

# Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

August 8, 2017
Meeting Minutes

#### Attendees:

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<u>Call to Order</u>: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 1:30pm at the Manatee County Public Safety Center, 2101 47<sup>th</sup> Terrace East, Bradenton, FL 34203. Chris Williams, Charles Stratton, Rory Howe, and Brandy Boccuti facilitated the meeting.

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

## **Agency News:**

#### Road Rangers

The team was informed that the Road Rangers are currently fully staffed. Additionally, the team was informed that the Road Ranger are proud to announce that they have recently hired the first female Road Ranger.

## Towing and Wrecker News

No agency updates

#### Other Agency News

DBI Services spoke to the team about their role in regards to their responsibilities as they are receiving calls in regards to providing assistance to pedestrian vehicles that are broke down on the roadway. This service would be provided by the Road Rangers.

The Florida Highway Patrol informed the team that their staff resources are currently down.

The Florida Department of Transportation updated the team on the implementation of hard shoulder evacuation during hurricanes, in replace of a contraflow evacuation. Contraflow lanes

Metric Engineering, Inc. 1 August 8, 2017

utilize the lanes normally dedicated to the opposite direction of travel whereas hard shoulder running allows through traffic to travel on existing shoulders. In regards to the hard shoulder lanes, one of the shoulders will be designated for the traveling public and the other shoulder is to be used for emergency responders.

Additionally, Charles Stratton informed the team that he will presenting on the hard shoulder topic at the next round of TIM team meetings in October.

## **Update on TIM Initiatives:**

#### National/State/Regional

Rory Howe presented to the team lessons learned from the I-25 Fuel Service Truck Fire incident that resulted in a large fuel fire on northbound I-25 between Orchard Road and Belleview Avenue Wednesday, May 31, 2017. Both directions of I-25 were shut down while fire fighters battled the blaze. The accident happened around noon when the northbound truck carrying 500 gallons of diesel fuel and 500 gallons of eight different types of oil lost a tire and crashed into the median.

Below is the timeline of the event:

- 11:45 Fuel service truck crashed that was carrying 500 gallons of diesel and 500 gallons of additional hazardous materials traveling Northbound on I-25 at Orchard Road.
- 11:50 Driver is pulled from wreckage by two Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) maintenance workers who were behind the vehicle. 911 receives call about fire.
- 11:53 South Metro Fire Rescue Authority (SMFRA) arrived on scene.
- 11:55 I-25 Full highway closure of both I-25 Northbound and Southbound; disruption of 260,000 travelers, SMFRA foam truck arrived on scene.
- 14:34 Fire is extinguished, vehicle is monitored until cool enough for fuel transfer.
- 15:15 HAZAMT crews begin fuel transfer.
- 15:30 Three lanes southbound (lanes 3, 4, and 5) are opened.
- 18:13 Burnt out fuel truck is removed, milling operations began on southbound lanes which included left shoulder and lanes 1 and 2.
- 19:10 Crews begin clean-up of northbound Lanes
- 21:30 Milling operations began northbound lanes which included left shoulder and lanes 1 thru 4.

To view the video of the incident, please click on the following link: https://youtu.be/HeNISq0wIRM

To view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: http://www.swfltim.org/CSM/CSM%20Docs.htm#Handouts\_&\_Presentations

Brandy Boccuti informed the team about the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign that will be taking place August 16<sup>th</sup> through Labor Day weekend. Law enforcement nationwide will be joining the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the high-visibility campaign. To learn more, please visit the following website: <a href="https://one.nhtsa.gov/drivesober/">https://one.nhtsa.gov/drivesober/</a>

Brandy Boccuti informed the team about the Governors Highway Safety Association Annual Meeting which will take place September 16-20, 2017. "Highway Safety in a New Era" is the theme

for the 2017 GHSA Annual Meeting. From a new Administration in Washington, D.C., to new technologies, to new behavioral challenges, we are truly entering a new era in traffic safety. The Governors Highway Safety Association's 2017 Annual Meeting will explore these new challenges and opportunities and consider how the highway safety community can best respond to drive down crashes and fatalities.

