



Polk County
Traffic Incident Management Team

January 14, 2021
Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Mike Swanson	Professional Towing
Tom Arsenault	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Ray Mikol	HNTB/TMC
Raul Corbo	Anchor Towing/Road Ranger	Robbie Brown	FDOT
Jessica Ogden	FDOT D7	Justin Merritt	FDOT
Mike Swanson	Professional Towing	Cathie McKenzie	Gannett Fleming
Romona Burke	FDOT D7	Mark Bradshaw	Polk Co. Fire Rescue
Ray Mikol	TMC/HNTB	DJ Brewington	Brewington Towing
Larry Saxon	Florida Turnpike	Todd Riley	Stepp's Towing
Chris Miller	FHP	Michael Bissett	Polk Co. Sheriff
Luis Hernandez	SWIFT SunGuide	Heather Cullaton	ARC Towing Service
		Phyllis Talbot	Tri-County DUI
		Dave Salmons	Auto Base

Call to Order: The Sarasota-Manatee TIM Team meeting was held virtually on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 10:00 am 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 reminded that the Road Rangers in Sarasota-Manatee and Collier-Lee-Charlotte County area has added Road Ranger Tow trucks to their fleet. The tow truck capability will allow the Road Ranger to safely move a vehicle blocking/obstructing traffic safely off the Roadways.

Towing and Wrecker News

No agency updates.

Other Agency News

No agency updates.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Brandy Boccuti discussed with the team about taking advantage of the increase selection of online learning opportunities as well as staying connected with current topics in the Traffic Incident Management community. Additionally, the team was informed about the Web-Based National First TIM Responder Training Refresher Video. The online training is for participant that has already attended the FHWA National TIM Responder Training Program. The training is not designed to replace the training, but to provide a refresher after some period of time has passed.

The refresher course includes a handout and a short 60 minute video. At the end of your training there will be an opportunity to download a certificate. To access the online course, please visit the following website: <https://timtraining.org/>

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, tested the responders on their knowledge of the Traffic Incident Response Lane Designation Terminology. The responders were shown a slide with an example of travel lanes and asked to provide the position of the vehicle and/or crash. Providing precise and accurate location helps State, regional, and local responders use often and distinct terminology when communicating the location of crashes or responding to vehicles on roadways. Disparate terminology in communications could potentially lead to confusion on the scene, impact responder and victim safety, and adversely affect emergency response and traffic clearance times. The goal is to provide a common terminology for adoption as needed by responding agencies during traffic incidents to identify incident location and the preferred position for arriving response vehicles and equipment. The National Traffic Incident Management Coalition and the TIM Network support adoption of this terminology to coordinate multidisciplinary responses to incidents. To learn more

To learn more about the lane designation terminology or for a “refresh” visit the [Respondersafety.org](https://respondersafety.org) and take the free online National First Responder (SHRP2) Training modules which include the topic.

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, informed the team about Road Ranger recognition of Dan Rice. On December 14, 2020 around 5:30 pm, Road Ranger Dan Rice did a great job getting a potentially dangerous driver off the road. Dan stopped at a disabled vehicle that was out of gas going Southbound at the 51 mile marker (event 913265). Mr. Rice noticed the motorist was incoherent and smelled strongly of alcohol. He called in to the Traffic Management Center and voiced his concerns. At which time the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) was notified. A Trooper responded to investigate. EMS was eventually called by the Trooper and the motorist was transported to the hospital for

testing. The driver was charged with Driving Under the Influence by the Trooper. Great job by Dan helping keep our roadways safe!

Luis Hernandez, SWIFT SunGuide Center, updated the team on the FDOT District One Traffic Management Center.

Freeway and Arterial Management

- Headquarters in Bartow
 - Covers 12 counties in Southwest Florida, including Polk County
 - Operates two traffic management centers:
 - SWIFT SunGuide Center in Fort Myers FL, collocated with FHP FMRCC (24/7/365)
 - Bradenton-Sarasota Satellite Center in Bradenton, FL (M-F 6:00A-10:30P)
 - A robust network of interconnected and monitored traffic signals
 - Close relationships with Districts 5 (Orlando), 7 (Tampa Bay), and Turnpike help facilitate multi-district Integrated Corridor Management (ICM)

Polk County Coverage

- District 1 TMC (Southwest)
 - Polk County is entirely part of FDOT D1
 - Primary responsibility: incidents on all State and US Highways in Polk County
 - Exceptions are I-4 (SR-400) and Polk Pkwy (SR-570)
 - Assists D7 with incidents on/near I-4
 - Assists FTE with incidents on/near SR-570/Polk Parkway

District 7 TMC (Tampa Bay)

- Primary responsibility: Incidents on I-4 mainline, ramps, and cross streets.

Florida's Turnpike

- Primary responsibility: Incidents on SR-570/Polk Parkway mainline, ramps, and cross streets.

