WELCOME to 2008 FREEWAY & TOLLWAY OPERATIONS CONFERENCE!

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) Freeway Operations Committee and International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA) would like to welcome all to the 2008 Freeway and Tollway Operations Conference (FTOC).

The Host Committee is comprised of staff from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Four and the Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise. Staff will be available at the convention facilities throughout the conference.

Over 300 transportation professionals from around the world will be coming together to discuss the latest issues in freeway and tollway operations. The program for the conference is packed with activities, including technical tours, an incident management demonstration, and an exhibit hall with over 25 displays.

This four day convention will have five different tracks to address the following themes:

- **Track 1** Expressway/Motorway Management
- **Track 2** Tollway and Tolling Operations
- **Track 3** Operations and Control Center Technologies
- **Track 4** Safety in Incident Management
- **Track 5** Managed Lanes

Scheduled keynote speakers include Richard Burleson, U.S. Army (retired), General Barry McCaffrey, U.S. Army (retired), Scott F. Belcher, President & CEO of the Intelligent Transportation Society of America and Greg Krueger, the Michigan Department of Transportation’s (MDOT) Program Manager for the statewide Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Program.

Technical Tours include the following destinations:

- SMART SunGuide Transportation Management Center and Palm Beach County Interim Traffic Management System (ITMS)
- District Six Sunguide TMC and Lehman Center for Transportation Research
- Sunpass Customer Service Center and Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise

Immediately following the tours participants will see Florida’s Turnpike Enterprise demonstrate the Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program, a program vital to meeting Florida Department of Transportation’s Open Roads Policy. The afternoon’s activities will show off the various Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and devices currently utilized in South Florida.

The conference includes two dinner events. On Monday night, participants will go to an island dinner getaway at the exclusive Lauderdale Yacht Club. Tuesday night’s dinner at the Hyatt Regency Bonaventure will be immediately followed by dessert, music, and dancing under the stars!

The exhibit has over 25 companies and organizations displaying their products and latest innovations. The exhibit hall will be open Tuesday, June 17 from 7:30am to 6:00pm and Wednesday, June 18 from 7:30am to 1:00pm.

The Hyatt Regency Bonaventure Conference Center & Spa, a beautifully-renovated, 23-acre suburban retreat is the ideal center for exploring the exciting Fort Lauderdale attractions, and close to all the action. For detailed conference program and registration, please visit our website: www.2008FTOC.com
DISTRICT FOUR ITS RECEIVES RECOGNITION

The District Four Intelligent Transportation Systems have been recognized by the Davis Productivity Awards for the following awards:

* Reduced Man Power Projections for Construction Job
* Developed Automated Intelligent Transportation System Benefit/Cost Ratio

These awards will be proudly displayed with the other Davis Productivity Awards received. In 2007 the SMART SunGuide Team was awarded for:

* Severe Incident Response Vehicle Emergency Response Task Team
* The I-75/I-595 Value Engineering Team

Since 1989, the Davis Productivity Award program has publicly recognized and rewarded state employees and work units whose work significantly and measurably increases productivity and promotes innovation to improve the delivery of state services and save money for Florida taxpayers and businesses.

DISTRICT FOUR ITS PHASE 2

The District Four Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Phase 2 deployment is at 92% of completion and should be complete early this summer. Of the ten Dynamic Messaging Signs (DMS) scheduled for installation, nine of them are complete. In addition to the signs, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras and Vehicle Detection Sensors (VDS) for monitoring the flow of traffic are being deployed. This is an expansion to the existing system currently monitoring I-95, I-595 and portions of SR-84 in Broward County. As the area population continues to grow, it has a direct impact on the roadways. Dissemination of information is vital to help commuters make real time decisions to alter their routes helping to reduce commuting time and increasing safety on our highways.

DISTRICT FOUR STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES for ROAD RANGERS

The Road Ranger Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) that have been in the final review stages are almost complete. Based on the information contained in the Road Ranger Scope of Services, the guidelines were expanded to include more safety information for the Road Rangers, to safely guide them through their daily patrols of the interstate highways. Sections on communications, highway infrastructure security, hurricane procedures, and supervision have been added to the original scope of services information. After final review in the next month, the guidelines will be distributed to the Road Ranger Service Patrol Operators and will be used for in-service training. This will facilitate standard operational procedures and safety information for the Road Rangers.

