



Sarasota - Manatee Traffic Incident Management Team

February 7, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Rory Howe	Parsons	Sherilyn Burris	Manatee Co. EM
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering	Fabio Capillo	Manatee County
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering	Brian Kalmbach	East Manatee Fire
Chris Williams	FDOT	Ben Loeser	FDOT
Patricia Kirby	Sarasota Ops. Center	Don Martin	FDOT
Ken Neiland	Professional Towing Svcs.	Greg Mitchell	FHP
Scott Robbins	FDOT/HNTB	Rodney Pocevic	FDOT
Sandra Tapfumaneyi	Lee Co. Emergency Mgt.	Mark Dunlap	FDOT
Mike Ebersole	FDOT	Kevin Salsbery	FDOT
David Howell	HNTB	Francisco Walle	FDOT
Vincent Lee	FDOT/RTMC/STMC	Uriel Garcia	DBI Services
Juan Cuevas	FHP	Isaac Santos	Kyra Solutions

Call to Order: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 1:30pm at the Manatee County Public Safety Center, 2101 47th Terrace East, Bradenton, FL 34203. Chris Williams, Charles Stratton, and Rory Howe 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 in the process of obtaining new identification badges. Additionally, the Road Rangers have also added a couple new staff members.

Towing and Wrecker News

The towing agency informed the team that there has been an increase in activity over the holidays.

Other Agency News

Greg Mitchell, Florida Highway Patrol, informed the team that he has been promoted to another division and introduced Juan Cuevas, Florida Highway Patrol, who will be attending future TIM team meetings in place of Mr. Mitchell.

The Florida Highway Patrol also informed the team that they will be providing the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) training to their newly graduated cadets in March or April of 2017. Additionally, Charles Stratton and Brandy Boccuti informed the team that the Florida Department of Transportation will be bringing the SHRP-2 training to the District One TIM team members in their area. A survey was recently sent out to the District One Traffic Incident Management (TIM) teams asking the first responders if they would be interested in participating in the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) Training. After receiving positive feedback, FDOT is in the process of scheduling the training. The TIM team will be updated once the training has been scheduled.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Rory Howe presented to the team about “Making the Connection between the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) training and Connected Vehicles.”

About the National Traffic Incident Management (SHRP-2) Research:

- Congress authorized the SHRP 2 in 2005 to investigate the underlying causes of highway crashes and congestion in a short-term program of focused research
 - Safety
 - Reliability
 - Renewal
 - Capacity

- The National TIM Responder Training Program is the first reliability product being rolled out under SHRP-2

Safety Research:

- Unprecedented data on driver behavior
- Naturalistic driving study
- Demographic backgrounds
- Physical, psychological and medical conditions

Renewal Research:

- Filled in the gaps in research and development (R&D)
- Alternative methods of providing DOTs more information to deliver projects faster and easier
- Simplify access to info on best practices.....
 - Performance measures
 - Utilities
 - Interaction with RR's
- Can speed up project delivery or address causes for delays

The US Department of Transportation advances deployment of connected vehicles to prevent hundreds of thousands of crashes.

- National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA):
 - 2015 = 35,092 deaths across the US.
 - 7.2% increase over 2014
 - 94% human choice or error

To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

The Florida Department of Transportation and the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) team presented an award to Mark Crawford, Southern Manatee Fire and Rescue District, in recognition of his service and dedication to saving lives on the highways and for his support for the District One TIM team.

Brandy Boccuti informed the team about the 2017 National Work Zone Awareness Week which will take place April 3-7, 2017. National Work Zone Awareness Week is an annual spring campaign held at the start of construction season to encourage safe driving through highway work zones. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones.

Brandy Boccuti informed the team about the 2017 Lifesavers National Conference that will take place March 26-28-2017 in Charlotte, North Carolina. The theme for the 2017 conference is “Celebrating 35 Years of Delivering Solutions to Today’s Critical Highway Safety Problems.” Lifesavers is the premier U.S. highway safety meeting dedicated to reducing the tragic toll of deaths and injuries on our nation’s roadways. Drawing over 2,000 participants in 2016, Lifesavers continues to be the “must attend” conference since its start in 1982. Each year, Lifesavers provides a forum for the presentation of proven countermeasures and initiatives that address today’s critical highway safety problems.

