



**SMART SunGuide TMC**  
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# SMART MOVES

11th Edition

September 2007

## District 4 ITS Deployment Update

The physical construction of Phase II, which is an Intelligent Transportation System deployment project along I-75 in Broward County, is approximately 80% complete. Conduit, fiber, and a majority of the concrete poles are installed. The system integration has not been started, however, ITS devices are being installed and testing should begin soon. Project completion is currently scheduled for the end of March, 2008.

## SMART SunGuide TMC Presented ITE Award

The SMART SunGuide ITS Program received the 2007 Management and Operations / Intelligent Transportation Systems Council Project Award from the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE). This award is to recognize outstanding contributions to the advancement and implementation of ITS technologies. SMART SunGuide was recognized for innovative techniques to manage the daily operations at the TMC, including automating performance measures, the SIRV program, and developing the SMART Viewer software.



Earl E. Newman (left), International President of ITE, presents the 2007 Management and Operations / ITS Council Project Award to Dong Chen (right), Florida Department of Transportation District 4 ITS Program Manager. Pittsburgh, PA. August 5, 2007. Photo courtesy of ITE.

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**2007 Intertraffic**  
 CONNECTING INNOVATION TO INFRASTRUCTURE  
 NORTH AMERICA > FORT LAUDERDALE

## District 4 ITS Gears Up for Intertraffic 2007

The 2007 Intertraffic North America Conference will be hosted in Fort Lauderdale on October 10-12. This show will bring together the audiences of many different organizations as well as offer a large exhibit hall. The event will be hosted at the Broward Convention Center and offers free registration to the exhibit hall with pre-registration before October 1. For more information, visit [www.northamerica.intertraffic.com](http://www.northamerica.intertraffic.com).

Visit the exhibit hall **FREE**  
 with pre-registration!

**SIGN UP NOW!**

Pre-registration closes  
 on 10/01/07. On-site  
 registration is \$25.00.

FDOT District 4 ITS Program is hosting a booth that will demonstrate TMC operations as well as give people a chance to learn more about the Traffic Incident Management Team, Road Ranger Service Patrol, Severe Incident Response Vehicle, and new developments in ITS.



TMC staff have been busy coordinating with the Intertraffic planning team to coordinate tours and speaking sessions (Motorist Assistance Programs and Emergency Notification, Evacuation and Disaster Response). Additionally, on

October 10 at 3:30 p.m., FDOT is assisting in coordinating an incident management demonstration at the convention center during which techniques to recover rolled over vehicles using pickup or tow trucks will be demonstrated.

Please join us in welcoming Mike McGee to the SMART SunGuide team! Mike, formerly with the Davie Police Department, will serve as the Traffic Incident Management Team Coordinator for Broward and Palm Beach Counties.



### Operations Exceed CCTV Detection Goals

Congratulations to the SMART SunGuide operators who have done an unbelievable job of increasing Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) detection rates. Setting and achieving these daily goals assures that incidents are responded to in a timely manner.

In March 2007, the CCTV detection rate average was 23.6 %. This means that on average, 23.6 % of all the incidents detected by the TMC were detected via CCTV by an operator. By July 2007, the average rose to 40%! That number was reached even with Operators attending Road Ranger / TMC Operator Joint Training and the control room was juggling staff schedules.

### 2007 Joint Training Completed

This year's annual Road Ranger / TMC Operator Joint Training was held on August 8-9 and again on August 15-16. The training is held to help new Road Rangers and TMC Operators understand their role better and help them understand each others' role.

People from all facets of District 4 ITS operations were in attendance: Broward Road Ranger Fleet, Palm Beach Road Ranger Fleet, SMART SunGuide Broward TMC Operators, and Palm Beach ITMS Operators. Presentations were made by the Florida Highway Patrol, and the Department of Homeland Security. Attendees have two days of training and receive a certificate of completion at the end.



The Road Ranger / TMC Operator Joint Training Seminar had many different presenters, including Florida Highway Patrol. August 8, 2007.



Byron Escoto, Broward County Road Ranger, was presented a certificate of recognition by Guy Francese, FDOT District 4 Freeway Operations Manager, for his honorable and life saving actions.

### Road Ranger Commended for Saving Life

At the July Broward County Traffic Incident Management Team meeting, the Florida Department of Transportation proudly commended Road Ranger Byron Escoto for his honorable and life saving actions. On June 19, 2007, while on duty, Byron witnessed a male pedestrian walking on I-95 approaching the ramps to I-595. He immediately stopped to see if he could provide assistance.

Upon speaking with him, Byron quickly learned that the man was severely depressed and was planning to walk to the top of the ramp to commit suicide by jumping off onto the highway below. Byron informed the dispatcher about the situation and requested assistance from the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP). He calmly talked to the man and gave him water, settling him down until FHP arrived. The man was subsequently taken to a hospital where he was admitted to receive help.

Byron's actions on the road that day saved the man's life. He is a great example of the difference a Road Ranger can make in a single person's life and is commended for a job well done.

