



Polk County Traffic Incident Management Team

October 15, 2020

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	Kevin Salsbery	FDOT
Romona Burke	FDOT D7	Domenic LetoBarone	FL DEP
Ray Mikol	TMC/HNTB	Theresa Chestnut	CTST
Larry Saxon	Florida Turnpike		
Chris Miller	FHP		

Call to Order: The Polk TIM Team meeting was held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 10:00 AM at the Polk County Sheriff's Office Complex, Polk County Sheriff's Office, East Division Command, 3635 Avenue G NW, Winter Haven, FL 33880. 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 informed 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.

The Florida Department of Protection informed the team of the new Florida Statute, 252.351, F.S. that became effective July 1, 2020 regarding reporting requirements and reportable incidents.

Update on TIM Initiatives:

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, informed the team about the Florida TIM Responder Newsletter. The FDOT TIM program publishes a quarterly newsletter called “Florida TIM Responder” containing articles related to Traffic Incident Management. The newsletter includes topics/articles from all Florida Districts; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and Turnpike. If you would like to contribute to the Florida TIM Responder or subscribe to it, please contact Shawn.Kinney@dot.state.fl.us.

Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, informed the team protecting the traffic scene. During a recent incident in District One it was observed that the cone tapering could have been extended further to the front of the scene to protect a Florida Highway Patrol vehicle and the trooper. The trooper was observed getting out of his vehicle as an oncoming vehicle almost struck his vehicle. The asset management on scene was contacted and a request was made to extend the MOT beyond the work zone. The picture on the left shows the cone tapering ending before the troopers vehicle. The picture on the right shows the cone tapering being extended past the trooper’s vehicle.



Tom Arsenault, Metric Engineering, informed the team that on August 3, 2020 around 2:30 a.m. Road Ranger, Yosvanys Hernandez while on routine patrol came across a serious crash involving a tractor-trailer and one other vehicle. The driver of the tractor-trailer advised Mr. Hernandez that he had moved an unknown male that was ejected from the vehicle from the roadway in fear that traffic would hit him. Additionally, Mr. Hernandez was advised that there were other victims in the vehicle. Both the truck driver and Mr. Hernandez worked quickly removing the unresponsive female passenger by cutting their seatbelt and removing them from the vehicle. As they observed smoke starting to come out from underneath the hood of the vehicle, they then turned their attention to the unresponsive driver at which time a deputy arrived at the scene and was able to suppress the fire long enough for them to remove him from the vehicle. A certificate of appreciation will be presented to Road Ranger Hernandez for a job well done.

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, informed the team that Road Rangers are coming to Polk Parkway. Starting November 2, 2020 Incident Response trucks will be available on the Polk Parkway. The trucks will include two shifts and will be available seven days a week.

Brandy Boccuti informed the team that District One is currently conducting the 2020 FHWA TIM Team Self-Assessments (TIM SA's). The TIM Self-Assessments are through the Florida Highway Administration (FHWA) and all TIM Teams throughout the nation participate in the self-assessments which are used to evaluate the progress of the teams and help set goals for the teams.

The Self-Assessments are usually completed during the TIM Team meetings. However, due to COVID19 feedback to the survey is being completed via online and will be sent to the corresponding TIM team stakeholders.

Brandy Boccuti reminded the team about the upcoming 2020 National Traffic Incident Response Week which will take place November 9-16, 2020.

National Traffic Incident Response Awareness Week is chance for all responder communities to individually and jointly make a difference by teaching each other, and the motoring public, about our common goal and responsibility to one another.

In the past three years, state DOTs, Turnpike Authorities, and responder agencies and organizations marked Incident Response Week with:

- Targeted DMS messaging
- Ride-along opportunities
- Video Sharing
- Social Media Campaigns
- Open House
- Special Exercise Activities
- Events marking the lives wasted in preventable crashes

Please visit the timnetwork.org for resources and ideas.