The Importance of Working with District 1

- District One allows your agency to inform the motoring public of traffic incidents on crucial arterial highways via the Florida 511 Automated Traveler Information System.
- Helps expedite FDOT/contractor response for Maintenance of Traffic or emergency road repair needs.
- Assistance with FDEP/SWO/NRC notification standards for spills/release due to roadway incidents.
- Allows for vital incident data collection which can be useful in roadway safety, retrofit, or redesign projects.

How to contact the SWIFT Center 24/7/365 with incident notifications or requests for response on any State or US Highway in Polk County: [239-225-1960](tel:239-225-1960)

To view the full the full presentation, please visit the TIM Team website at: <http://www.swfltim.org/>

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, informed the team that FDOT District One has implemented a Major Incident Evaluation breakout meeting(s) to review any major traffic incident that involved a fatality, wrong-way driving, and/or any major lane closure incident within 7 days of the incident. Participation in the meetings include an FHP representative. The evaluation includes a thorough investigation of the incident(s) to identify any solutions to reduce and/or prevent the incidents in the future.

Lawrence Saxon, Jacobs/ AECOM, reminded the team that Road Rangers are now on the Polk Parkway. On November 2, 2020 Incident Response trucks were made available on the Polk Parkway. The trucks include two shifts and will be available seven days a week.

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:

10/30/2020

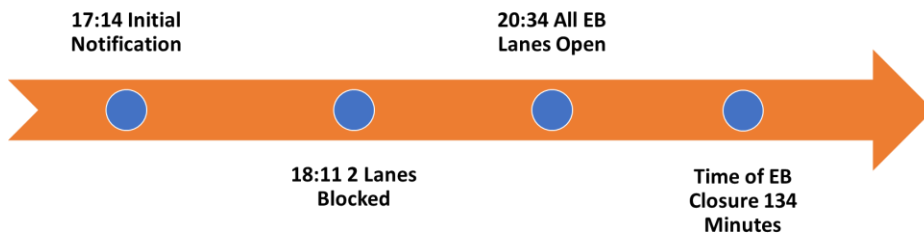
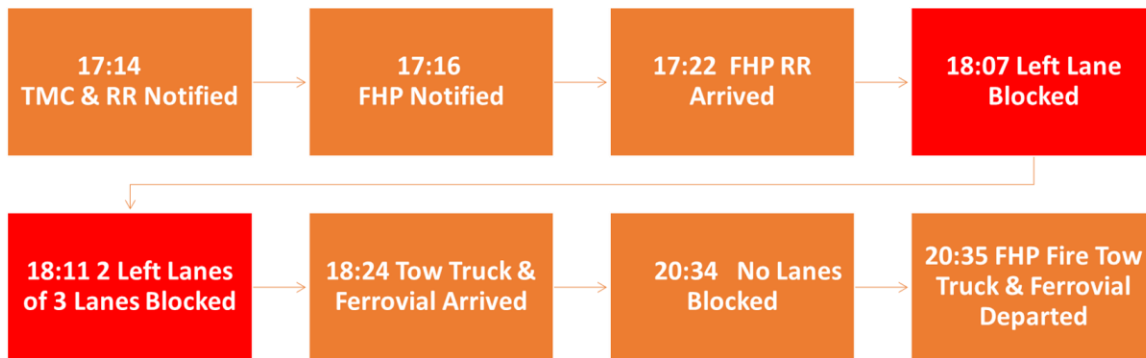
Event Numbers 1003727

Eastbound I-4 at SR-33, Exit 33

Rollover RV

Polk County

Timeline:



Lessons Learned:

- Responders were able to keep one lane open during the entire event.
- Good use of DMS Boards warning of lane closures.
- Level 3 emails were sent in a timely manner.

