



Heartland Counties Traffic Incident Management Team

October 1, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: The Heartland County TIM Team meeting was held virtually on Tuesday, October 1, 2024, 1:00 PM. 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, Metric Engineering, kicked off the meeting by reviewing the meeting agenda and guidelines.

Agency News:

Towing and Wrecker News

No agency updates

Other Agency News

No agency updates

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, 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.

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, led a training session focused on scene size-up procedures and the importance of proper incident notification and verification.

Key topics included:

- The role of public safety communications centers in early incident detection
- The importance of accurate verification: location, vehicle count, lane blockage, and injury status

- Responsibilities of Transportation Management Centers (TMCs), including traffic monitoring and incident notifications
- Guidelines for giving an accurate windshield size-up report upon arrival
- The importance of 15-minute progress reports and tracking incident duration classifications
- Examples of detailed responder reports and common challenges during initial assessments

Tom emphasized that consistent and detailed communication at the start of an incident is critical to ensuring proper coordination and safety for all responders on scene.

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:

06/11/2024

US 27 and CR 630 – Frostproof

Incident Details:

- 07:43:00 Crash reported involving semi-truck and pickup.
- 07:45:38 Law enforcement dispatched.
- 07:51:10 Fire and EMS arrived on scene.
- 08:09:25 Roadway completely blocked.
- 08:33:42 Tow company en route.
- 09:18:17 All lanes reopened.
- Total closure time: 1 hour, 35 minutes, 17 seconds

06/27/2024

US 98 at County Line Road – Highlands County

Incident Details:

- 15:19:44 Crash reported involving two vehicles and injuries.
- 15:21:56 EMS and law enforcement dispatched.
- 15:28:03 Road Ranger arrived and initiated lane closure.
- 15:56:40 Helicopter launched for patient transport.
- 16:33:25 Tow services began removal.
- 17:12:02 All lanes reopened.
- Total closure time: 1 hour, 52 minutes, 18 seconds

07/03/2024

US 27 near South Highlands Avenue – Avon Park

Incident Details:

- 12:03:14 Multi-vehicle crash involving tractor trailer.
- 12:05:49 Law enforcement dispatched.
- 12:10:15 EMS and fire on scene.
- 12:22:41 All lanes blocked for extrication.
- 13:47:30 Tow operations began.
- 14:24:55 Roadway fully reopened.
- Total closure time: 2 hours, 21 minutes, 41 seconds

08/13/2024

SR 70 and Peace River Street – Arcadia

Incident Details:

- 06:31:33 Vehicle rollover reported.
- 06:33:00 EMS and fire rescue en route.
- 06:36:27 First unit on scene confirmed entrapment.
- 06:57:40 Patient extracted and transported.
- 07:29:00 Tow arrived.
- 08:04:14 All lanes reopened.
- Total closure time: 1 hour, 32 minutes, 41 seconds

08/13/2024

09/09/2024

US 98 near SR 66 – Highlands County

Incident Details:

- 17:45:19 Crash reported involving two semis and fuel leak.
- 17:47:22 Law enforcement arrived.
- 17:52:18 Fire crews initiated hazmat protocol.
- 18:34:05 Recovery crews began cleanup.
- 20:26:11 Final clearance completed.
- Total closure time: 2 hours, 40 minutes, 52 seconds

FDOT Construction Update

The team was provided with recent construction updates. The FDOT District 1 weekly construction updates are also available to all first responders by request to Janella Newsome, FDOT, Janella.Newsome@dot.state.fl.us or by calling (863) 519-2828.

Future Meetings:

The next Heartland County TIM Team will be January 7, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Adjourned

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

As always, please continue to visit the TIM Team website for updates, and 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, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 949-4283 or via email at brandy.boccuti@metriceng.com

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Heartland TIM Team Meeting**October 1, 2024**

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