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:

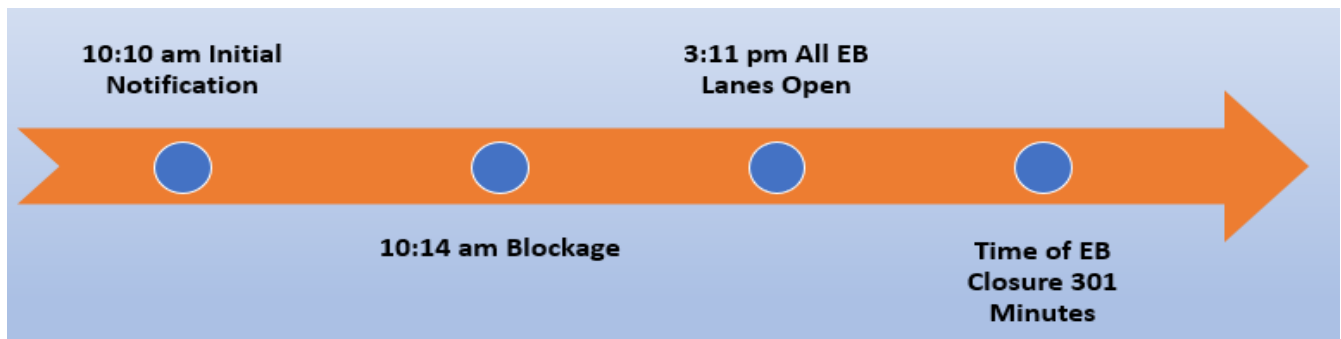
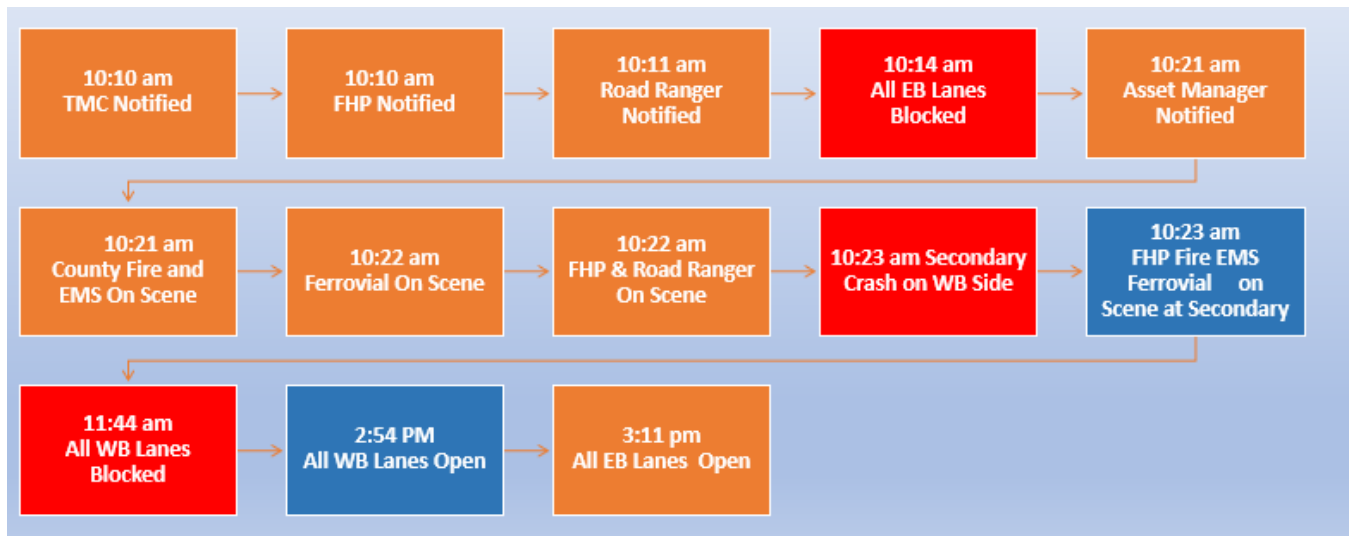
07/31/2020