To learn more, please visit the following website: <a href="http://www.ghsa.org/events/Annual-Meetings/2017">http://www.ghsa.org/events/Annual-Meetings/2017</a>

The TIM Team participated in the 2017 Traffic Incident Management Self-Assessments (TIM SA). The Traffic Incident Management (TIM) programs continue to play a vital role in the safe and quick clearance of traffic incidents while providing a framework for reducing congestion and maximizing use of existing transportation infrastructure. A critical component of capitalizing on the success of existing programs and aiding the development of new TIM programs is periodic evaluation of the components of successful multi-agency TIM programs. The TIM SA was designed to provide an easy-to-use tool for measuring TIM program performance.

The TIM SA consisted of a series of 55 questions which were organized into the following sections and subsections:

## Strategic:

- Formal TIM Programs (11 questions)
- TIM Training and After Action Reports (5 questions)
- TIM Performance Measures (12 questions)

#### Tactical:

TIM Laws (3 questions)

- Policies and Procedures for Incident Response and Clearance (14 questions)
- Responder and Motorist Safety (5 guestions)

#### Support:

Data Collection/Integration/Sharing (5 questions)

The results will help in identifying areas of improvement in the three categories as shown above.

To learn more about the TIM SA, please visit the following website: https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/eto\_tim\_pse/preparedness/tim/self.htm

Charles Stratton and Chris Williams spoke to the team about the Florida Statewide Traffic Incident Management Workshop that took place July 27-28, 2017. The Florida Statewide TIM Workshop included all Florida Department of Transportation Districts and the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise where TIM topics was discussed such as activities, accomplishments, and goals.

Some of the topics discussed at the meeting included the following:

- The Florida Department of Transportation is creating an ongoing Strategic Plan to layout objectives and goals and create action items for Traffic Incident Management.
  - A statewide TIM working group was created that includes representatives from different agencies such as the Florida Highway Administration, Law Enforcement, Towing, Emergency Management Services, which will provide feedback in regards to items to be added to the Strategic Plan.
- Statewide TIM Newsletter

- Re-engage Fire and Emergency Medical Services in the Traffic Incident Management Community.
- The National TIM Responder Training Program
- Strengthening the Authority Removal Law
- Updating the Florida Administrative Code 15B-9 which is the wrecker qualifications. The wrecker's qualification code was originally created in 1994 and has been a concern of the wrecker's community, as it is very outdated in certain regulations/requirements.
- Improving the Traffic Homicide Investigation with new technology equipment
- Integrated Corridor Management
- Improving the Rapid Incident Scene Clearance Program

Rory Howe reviewed the following major incidents with the team:

- 07/22/2017 I-75 Northbound at Mile Marker 176 (399617)
- 07/22/2017 I-75 Northbound at Mile Marker 177 (399622)
- 08/03/2017 I-75 Southbound at I-275 (634932)

## **FDOT Construction Update**

Charles Stratton 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/deafult.shtm

#### **Active Construction:**

The team was provided an update on the I-75/University Parkway DDI Construction project. The start date of the project was August 2015, and the estimated completion date is Fall of 2017. Improvements being made as part of this project consist of constructing a diverging diamond interchange, adding an auxiliary lane on northbound and southbound I-75, constructing new bridges on I-75 over University Parkway, widening of University Parkway, widening of I-75 bridges over Errie Creek and Foley Creek, realignment of on-ramps and off-ramps at I-75/University Parkway, addition of ponds, drainage improvements, new lighting and signalization, construction of a noise wall on the west side of I-75, sidewalks, bike lanes, and pedestrian walkways. If you have any questions on the project, please contact Trudy Gerena, Senior Public Information Officer at 813-299-3579 and/or trudy@valerin-group.com

Please also visit <a href="http://www.swflroads.com/i75/university/">http://www.swflroads.com/i75/university/</a>, which provides up to date project information.

### 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 <a href="http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/D1/news/newsreleases/deafult.shtm">http://www.dot.state.fl.us/publicinformationoffice/D1/news/newsreleases/deafult.shtm</a>

### **Future Meetings:**

The next Sarasota-Manatee County TIM Team will be held on October 12, 2017 at 1:30 PM at the Manatee County Public Safety Center, 47th Terrace East 2101, Bradenton Florida, 34203.

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! <a href="http://www.swfltim.org/">http://www.swfltim.org/</a>

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 644.1898 or via email at <a href="mailto:cstratton@metriceng.com">cstratton@metriceng.com</a> or Chris Williams, FDOT District 1 ITS Operations/ TIM TEAM Coordinator/ Road Ranger Program Project Manager at (239) 225.1915 or via email at <a href="mailto:Chris.Williams@dot.state.fl.us">Chris.Williams@dot.state.fl.us</a>