

Heartland Traffic Incident Management Team

July 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes

<u>Call to Order</u>: The Heartland TIM Team meeting was held virtually on Tuesday, July 12, 2022 at 1:00 PM. Tom Arsenault and Brandy Boccuti facilitated the meeting.

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

Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, kicked off the meeting by reviewing the meeting agenda and guidelines.

Agency News:

Road Rangers

The team was informed that the Road Rangers are currently hiring. The Road Ranger performance measures were also provided to the team.

Towing and Wrecker News

No agency updates

Other Agency News

Ray Mikol, D1 SWIFT SunGuide, informed the team of the performance measures for the quarter. The team was also informed that the TMC currently has Operator positions available.

Mary Weber, Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST), informed the team of the upcoming Hardee CTST meeting taking place on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 and the Highlands CTST meeting taking place on Thursday, July 21, 2022. If you would like additional information on the meetings, please contact Mary at Mary.Weber@dot.state.fl.us.

Shawn Kinney, Florida TIM Program Manager/FDOT, introduced himself to the team. Mr. Kinney informed the team of a Road Ranger that recently passed away after being struck while working along the highway. The team was reminded of the importance of safety while working along the highways.

Mary Beth, Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), informed the team they are currently reviewing a competitive grant program that Federl Highway Administration (FHWA) has put together called Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program. They are currently looking to apply for the plan for the Heartland Counties area. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. The SS4A program

supports Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg's National Roadway Safety Strategy and the Department's goal of zero deaths and serious injuries on our nation's roadways.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Brandy Boccuti reminded the team about the purpose of the TIM Meeting.

- TIM is the coordinated detection, response to and removal of traffic incidents as quickly and safely as possible. TIM is a coordinated effort among multiple agencies.
- The primary purpose of TIM is to reduce the duration and impact of incidents as well as to improve the safety of motorists and most importantly our incident responders.
- The TIM Meeting is to help prop up the communication, coordination and collaboration among our incident responders.

Craig Carnes, Metric Engineering, provided a training session on working the activity area/work zone.

The Buffer Space:

- Separates the Transition Area from the Incident Space
- No vehicles should be positioned within the upstream Buffer Space
- Provides recovery area for errant vehicles
- Speed of passing traffic and sight distance should be considered when determining the
- length of the buffer space.

Incident Space:

- Location where the incident has occurred, and emergency responders are working.
- A blocking vehicle should be positioned at the upstream end of the Incident Space to protect workers from impacts by errant vehicles.
- Cones should continue alongside the Incident Space to help define the boundary between responders working and moving traffic.

Termination Area:

- Used to notify drivers that the Traffic Incident Management Area is ending, and they may resume normal driving.
- Includes the downstream buffer space and taper.
- Protects emergency responders working at the end of the Incident Space.
- Remember drivers will likely be frustrated from being stuck in traffic and may quickly
- accelerate.

To view the full presentation, please visit the FDOT District One TIM Team website at: www.swfltim.com

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:

April 14, 2022, 10:10 AM SR-80 westbound Near Everhigh Acres Road FHP, Hendry CSO, Hendry Co. Fire/Rescue Clewiston Towing.





Incident Details:

- Two Commercial Vehicle Crash
- Vehicle drifted onto shoulder colliding with a disabled vehicle.
- 10:14 AM Initial Notification
- 10:15 AM 2 Semi Crash SR-80 Closed
- 10:23 AM Debris across all lanes.
- 10:35 AM Confirmed Fatal Crash
- 11:15 PM Medic Norwood Confirm Signal 7
- 10:42 AM Multi-Vehicle crash in Hendry Co. going WB SR-80 before Everhigh Acres Rd. All lanes blocked (TMC).
- 12:23 PM Clewiston Tow On Scene
- 7:00 PM Roadway Open
- Total Duration 526 Minutes

5/14/2022 at 5:15 AM Hardee County Boyd Cowart Road Near Heard Bridge Road FHP, Hardee CSO, Co. Fire/Rescue Artistic Towing



Incident Details:

- Single Vehicle Fatal
- Driver failed to stop at the stop bar and continued north through the intersection and onto Mosaic property.
- 10:25 AM Initial Notification By Hardee CSO. Request THI
- 10:30 AM Vehicle found rolled over in water
- 10:35 AM D1 Pronounced deceased by Hardee EMS
- 12:07 PM Artistic Towing
- 3:33 PM Roadway Open
- Total Duration 308 Minutes

April 15, 2022, at 4:10 PM US-98 and Lock Access Rd. FHP, Highlands CSO, Co. Fire/Rescue Artistic Towing





Incident Details:

- Head on Crash
- 4:08 PM Initial Notification
- 4:36 PM Pronounced deceased by Medic Cruz Highlands County EMS.
- 4:47 PM PUBLISH / EXECUTIVE NOTIFICATION: Crash in Highlands County going Westbound on US-98 beyond CR-721 with all lanes blocked.
- 4:51 PM FDOT Maintenance called for MOT
- 5:15 PM Detour set by FDOT Maintenance
- 10:06 Crash Investigation is ongoing and lanes remain blocked
- 12:36 AM Road Open
- Total Duration 308 Minutes

FDOT Construction Update

The team was provided recent construction updates. The FDOT District 1 Roadwatch construction report is available to all first responders by visiting www.swflroads.com/ or calling (239) 225-1900.

Future Meetings:

The next Heartland County TIM Team will be held on January 3, 2023 at 1:00 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.swfltim.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

Meeting Adjourned

*The list of attendees are attached to these meeting minutes.

Heartland TIM Meeting

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