.
- All operations staff hold valid CJIS Security Awareness credentials

To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit the TIM Team website: www.swftim.org

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, presented to the team the Road Ranger performance measures below:

Sarasota County February and March Road Ranger Assists

Road Ranger Assisted Events By Event Type

Event Type	Events	
Abandoned Vehicle	150	10.5%
Crash	129	9.0%
Debris on Roadway	476	33.2%
Disabled Vehicle	672	46.8%
Emergency Vehicles	1	0.1%
Pedestrian	1	0.1%
Vehicle Fire	3	0.2%
Wildlife	3	0.2%
Total	1,435	100.0%

Road Ranger Assisted Events By Notifier

Notifier Agency	Events	
D1 Arterial Operators	1	0.1%
FHP Troop F	308	21.5%
Road Ranger District 1	831	57.9%
TMC-District 1	292	20.3%
TOC- Manatee County	1	0.1%
Waze	2	0.1%
Total	1,435	100.0%

Manatee County February and March Road Ranger Assists

Road Ranger Assisted Events By Event Type

Event Type	Events	
Abandoned Vehicle	64	9.0%
Crash	111	15.5%
Debris on Roadway	256	35.9%
Disabled Vehicle	278	38.9%
Pedestrian	1	0.1%
Vehicle Fire	4	0.6%
Total	714	100.0%

Road Ranger Assisted Events By Notifier

Notifier Agency	Events	
FDOT	1	0.1%
FHP Troop F	206	28.9%
Road Ranger District 1	356	49.9%
TMC-District 1	145	20.3%
TOC- Manatee County	1	0.1%
TSS	1	0.1%
Waze	4	0.6%
Total	714	100.0%

After Action Reviews (AAR) provide agencies with actionable intel on an incident or event that can be used for improved strategies for future occurrences, demonstrating the benefit of quick clearance practices and improve cross-agency coordination and communication.

AARs were performed on the following recent major incidents:

RISC 21-22, March 2, 2021, 3:08 AM.
Truck Fire – NB 75 Near Exit 217.
Stepp's Towing.

Single vehicle a loaded semi with frozen food caught on fire. The driver was able to disconnect the tractor, but the trailer was lost to the fire. Extensive clean up.



Lessons Learned:

- The road had a partial closure while the Fire Department put out the fire.
 - Discuss good use of keeping lanes open.
- Good M.O.T. was pointed out. After the fire was put out responders utilized cones over the entire “Work Zone” and work continued on the shoulder.
- Vendor arrival time was not met.
- Discussed the importance of DMS Boards to warn drivers of upcoming activity.
- Good communication between TMC, Road Ranger, FHP, Local Sheriff, and DBI to coordinate the road and closures.

RISC 21-24, March 15, 2021, 8:22 AM.
Multi Vehicle / Truck / Fatal SB 75 Near Exit 195.
Professional Towing.



Lessons Learned:

- This was a secondary crash where a semi struck multiple other commercial vehicles that were stopped in a queue.
- Even though this was a fatal, the RISC was called 29 minutes after being notified by The FHP.
 - This allowed Professional Towing to arrive and access the scene while The FHP work the investigation.
 - Several other wreckers were needed.
 - Massive debris field needed to be cleaned up.
 - All vehicles were moved to the right shoulder.
 - All lanes were open, and The FHP was able to keep investigating. (Picture).
- Professional was able to make 90-minute time.
 - Employee from Professional stated that all vehicles involved were commercial type trucks and required major clean up.
 - They had good communication with The FHP on scene.
- Good communication between FHP, Local Sheriff, TMC, and DBI to coordinate the road and closures.

RISC 21-27, March 24, 2021, 4:35 pm.
Rollover Scrap Steel, NB 75 Entrance 113.
Stepp's Towing



Lessons Learned

- Rollover semi loaded with scrap steel.
- Full closure of an entrance ramp.
- Product was scrap steel, making very difficult to pick up.
 - Some of the product was on the other side of the guardrail.
- Stepp's did make arrival time but did not make required clearance time.
- Good use of DMS Boards.
- RISC was activated within 22 minutes.

FDOT Construction Update

Brandy Boccuti reminded the team that the District 1 Roadwatch construction report is available to all first responders. To view the weekly District 1 RoadWatch construction report, please visit the following website: <http://www.fdot.gov/info/D1/news/newsreleases/default.shtm>

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 Sarasota-Manatee County TIM Team will be held on April 13, 2021 at 1:30 PM.

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 Brandy Boccuti, TIM Team Coordinator, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 644.1898 or via email at bboccuti@metriceng.com