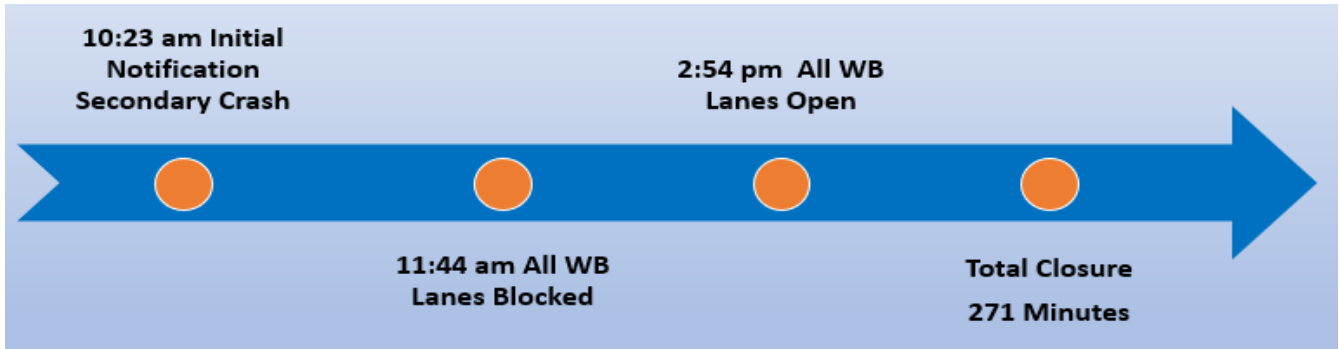
Event Numbers 981765/981766

Eastbound I-4 at SR-33, Exit 33

Polk County

Timeline:





Lessons Learned:

- This included a fatality on the EB Side of I-4, then a secondary crash on the WB Side.
- Good communication was needed to coordinate the closure and the impact on the secondaries. Traffic in each direction was closed and forced off the interstate.
- The secondary crash on the other side was not as destructive as the first.

