

Broward County Traffic Incident Management Team

TIM Meeting Minutes May 2009



Meeting Date: May 6, 2009

Meeting Time: 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Location: SMART SunGuide TMC
2300 West Commercial Blvd. 2nd Fl.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

Attendees: Listing Attached

Call Meeting to Order

Mike McGee of AECOM called the meeting to order. Reviewed meeting minutes and action items from previous meeting.

Distributed Documents:

- Agenda
- March 2009 meeting minutes
- Broward Construction Report
- Division of Forestry handout
- I-595 Express Lanes material

Review Action Items/Previous Meeting Minutes – Mike McGee

Ten Cones of Highway Safety video has been obtained and distributed to Kauff's Towing and BSO.

A meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) was scheduled with the SMART SunGuide Broward TMC on March 24, 2009. The meeting was to discuss how the DEP could receive notifications of incidents on the interstates.

Agency Award – Guy Francese

Guy Francese presented a certificate of excellence to Jason Fox of A Superior Towing. He pulled up on an incident and cleared all the debris from the travel lanes to allow traffic flow to resume.

UPDATES

New TIM Contract – Guy Francese

On April 1st, 2009, a new TIM contract started and was awarded to AECOM, the same company that has been running the contract for several years. A new project manager is on board, Gregg Letts of AECOM. There has been a new position added to the contract. The position is Treasure Coast TIM Coordinator and Chuck McGinness is filling the position.

One Way Evacuation – Guy Francese

Captain Roberts from FHP Troop L in Davie has scheduled his annual pre-hurricane season preparation meeting to be held on May 29, 2009 at 10:00am at the Troop L headquarters on SR 84 in Davie (see attached map). There will be representatives from FDOT District 1 and District 4 in attendance to discuss changes to both of the district's Alligator Alley One Way Evacuation Plans. Captain Roberts has invited some of the media to the meeting as well. All TIM Team members interested in attending are welcome.

I-75 Median Crossovers – Mike McGee

Guard rails have been installed from the 595 interchange down to the Miami/Dade County line to prevent crossover crashes. Mike discussed the issue of the ability of incident responders to make U-turns on the interchange. We currently do not meet guidelines from the FHWA for making allowances for emergency U-turns. Seven letters have been received by Gilbert Soles, FDOT D4 Safety Department.



Alligator Alley Fire Station Signing – Guy Francese

Guy presented images of the new signs that will be installed for the BSO fire station located at the rest area on I-75 at Mile Marker 35. The signs are blue and will have the medical symbol displayed.

Construction – Maria Connelly

I-95/I-595 Interchange near Fort Lauderdale Airport

I-595 will have two eastbound lanes closed east of I-95 overnight from 8 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday night, May 3, and Monday night, May 4. I-595 will have three westbound lanes closed approaching I-95 overnight from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Wednesday night, May 6. The connector ramp from I-95 eastbound to I-595 eastbound will have one lane closed overnight from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Monday night, May 4. The connector ramp from I-95 southbound to I-95 eastbound will have one lane closed overnight from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Tuesday night, May 5.

Guardrails have been replaced, and six of the interchange ramps will be repaved, along with I-595 on both sides of I-95. Completion will be in August.

I-595/I-75/SAWGRASS EXPRESSWAY INTERCHANGE

The connector ramp from the Sawgrass Expressway southbound to I-595 eastbound has one lane closed at all times through mid-May. Major renovations are being made to this ramp, which is a bridge.

Work will be completed in May.

I-75/ALLIGATOR ALLEY WEST OF U.S. 27 IN THE EVERGLADES

I-75/Alligator Alley will have a lane closed in one direction at a time for two miles at a time from the toll plaza just west of U.S. 27 to 16 miles westward on weekdays from 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. I-75 will be repaved and the inside shoulders will be widened in each direction. Completion will be mid-2010.

I-95/I-75 CROSS STREET SIGNS

Cross streets at I-95 and I-75 that are scheduled to get overhead signs advising motorists of interstate traffic conditions will remain open through May 9. Foundations will be added for overhead changeable message signs that will advise motorists of traffic conditions on I-95 and on I-75. These message signs will be added on all I-95 cross streets in Broward County except S.W. 10th Street in Deerfield Beach. I-75 cross street where signs will be added are Miramar Parkway and Pines Boulevard. Work will be done in December.

Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Update – Guy Francese

West Way Towing has been added as a RISC provider. All five contracts have been executed and a start date of July 1, 2009 is in the works. FHP will be training their troopers on the roles and procedures for RISC.

Southeast Florida Regional Transportation Operations Committee (SEFRTOC) / 511 – Alex Mirones

SEFRTOC recently met and discussed the QAQC of 511 information and received a 97% accuracy rate. SEFRTOC has been meeting to discuss interagency communication on brush fires and are working to put procedures in place on the closing of Alligator Alley.

Other items discussed were the lessons learned from District Six on Ramp Metering, I-95 Express Lanes, and the QAQC database for the statewide 511 system. Topics of interest for future meetings are the upcoming Pro Bowl and Super Bowl events. Regional communication will be discussed for these two events.