10/2/2020

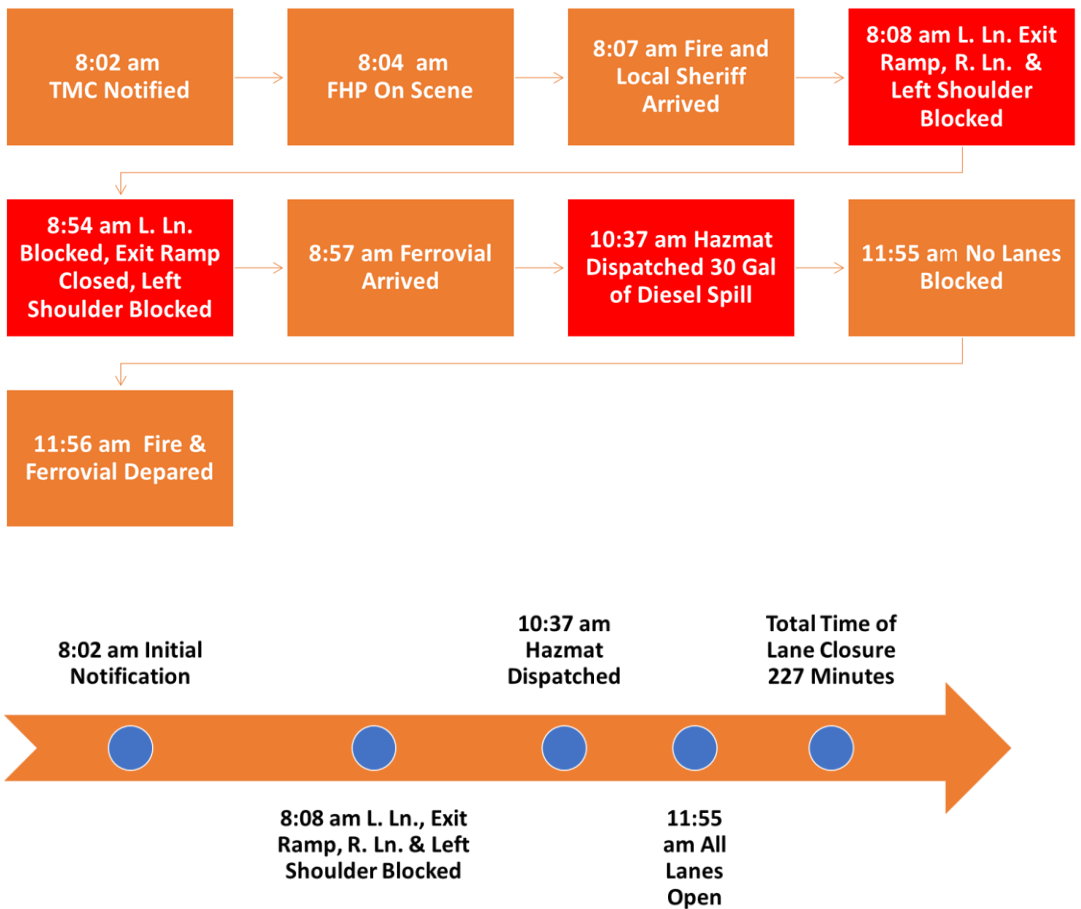
Event Numbers 996595

Westbound I-4 at CR 557

Crash Box Truck vs. Semi With Rollover

Polk County

Timeline:



Lessons Learned:

- Responders were able to keep two lanes open during the entire event off ramp was closed.
 - Haz-Mat was for less than 30 gallons of diesel.
 - 2 Hour delay calling Haz-Mat.
 - Good use of DMS Boards warning of lane closures.
 - Level 3 emails were sent in a timely manner.

10/26/2020

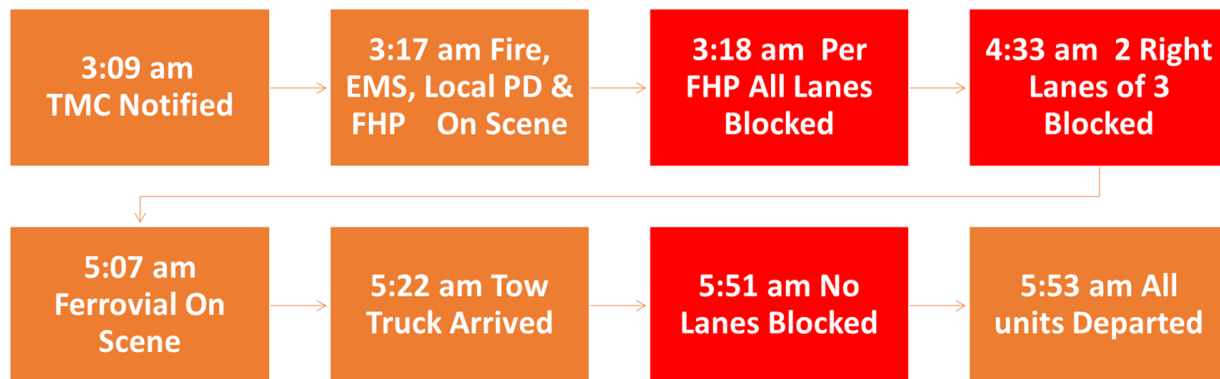
Event Numbers 1002461

Eastbound I-4 before Mile Marker 53

Rollover Van Crash

Polk County

Timeline:

Lessons Learned:

- All Lanes closed.
 - Good use of Executive Notification when incident was changed to partial closure.
- Good use of DMS Boards warning of lane closures.
- Good effort in getting all lanes open before rush hour traffic.
- Level 3 emails were sent in a timely manner.

FDOT Construction Update

The team was reminded 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 Polk County TIM Team will be April 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 949-4283 or via email at brandy.boccuti@metriceng.com