08/20/2020

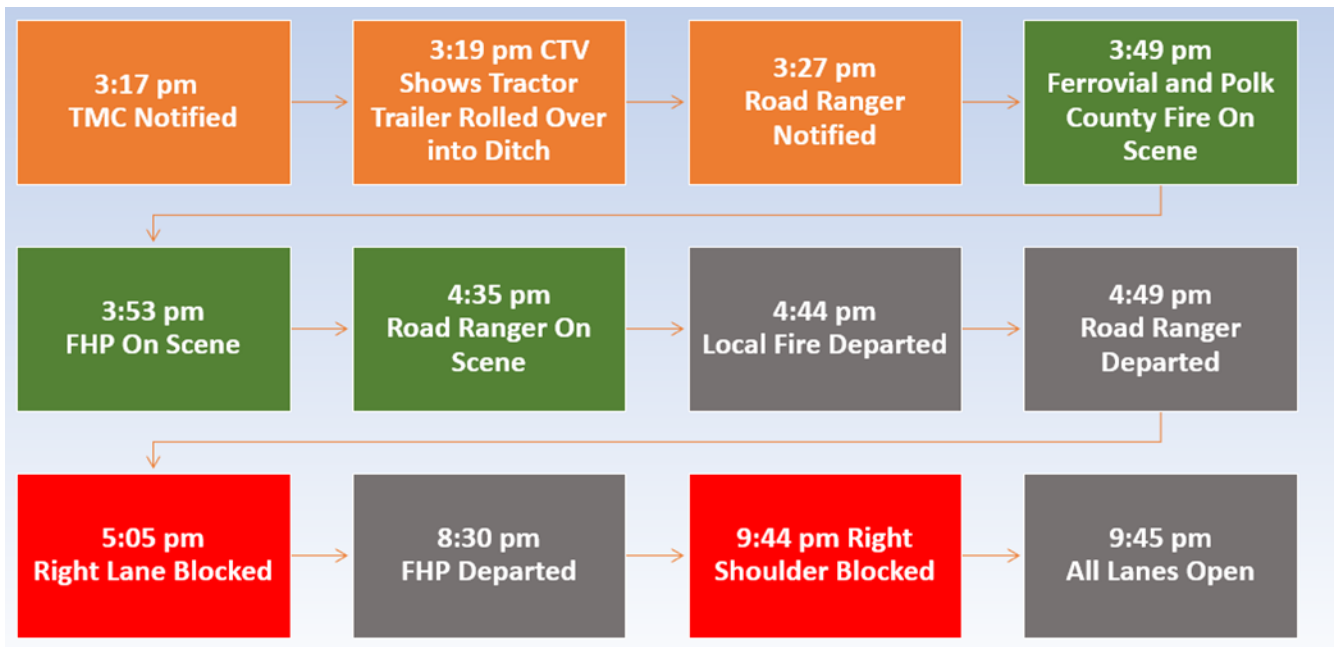
Event Numbers 986430

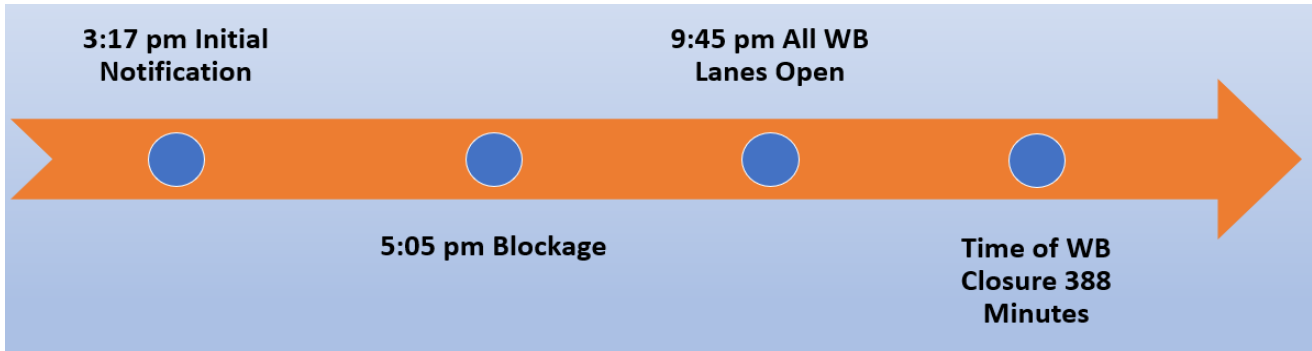
Westbound I-4 at Mile Marker 37

Crash with Tractor Trailer Rolled Over into Ditch

Polk County

Timeline:





Lessons Learned:

- The Right Lane was closed for almost 5 hours. RISC activation may have provided a decrease in road closure times.