Do You Know How to Ask for Road Ranger Service Patrol Assistance? Dial *FHP (*347)

Road Ranger assisting during an incident on I-95.
The kick-off organizational meeting for the Treasure Coast Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team was a great success! The meeting was hosted by Sergeant Kurt Mittwede of the Saint Lucie County Sheriff’s Office (Sheriff Ken Mascara) on Midway Road. The invitees included the Florida Highway Patrol and FDOT Maintenance, Martin, Saint Lucie, and Indian River county government departments including law enforcement, fire rescue, emergency operations, traffic engineering, and the metropolitan planning organizations. Also in attendance were representatives from several towing companies, the ITMS Center and the Florida Turnpike Enterprise.

Approximately 40 attendees were introduced to the District Four TIM Team including: Guy Francese, District Four Freeway Operations Manager; Bob Murphy of DMJM Harris, ITS Project Manager; Mike McGee of DMJM Harris, TIM Coordinator; and Dave Needham of DMJM Harris, TMC Operations Supervisors at the Broward Transportation Management Center (TMC). They spoke regarding their roles and responsibilities in Traffic Incident Management and gave an overview of the TIM program.

The statewide TIM Program Manager, Patrick Odom; and the statewide TIM Coordinator, Charlie Creel, called in from Tallahassee to welcome the attendees, pledge their support of the Treasure Coast TIM Team, and make themselves available for any questions. With the establishment of the Treasure Coast TIM Team, the final segment of interstate highways within Florida is now covered by Traffic Incident Management Teams.

Attendees were shown a video presentation of the SMART SunGuide Transportation Management Center including Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) equipment installation, Road Rangers, and Severe Incident Response Vehicles (SIRV). This presentation gave them an overview of the TIM components and how they collectively establish a communication network of detection, response and clearance of traffic incidents.

The Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) program, which will soon begin on a statewide basis, was also described. This program originated on the Florida’s Turnpike and is being used as a model for the statewide program. Guest speakers for the RISC program included Captain Ibrahim Egeli, Lieutenant Rob Purser, and Lieutenant Gene Hingson of the Florida Highway Patrol; Alicia DeFago, the District Four Northern I-95 Construction Public Information Officer; and Richard Kauff from Kauff’s Towing. Each member talked about the positive aspects of the Traffic Incident Management concept and its success in communications, also the importance of information sharing between responder agencies and companies.

Information was provided on upcoming I-95 lane expansion projects. This work included ITS equipment scheduled to be deployed and the new Treasure Coast Incident Management Support Office (IMSO) on Oleander Avenue in Fort Pierce. This IMSO will work in conjunction with the Palm Beach Interim Traffic Management System (ITMS), and later, the Palm Beach TMC located at the Palm Beach County Government Vista Center.

The attendees voted unanimously to name their TIM team, Treasure Coast, which is the nickname for their combined coastal region of Florida. Future meetings dates will be determined. For further information, contact Mike McGee at mmcgee@smartsunguide.com or (954) 847-2634.

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
The I-595 project limits extends from the I-75/I-595 interchange to the I-595/I-95 interchange in central Broward County, Florida, for a total project length of approximately 10.5 miles. The project consists of the reconstruction, addition of auxiliary lanes and resurfacing of the I-595 mainline, and a new reversible express lanes system in the I-595 median. This includes the design, construction, finance, integration, operation, and the maintenance of the new and permanent I-595 corridor.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) deployment to support traffic management and operations of the express lanes and the general purpose lanes. The I-595 ITS includes a fiber optic communication network subsystem, a Reversible Express Lanes Access Control subsystem, a Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) camera traffic monitoring subsystem, a Dynamic Message Sign (DMS) subsystem, Changeable Message Sign (CMS) subsystem, a Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) subsystem, a Microwave Vehicle Detection Station (MVDS) subsystem, and an Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) subsystem including all ancillary components within the I-595 Project corridor. The procurement of the I-595 PPP project team is currently underway. The project notice to proceed (NTP) is expected to be issued before the year end and the construction of the I-595 corridor is expected to last 5 years.

REAL-TIME TRAFFIC INFORMATION with 511

A Media Open House Event at the Broward SMART SunGuide Transportation Management Center and Palm Beach Interim Traffic Management System (ITMS) was recently coordinated by Global 5 communications, the new statewide 511 media consultant. The media will be invited to bring their cameras and will have the opportunity to do interviews and traffic reports, live from the control room.

The 511 South Florida Traffic and Transit Information Service is a free service of The Florida Department of Transportation, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority, and the SunGuide Partnership.

This year Global 5 began their promotional efforts on Memorial Day weekend and will continue during the summer. Being able to inform motorists to dial 511 and receive up to the minute traffic information would reduce the number of vehicles on the highway.

Motorists wasted 8.4 billion gallons of fuel and lost $75 billion in productivity in traffic jams, according to a 2005 estimate from the Florida Department of Transportation.