TIM Partnering Outreach – Mike McGee

Mike stated that at the last few TIM meetings, he proposed the idea to go to various agencies and give a presentation on TIM. So far, Broward County agencies have participated and Mike strongly urged contact with agencies in Palm Beach County. Mike can be contacted at (954) 847-2634 or michael.mcgee@smartsunguide.com



PRESENTATIONS

I-595 Express – Paul Lampley, FDOT D4

A brief video was shown to the TIM team on the projected outcome of the I-595 Express Lanes project. Items discussed in the presentation were project requirements:

- NTP2: August 2009
- Project Limits
 - I-75/Sawgrass Expressway interchange to the I-595/I-95 interchange
 - The Turnpike Mainline from Griffin Rd (South limit) to Peters Rd (North limit)
- TMC Operations
 - Provide for TMC Operations of I-595 at Broward County TMC
 - Two Operator 24/7 - 365
 - Additional Operators during Peak Periods
- Road Ranger Services
 - 30 Minute Cycle time 24/7 - 365 days
 - Vehicles equipped with GPS and wireless data connectivity to TMC
- RISC Operations
 - Perform Consistent with Florida Open Roads Policy
- SIRV Operations
 - SIRV Vehicle and Certified Operator
 - Coordinate with FDOT District 4 Media Specialist
- Emergency Response
 - Pre-event responsibilities
 - Post-event responsibilities
- Emergency Access Gates
 - Five entry/exit points
- Reversible Lane Procedures
 - TMC Controlled
 - Field Verification
- Operation Supervisor
 - Coordinates all TIM Activities
- TMC Operators
 - TMC II - shift supervisor = 3
 - TMC's I - 6
- Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG's)
 - For TMC, Road Ranger, RISC, SIRV
- Road Ranger SOG
 - Revision of District 4 SOG
- Road Ranger Staffing
 - Road Ranger Supervisor
 - FHP Experience
 - Road Ranger Operators
 - Staff = 6 to 8
 - Road Ranger Vehicles
 - 4 Vehicles available 24/7

RISC Program:

- Two Subcontractors
- Under contract
- Experienced local companies
- Appropriate equipment
- 24/7 Availability

SIRV Program:

- SIRV SOG
- SIRV Operator
 - Two Supervisor/Operator trained and certified

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- SIRV Vehicle
 - Need highly maneuverable vehicle because of tight confines of reversible lanes

Action Items for I-595 Express:

- Coordinate a meeting with Florida Highway Patrol for Florida's Turnpike.
- Set up a meeting with Florida DEP regarding HAZMAT situations.

Wildfire Season – Scott Peterich, Division of Forestry

Scott stated that the brush fires on Alligator Alley have consumed about 30,000 acres of land. The drought conditions are high this season. There has been little to no rain.

Sgt. Wysocky from Florida Highway Patrol stated that I-75 was shut down around midnight to 8-9am. For the next few days this closure will occur. Sgt. Wysocky also inquired about having a small handout to give to motorists with driving directions to help alleviate the frustration of detours and tourists not knowing their way around.

Alex Mirones stated that communication has been good with FHP and DBI for long term MOT. The biggest concern has been confused motorists. There have been a total of ten full closures.

Fire Hydrant Study Update / Sign Design – Nigel McGregor

Nigel McGregor of FDOT D4 Traffic Design Department presented two options to the TIM team for markers to be installed for the fire hydrant signs that will be posted along the sound walls of I-95. Nigel stated that the signage for the fire hydrants must comply with Section 4.3 of the Traffic Engineering Manual, Section 700 of the Standards Specs for Road and Bridge Construction, and the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

The proposed sign would be 3.5 ft. by 4 ft. in size. Scenario one features the sign installed on the sound wall with five Roadway Pavement Markers (RPM) with two feet spacing on the shoulder perpendicular to the sound wall. Scenario Two depicts eight RPMs placed two feet apart horizontally and vertically in a diamond shape.

- The cost for scenario one is 3.5 ft. x 4 ft. sign (14 sq. ft) \$762.17 with five RPMs at \$5 each for a total of \$25.
- The cost for scenario two is 3.5 ft. x 4 ft. sign (14 sq. ft) \$762.17 with eight RPMs at \$5 each for a total of \$40.

Chief John Quitoni with Deerfield Beach Fire Rescue stated that a map of how to access the fire hydrant on the opposite side of the sound wall would be a great tool for the fire stations.

Transportation System Management and Operations – Melissa Ackert, FDOT D4 Traffic Operations

Melissa described to the group that the project idea is to gather data on the arterial roadways in a certain area and determine how incident management could be utilized. TSM&O is an organizational shift from transportation system outputs (ex. Lane miles resurfaced) to mobility outcomes (ex. Travel time reliability) that maximize the efficiency of the system. TSM&O is a fundamental change in the way we solve the urban transportation problem.