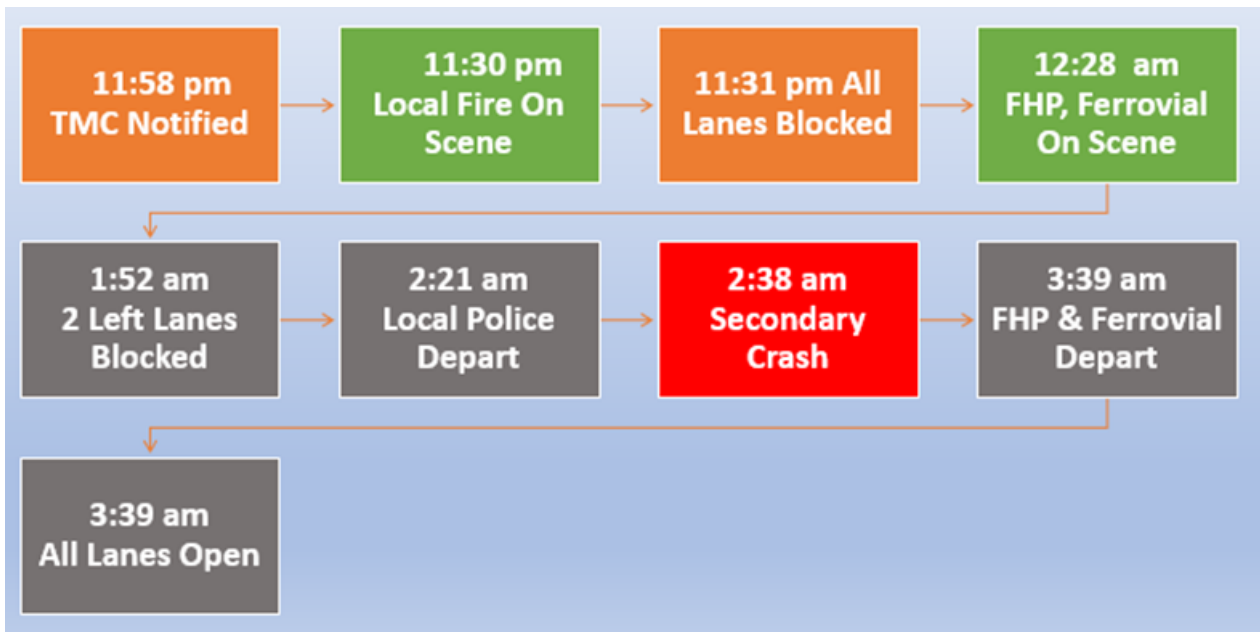
09/12/2020

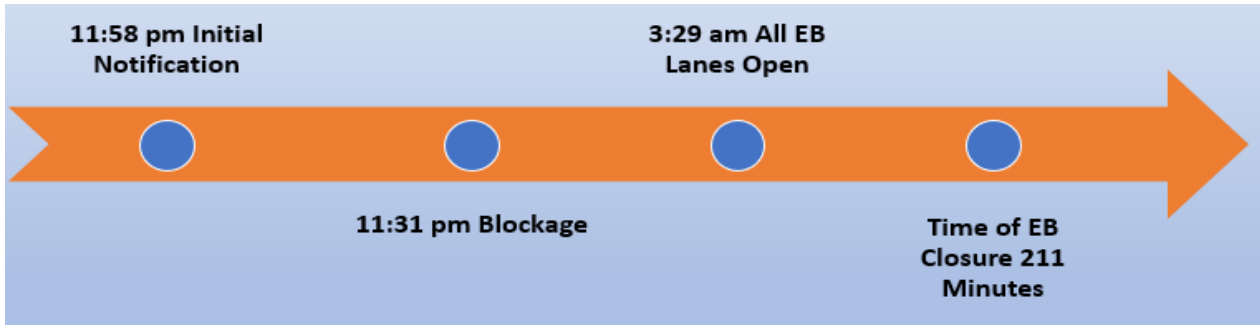
Event Numbers 992157

Eastbound I-4

Polk County

Timeline:





Lessons Learned:

- This was a crash with Right and Left Lanes closed, then all lanes blocked.
- Good response times by emergency vehicles & Asset Management.
- All units cleaned up the scene safely and quickly.
- Good communication with on-scene staff and TMC. When it is a nighttime crash communication is even more important to the TMC due to visibility trouble.

