



**Polk County
Traffic Incident Management Team**

October 12, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Charles Stratton	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Stacy Hill	FDOT
Brandy Boccuti	Metric Engineering, Inc.	Michael Blaze	Polk County
Rory Howe	Parsons	Chris Brewington	Brewington Towing
Kevin Smith	Parsons	Rick Grube	City of Lakeland
Mike Bissett	Polk County Sheriff's Office.	Jason McMillan	City of Lakeland
Benjamin Loeser	FDOT	Kevin Salsbery	FDOT
Ralph Etienne	FL Turnpike	Ricky Thomas	ICA
Mike Washburn	FL Turnpike	Harry Whitney	Road Ranger
		Warren Hines	Jorgensen
		Christopher Smith	FHP

Call to Order: The Polk TIM Team meeting was held on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 10:00 AM at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880. 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 Road Rangers informed the team that they, Anchor Towing, received a renewal to their contract for another 5 years in District 1. Additionally they are updating their Road Ranger equipment.

Towing and Wrecker News

No agency updates

Other Agency News

The Florida's Turnpike informed the team that the Mainline Road Ranger Program was recently advertised and was awarded to a new contractor.

Also, they informed the team that they have had 100 Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) activations this year. Additionally, they are also looking at making some changes to the program after receiving input from the industry such as limiting the number of towers, shortening the towers coverage areas, and increasing the incentive payment etc.

City of Lake informed the team that they have been performing signal system, cameras, and software upgrades.

The Florida Department of Transportation informed the team that they are currently working on debris clean up from Hurricane Irma.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

National/State/Regional

Kevin Smith, Parsons Corporation, presented to the team on the topic of Gray Death, which is a combination of Heroin, Fentanyl, Carfentanyl and Synthetic Opioid. A very small amount of the drug can be deadly as it is 10,000x more potent than Morphine and 100x more potent than Fentanyl. Additionally, Heroin users are unaware that dealers are cutting the heroin with the cheaper use of carfentanil.

Responder Precautions:

- Law Enforcement
 - ✓ Do not Field Test
 - ✓ Use Personal Protection Equipment such as gloves and HEPA mask
 - ✓ Double bag evidence
 - ✓ Protect K-9's
 - ✓ Closely observe all suspects
- Fire/EMS
 - ✓ Suspect OD in unconscious patients of unknown etiology
 - ✓ Be prepared to re-administer multiple doses of Narcan (consult local protocol)
 - ✓ Use PPE; Gloves, HEPA Mask, etc.
 - ✓ Notify receiving Emergency Responder of suspected Gray Death use

Only properly trained and outfitted law enforcement professionals should handle any substance suspected to contain fentanyl or a fentanyl-related compound. If encountered, contact the appropriate officials within your agency.

Be aware of any sign of exposure. Symptoms include: respiratory depression or arrest, drowsiness, disorientation, sedation, pinpoint pupils, and clammy skin. The onset of these symptoms usually occurs within minutes of exposure.

Seek IMMEDIATE medical attention. Carfentanil and other fentanyl-related substances can work very quickly, so in cases of suspected exposure, it is important to call EMS immediately. If inhaled, move the victim to fresh air. If ingested and the victim is conscious, wash out the victim's eyes and mouth with cool water.

Be ready to administer naloxone in the event of exposure. Naloxone is an antidote for opioid overdose. Immediately administering naloxone can reverse an overdose of carfentanil, fentanyl, or other opioids, although multiple doses of naloxone may be required. Continue to administer a dose of naloxone every 2-3 minutes until the individual is breathing on his/her own for at least 15 minutes or until EMS arrives.

To learn more, please click on the following link to view a video on the topic from the perspective of a first responder: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8MLsrleGLSw>

Rory Howe, Parsons Corporation, informed the team on the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) considering lowering speed limits by as much as 20 mph on some streets/highways as part of the Complete Streets Initiative to make streets safer for pedestrians. FDOT has not confirmed which roads will be affected yet. However, roads will be designed for lower speeds in the future after a plan is in place which will be rolled out over several years.

A recent study by Smart Growth America ranked the most dangerous areas in United States for walking pedestrians and Florida ranks #1 in pedestrian traffic deaths nationwide. See details below of the study:

2016 Rank	Metro Area	2016 Pedestrian Danger Index
1	Cape Coral-Fort Myers, FL	283.1
2	Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville, FL	235.2
3	Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford, FL	234.7
4	Jacksonville, FL	228.7
5	Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach, FL	228.2
6	Lakeland-Winter Haven, FL	200.6
7	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	192.0
8	Jackson, MS	189.6
9	Memphis, TN-MS-AR	153.3
10	North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton, FL	148.2

To view the full presentation, please visit our TIM team website at: [http://www.swfltim.org/Polk/Polk%20Docs.htm#Handouts & Presentations](http://www.swfltim.org/Polk/Polk%20Docs.htm#Handouts%20&%20Presentations)

Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, Inc., informed the team about the 2017 National Traffic Incident Management Awareness Week taking place November 13th-19th. The 2017 Goal of the campaign will be increasing driver knowledge of the State Quick Clearance Laws and how to keep motorist and responders safe on the roads.