- District Four is implementing TSM&O in Broward County
- Program "officially" began on January 7th, 2009 with the TSM&O Performance Measures Workshop
- A Broward County TSM&O Task Team was formed
 - Members include: Broward County Transit, Broward County MPO, Broward County Traffic Engineering, FDOT Planning, FDOT Traffic Operations, FDOT OMD
- The Broward County TSM&O Task Team will meet monthly to develop and manage the TSM&O program
 - Network Definition
 - Network Users
 - User Expectations
 - Performance Measurement
 - Incident Management

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- Multi-Modal Operational Strategies

Urban Transportation Problem

- Urban traffic congestion
 - Travel time reliability
 - Highway construction costs
 - Gas tax revenues are not keeping up with transportation needs
 - Florida's urban areas are reaching highway build-out
- User groups will be represented in the performance measures
 - Transit Users
 - Commuters
 - Freight and Goods Movers
 - The Broward County TSM&O Task Team has already defined the Initial Deployment Network's performance measures:
 - Travel Time Index on arterials and freeways
 - Crash rate on arterials and freeways
 - On-time performance for transit
 - Etc.
 - Deployment of fiber optic communications, Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) monitoring, video image detection systems (VIDs) to replace inductive loop detection
 - Rapid response maintenance of signal system infrastructure on segments
 - Leverage future capability of signal system software platform (e.g. traffic adaptive control)
 - We will need a team to develop strategies for detecting incidents and responding to incidents.
 - Any volunteers?
 - Next Broward County TSM&O Task Team Meeting is scheduled for June 4th from 8:30am to 10:30am in the District Four Office's First Floor Executive Conference Room.

Open Discussion

- Sgt. Mark Wysocky of the Florida Highway Patrol asked the Fire Rescue agencies what the policy is on cleaning biohazard situations such as blood and soft tissue. Tom O'Connell of Sunrise Fire Rescue stated that the policy is not to wash down any blood; bleach is recommended for clearing biohazard.

Action Items:

- Coordinate a meeting with Florida Highway Patrol for Florida's Turnpike.
- Set up a meeting with Florida DEP regarding HAZMAT situations.
- Sgt. Wysocky inquired about having a small handout to give to motorists with driving directions to help alleviate the frustration of detours and tourists not knowing their way around.
- Chief John Quitoni with Deerfield Beach Fire Rescue stated that a map of how to access the fire hydrant on the opposite side of the sound wall would be a great tool for the fire stations.

ATTENDEES

Melissa Ackert	FDOT D4 Traffic Operations
Chester Bolton	Pompano Beach Fire Rescue
Keith Bradley	US DHS
Erich Bundy	Kauff's Towing
John Cariola	Broward County Transit
Anthony Casale	HTS Towing
Craig Collins	Broward County Transit
Maria Connolly	FDOT D4 Construction
Robert Correira	I-595 Express
Mike Cowart	DBI Services
Steve Curran	Sunrise Police Department
Colleen Dalton	JCS / I-595 Express
Paul Davis	PDVN

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Tom Dickson

SIRV



Al DiLiello	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Andrew Doyle	ACS Infrastructure
R. Durng	Miramar
Richard Fimbel	DBI Services
Guy Francese	FDOT District 4
Tom Gallagher	Pembroke Pines Fire Department
Ana Gannon	FDEP
Captain Terry Gartner	FDOT MCCO
John Gazzano	Pembroke Pines Police Department
Laila Haddad	FDOT I-595 MRG
Earl Hingson	FHP
Jim Jennings	Emerald Towing
Barbara Kelleher	FDOT D4 PIO
Maggie Kirkpatrick	I-595 Express
Gerald Kleynhans	DBI Services
Bill Lombardi	CBI Services
Gregg Letts	AECOM
Mike McGee	AECOM
Chuck McGinness	AECOM
Nicole McGlynn	AECOM
Nigel McGregor	FDOT D4 Roadway Design
Ed McKissack	Florida's Turnpike
John McPherson	JCS – I-595 Express
Gary McVoy	Hallandale Beach Police Department
Juli Mellot	BSO Pompano
Bob Murphy	AECOM
Brian Nolte	Davie Fire Rescue
Fred North	BSO Fire Rescue
Tom O'Connell	Sunrise Fire Rescue
Ed Perez	Corradino Group
Scott Peterich	Division of Forestry
Kevin Piller	West Way Towing
Anthony Puccio	FDOT District 4
Captain John Roberts	Florida Highway Patrol
Phil Schwab	RS&H / FDOT
Jeffrey Scott	Broward County Transit
Melanie Sexton	TCG/I-595
Shannon Snyder	I-595 Express
Gilbert Soles	FDOT D4 Safety
Alex Ramos	Sunshine Towing
Roger Reyes	Florida Highway Patrol
Mike Washburn	Florida's Turnpike
Catherine Werner	Florida's Turnpike
Tony Wilson	SIRV
Sgt. Mark Wysocky	Florida Highway Patrol
Enrique Zelaya	Broward MPO
Fritz Zettel	FDOT District 4