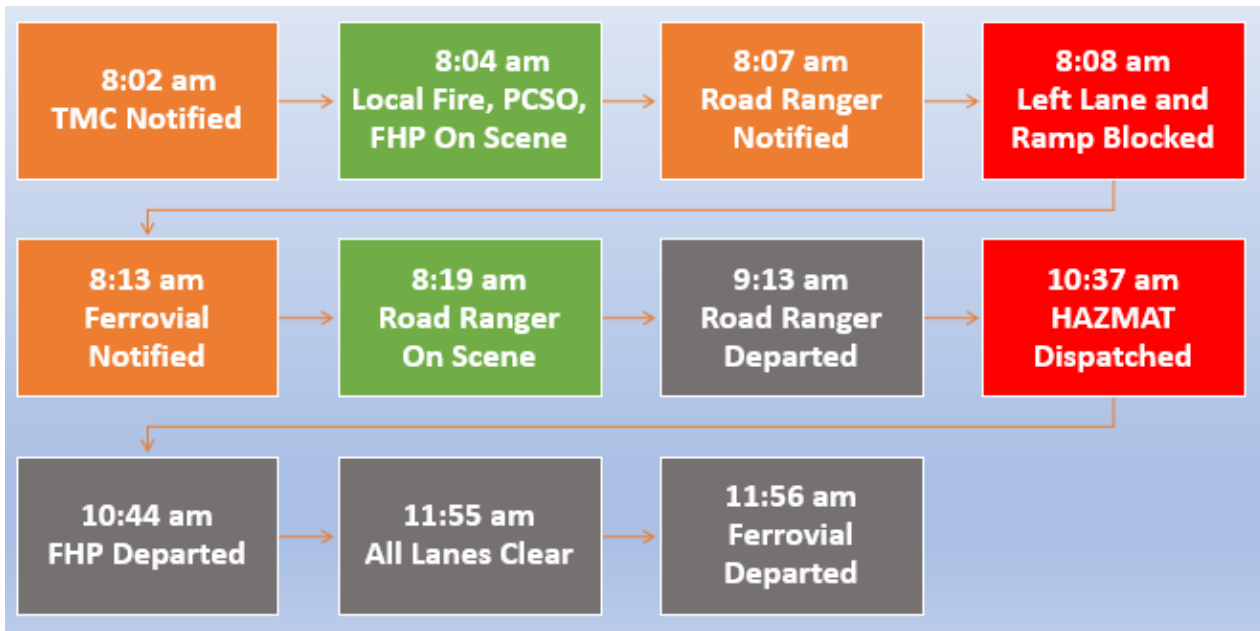
10/2/2020

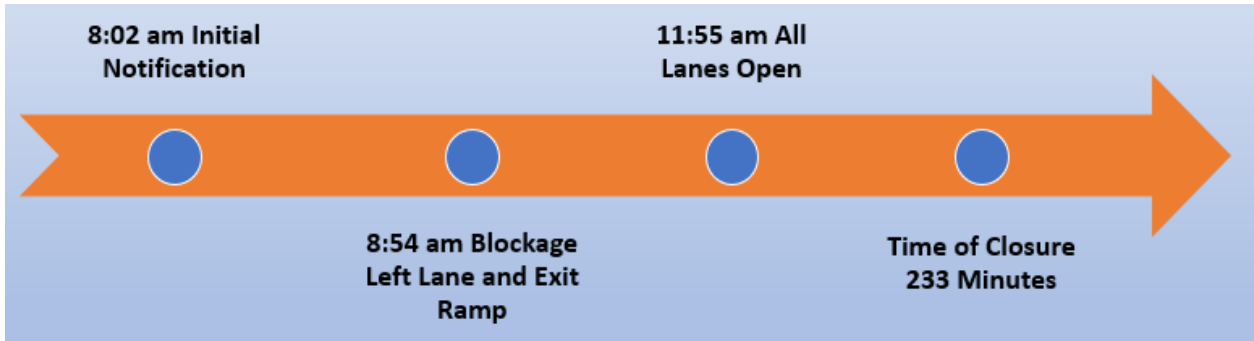
Event Numbers 996595

Westbound I-4 at CR 557, Exit 48

Polk County

Timeline:





Lessons Learned:

- This was a rollover trailer.
- Possible RISC situation. RISC can be activated for trailers off the roadway.
- Good response by emergency units and asset management.
- Good communication of on-scene units to the TMC.
- Good camera view of the crash site.

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 January 14, 2021 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 Brandy Boccuti, Metric Engineering, Inc. at (407) 949-4283 or via email at brandy.boccuti@metriceng.com