What can you do? Get involved:

- Engage your community leaders, community emergency response teams, public safety professionals, and motorists
- Discuss Safe Quick Clearance Laws
- Attend national activities during week
- Plan State Activities
- Encourage Members on TIM Teams to use the forum to Plan and exchange ideas
- Serve as a panelist during webinars, and share lessons learned and tools to others

To learn more, please visit the TIM Network website at: <http://timnetwork.org>

Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc., informed the team of the results of the 2017 TIM Self-Assessment. Additionally, the team was informed that at the next TIM Team meeting that the self-assessment results will be used to identify 1-3 areas that the team will concentrate on as goals for the upcoming year.

Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc., presented to the team on the newly implemented Emergency Shoulder Use (ESU) which was recently “put to test” during Hurricane Irma and also received feedback from the first responders on their experience of ESU during the recent evacuation. ESU is Florida's innovative strategy to increase traffic capacity during major hurricane evacuations using existing paved shoulders. Covering key corridors within the state, ESU plans replace the former contraflow or one-way plans.

The ESU plans cover the following roadway segments:

- Interstate 4 - Eastbound from Tampa (Hillsborough County) to Kissimmee (Osceola County)
- Interstate 10 - Westbound from Jacksonville (Duval County) to Lake City (Columbia County)
- Interstate 75 - Northbound from Wildwood (Sumter County) to the Georgia State Line (Hamilton County)
- Interstate 75 Alligator Alley - Northbound from Weston (Broward County) to Naples (Collier County) and Southbound from Naples (Collier County) to Weston (Broward County)

Successful deployment requires a well-planned, interdisciplinary collaboration with a variety of different stakeholders, including planning, operations, design, maintenance, and executive leadership staff within a Department of Transportation; law enforcement; emergency responders; bus operators; MPO staff; and FHWA Division Office staff.

During Hurricane Irma there were two ESU Activations. Please see details below of the two evacuations along with comments from the District 1 SWIFT SunGuide Center and District 2 Traffic Management Center.

ESU Activation – For District 5 and District 2: The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) Implements ESU Plan for Hurricane Irma on I-75 at Wildwood to the Georgia State Line.

- I-75 Northbound from mile marker 311 (Sumter) to just North of I-10 as of 2017-09-07. This was extended to the Georgia border on 2017-09-08. It was deactivated on 2017-09-09

ESU Activation - For District 7 and District 5: FDOT and FHP Implements ESU Plan for Hurricane Irma on I-4 from 50th Street in Tampa to East of SR 429/Western Beltway in Orlando

- ESU was activated for I-4 Eastbound from mile marker 3 in Hillsborough County to mile marker 59 in Osceola County as of 2017-09-09 1341 ET. It was deactivated at 2000 ET

Comments/Notes - District 2

Issues with re-entry of vehicles driving on the shoulder Southbound that was not cleaned. There were no ESU plan in place for re-entry. However, a large amount of vehicles tried to use Southbound since Northbound shoulders were used on the evacuation. The Florida Highway Patrol, DBI Services, and District 2 Road Rangers worked a TON of flat tires from riding the shoulder.

Comments/Notes – SWIFT SunGuide Center

Before the Storm:

- There was a focus on assuring both Traffic Management Centers will be operational and staffing

During the Storm:

- Operations – before Impact, the TMC advised all Road Rangers to stage and handle calls as dispatched. Staying in communication with the Road Ranger Supervisor, as the trucks reached a quarter of a tank, they will be pulled off their beats
- All Road Rangers were removed from the roads at 3:30 pm due to fuel shortage
- The SunGuide software had a few glitches, but the On-call manager was able to reboot the system remotely

After the Storm:

- A majority of devices, CCTV, DMS, and MVDS, were inoperable due to power outages
- Operator's received calls for tree and debris on the roads, on the evening of the 10th. No resources were available to handle the calls as asset maintenance were also awaiting the safe drive clearance
- Road Rangers were still running on limited patrol, due to fuel shortage
- Operators were asked to help with posting information on the 511 websites and floodgate system; for arterial locations affected by flooding and downed power lines. This required extra steps as the locations were not in our SunGuide system

To learn more and to view the Florida Department of Transportation ESU video, please visit the following website at: <http://fdot.gov/emergencymanagement/esu/>

Charles Stratton, Metric Engineering, Inc., updated the team on the I-4 FOG/Low Visibility Detection System project from the east end of Polk Parkway to the Osceola County Line. This project involves the installation of a new FOG/Low Visibility Detection System of I-4 as part of a Florida Department of Transportation design-build project that began in June 2016.

The system is intended to alert motorist of fog or smoke intrusion on the Interstate using the combination of existing and new Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) devices such as flashing beacons and Dynamic Message Signs (DMS). First Responders will be notified via Traffic Management Center. The project is currently in the final testing phase.

The new equipment would be integrated into and operated by the Regional Transportation Management System in Tampa:

- One (1) wind, precipitation, visibility and atmospheric sensor (RWIS)

- Ten (10) visibility sensors
- Twelve (12) thermal/infrared cameras replacing the existing closed-circuit television cameras to view the corridor
- Four (4) 20 millimeter full color dynamic message signs (DMS) to replace the existing amber DMS
- Fifty-eight (58) flashing beacon signs to alert motorist to low visibility conditions

To learn more, please visit the following site: swflroads.com/i4/fogdetection.pdf

Kevin Smith and Rory Howe, Parson Corporation, reviewed the following Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) major traffic incident with the team:

- 07/31/2017 – I-4 Westbound at Mile Marker 42 in Polk County (634252)

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:

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 January 13, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Procap Room, and 1891 Jim Keene Boulevard, Winter Haven, FL 33880.

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 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.