To learn more about the event, please visit the following website: <http://lifesaversconference.org/>

The team was informed about the upcoming 2017 Tow Show which will take place April 20-23, 2017. The 2017 Tow Show will include both new and exciting experiences in the towing industry. The event was a great way to learn more about the industry and connect with other incident responders.

To learn more, please visit the following website: <http://www.towequip.com/towshows>

Additionally, the team was updated on the Florida Administrative Code 15B-9, which contains 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. It was stated that the Florida Department of Transportation has sent their recommended revisions of the code to Tallahassee. It is estimated that any changes to the code will not be in effect until 2018, as Tallahassee is currently scheduling Public Hearings on the topic.

Lee County Emergency Management presented to the team on the Southwest Florida Regional Evacuation Planning Effort. Below are some key points that were made during the presentation:

- Most difficult area of the county to evacuate by Atkins North America – 2012
- Labeled as a Special Hurricane Preparedness District by FDEM
 - High risk of storm surge inundation
 - Extremely high regional evacuation times
 - Limited roadway capacity
 - Limited sheltering capacity
 - Large mobile and manufactured home populations
 - Large elderly population

The Lee County, West Coast, and Broward County, East Coast, surge zones and evacuation times maps were compared. The map showed Lee County having a large disadvantage and being more prone to flooding and surges.

The following table is the population at risk from hurricanes by evacuation zone:

County	Up to Zone A	Up to Zone B	Up to Zone C	Up to Zone D	Up to Zone E
Lee	104,882	329,027	509,382	580,010	657,895
Collier	149,477	252,138	325,937	338,934	342,278
Charlotte	77,504	164,106	187,436	191,996	192,175
Manatee	45,583	74,362	108,656	179,470	278,548
Sarasota	22,776	76,104	219,136	317,406	348,403
Region 6 Coastal Counties	296,117	895,737	1,350,547**	1,607,816	1,819,299

Planning Timeline:

- November 2013 – Current
 - Planning meetings to address regional evacuation concept of operation and resource management gaps
 - Partners included:
 - ✓ Region 6 Emergency Management Programs
 - ✓ Local response partners (LE, Fire, Transportation, School Districts)
 - ✓ Additional state agencies (FDLE, FDOT, FDOH)
 - ✓ Region 7 counties
- Summer 2016 – Spring 2017
 - FY 2015 SHSGP funding for Hagerty Consulting to assist with planning efforts
- November 2016
 - Meetings with FDEM leadership and ESF Leads
 - ✓ Law Enforcement and Transportation
 - ✓ Logistics
 - ✓ Mass Care

Next Steps:

- Spring 2017
 - Regional Evacuation Guide
 - Regional Evacuation TTX (March 10th)
- Spring/Summer 2017
 - NMETS Beta Testing

Additionally, the possibility of having fuel trucks to help first responders during emergency evacuation events was discussed.

Also, the Florida Department of Transportation is analyzing hurricane evacuation strategies and looking at implementing a hard shoulder evacuation lane instead of contraflow.

Contraflow lanes 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 would be used for emergency responders.

Lastly, There will be a regional table-top exercise taking place in March 2017, in Lee County, which will include representatives from all 10 counties in the region. One of the breakout sessions that will be included in the meeting is transportation issues.

To learn more and to view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

The team reviewed the yearly (2016) Swift SunGuide report. To view the report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

The team reviewed the following recent major incidents as a lessons learned:

- 01/16/2017 - I-75 Northbound at Exit Ramp 217/SR 70
- 01/16/2017 - SR 70 at Braden Run

To view the incident SWIFT SunGuide Event Chronology report, please visit our TIM team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org>

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/default.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 <http://www.swflroads.com/i75/university/>, 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 <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 11, 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!
<http://www.swftim.org/>

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