Dial \*FHP  
(\*347) for Road  
Ranger Service Patrol  
Assistance

## 2008 Freeway and Tollway Operations Conference Planning is Under Way!

The 2008 Freeway and Tollway Operations Conference (FTOC), which is being hosted by FDOT District 4 and Florida's Turnpike Enterprise, is planned for June 15-19, 2008. The conference will be held at the Hyatt Bonaventure in Weston, Florida.



TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD



The conference will kick-off with a golf outing for the TRB and IBTTA executive committees and then offer several days of presentations and working group sessions. Something new to this

annual mid-year meeting will be the exhibit hall, which will allow vendors to show off their latest technologies. There is still room for additional exhibitors and sponsors to get involved with the conference.

FTOC registration is now open. Visit [www.2008FTOC.com](http://www.2008FTOC.com) to get general conference information as well as to link to the official registration website. Register now to get the early bird price!

**[www.2008FTOC.com](http://www.2008FTOC.com)**

## Hurricane Reference Guide Now Available

The Broward County Local Agency Hurricane Reference Guide is now available from FDOT District 4. The guide was created in response to lessons learned during 2005's Hurricane Wilma. FDOT District 4 and Broward County Traffic Engineering Division (BCTED) met to coordinate activities and develop actions to better prepare for future hurricane events. One of the outcomes of the meetings held was the Hurricane Reference Guide, which outlines the planned activities of FDOT District 4 and BCTED regarding hurricanes. It provides guidelines for municipalities to support FDOT District 4 and BCTED planned activities. The hurricane reference guide will be updated annually in conjunction with updates to the BCTED Hurricane Preparedness Manual and FDOT District 4 Emergency Response Plan Manual. To request a copy of the Hurricane Reference Guide, contact Gaetano Francese at [Gaetano.Francese@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:Gaetano.Francese@dot.state.fl.us) or 954-847-2797.



## District 4 Road Ranger Contract Renewed

Sunshine Towing, the District 4 Road Ranger Service Patrol provider, recently completed their 3-year contract and were awarded a 1-year extension. With the renewal, Sunshine Towing will be adding a roving supervisor role to the program. This supervisor will be patrolling Monday - Friday from 6 a.m. - 7 p.m. Their duties will be to go to all major incidents, restock Road Ranger trucks with supplies while out in the field, and monitor all beats for quality assurance.



## State Funds for RISC Program

**RISC**

The Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) program will be coming to District 4, thanks to recent state funding. RISC will be used at severe incidents to open roads as quickly as possible, just as it is currently being used on Florida's Turnpike. This will be an incentive based program, meaning that if the RISC team meets the open roads policy requirements, they will be rewarded. The funding for this will be available in July 2008. The contract advertisement process will be starting in the near future.

For an e-copy of this newsletter, visit  
[www.SMARTSunGuide.com](http://www.SMARTSunGuide.com)

## District 4 Intelligent Transportation Systems Program Draws International Attention

In July the SMART SunGuide TMC hosted two groups of international visitors.



A group from Guaynabo City, Puerto Rico, including the city mayor, made Fort Lauderdale one of their stops while in the USA to look at different transportation management centers. They were interested in how the TMC was operated to implement techniques at their own, upcoming Multi Inter-Agency Management Center. Since visiting, they have decided to expand their plans to incorporate additional motorist services similar to what they learned here.



Visitors from Toronto and Hong Kong spent two full days learning about the District 4 ITS Program. Their intention was to take ideas back to the Transport Department in Hong Kong, where the government is developing an Intelligent Transportation Systems program. "The visit was very fruitful for us to grasp the latest information and technologies in transport incident management, which would certainly benefit our work in Hong Kong," said the Transport Department.



Guests get an up close look at the Severe Incident Response Vehicle.

All the TMC guests were very impressed by the staff presentations and demonstrations. It is a pleasure for SMART SunGuide TMC to share lessons learned and serve as a source of ideas for others' to build their own programs upon.

## Christmas in July

SMART SunGuide TMC helped Broward County and Kiwanis collect school supplies and clothes for underprivileged children. Thanks to the help of many agencies joining together, this year's effort helped more than 700 children from 12 different shelters.



## FDOT Advertising for Broward County Advanced ITS Deployment

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit Technical and Price proposals from qualified Design-Build Firms for the design-build, integration, making operational, and maintenance of the I-95 / I-595 / I-75 Advanced Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Deployment Project in Broward County, Florida. The Broward County Advanced ITS Deployment Project (BC-AITS) deployment will include a wireless Arterial Dynamic Message Sign (ADMS) subsystem, a Voice over IP (VoIP) wireless communications subsystem, a Roadway Weather Information Systems (RWIS) subsystem, and a Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) subsystem.



Broward County Advanced ITS Deployment will include a wireless Arterial Dynamic Message Sign subsystem and many other components.

Is there something that you would like to see featured in SMART Moves? Interested in joining the email distribution list? Contact Sarah Stanley at 954-847-2697 or [sstanley@smartsunguide.com](mailto:sstanley@smartsunguide.com)