

# Palm Beach County Traffic Incident Management Team

## TIM Meeting Minutes October 2008



**Meeting Date:** October 7, 2008  
**Meeting Time:** 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM  
**Location:** Palm Beach County Vista Center  
2300 N. Jog Rd.  
West Palm Beach, FL 33411

**Attendees:** Listing Attached

### **Call Meeting to Order**

Mike McGee of DMJM Harris called the meeting to order. Introductions immediately followed. Reviewed meeting minutes from previous meeting.

### **Distributed Documents:**

- Agenda
- August meeting minutes
- I-95 Construction Handout
- Post Incident Analysis Handout
- SMART Moves September Edition
- Fire Hydrant Study Handout

### **Review Action Items/Previous Meeting Minutes – Mike McGee**

Mike O'Neil of Boca Raton Fire Rescue gave contact information to Mike McGee for the County Training Office for vehicle staging policy information.

### **Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program Update – Guy Francese**

Guy updated the team on the status of the RISC program. He gave the ITN number which is **ITN-DOT-08/09-4015LH**. The web link is: [http://oas.state.fl.us/apps/vbs/searchw.matching\\_ads\\_page](http://oas.state.fl.us/apps/vbs/searchw.matching_ads_page) we have received one completed package so far for the Treasure Coast. Any further questions on submitting a package contact: Lizz Holmes at 954-777-4650 or [lizz.holmes@dot.state.fl.us](mailto:lizz.holmes@dot.state.fl.us)

### **I-95 Mobility 2000 Construction Update – Meredith Rapp**

- I-95 from Southern Blvd. to North of Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. / Anticipated Project Completion: August 2009 - Bridge construction continues at Australian Ave., Congress Ave., and Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. "Belvedere Dip" repairs—A full ramp closure of the I-95 NB entrance ramp from Southern Blvd. is scheduled to occur in approximately one month. Closure should 1-2 weeks. Repairs will be completed at a lower cost, in a shorter amount of time, than should the ramp remain open.
- I-95 from North of Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. to North of Blue Heron Blvd. / Anticipated Project Completion: October 2008 - All lanes are now open up to PGA Blvd. Contractor currently working on final punch list items.

### **I-95 HOV Construction Update – Alicia DeFago**

- Indiantown Rd. / S.R. 706 from just west of the Florida Turnpike to just east of Chasewood Plaza Construction on 1.5 miles of Indiantown Road / SR 706 began on Monday, June, 16 2008 and will last until early 2009. This project includes milling and resurfacing of the roadway, rebuilding shoulders, upgrading traffic signs and signals, median improvements and landscaping to include irrigation. This \$2.4 million project is expecting completion early 2009 and is being performed by Hubbard Construction Company. Restriction: There will be a closure of one eastbound and one westbound lane of S.R. 706/ Indiantown Rd., 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., Monday, October 6 through Friday, October 10, for various median work, landscaping and irrigation.
- I-95 HOV Expansion, from Donald Ross Road north to S.R. 706/ Indiantown Road The \$43.5 million, 4.5 mile construction project will expand the existing six-lane interstate to 10-lane highway which includes one general purpose lane and one High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction and additional auxiliary lanes. The project includes widening of the existing bridges at Donald Ross Road and the C-18 Canal; ramp improvements;

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sound barrier and retaining wall construction; signalization enhancements; new signing, pavement markings, lighting, and landscaping, including irrigation. Construction began August 21, 2008 and is being performed by Posen Construction. Construction is expected to be completed spring 2012. Restriction: There are no restrictions at this time. Motorists should be aware of construction vehicles entering and exiting the roadway.

- I-95 HOV Expansion, from south of PGA Boulevard north to Donald Ross Road The \$44 million, 4.3 mile construction project will expand the existing six-lane interstate to 10-lane highway which includes one general purpose lane and one High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction and additional auxiliary lanes. The project includes mainline ramp reconstruction and the widening of the existing bridges over PGA Boulevard and Military Trail. Additional enhancements include improved drainage; sound barrier and retaining wall construction; new signing, pavement marking, lighting, and landscaping. Construction began August 20, 2008 and is being performed by Community Asphalt Corporation. This project is expected to be completed winter 2011. Restriction: Inside and outside travel lanes will be closed nightly on I-95 from south of PGA Boulevard to south of Donald Ross Rd., Sunday, October 5 through Thursday, October 9, for paving operations. Workers will close one lane at 9 p.m. and close the second lane at 11:30 p.m. One lane will reopen 5 a.m. and the second lane will reopen at 6 a.m. All lanes will remain open during daytime hours.

For more information contact Alicia M. De Fago *Public Information Officer - Northern I-95 Expansion Project* 11641 Kew Gardens Avenue Suite 101 Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410  
(561) 718-4709 [95info@pbfdot.com](mailto:95info@pbfdot.com)

### **Southeast Florida Regional Traffic Operations Committee (SEFRTOC) – Bob Murphy**

The Governor signed a bill for Silver Alerts. Silver Alerts are similar to Amber Alerts and Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) Alerts. When a senior citizen becomes disoriented and lost we can gather information and notify the public using the Dynamic Message Signs (DMS).

Road Ranger coverage in Broward County has been reduced to Monday-Friday 6am-7pm. No nights or weekend coverage. Palm Beach County has been on this schedule for about a month and no major problems have been reported.

### **TIM Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Update – Mike McGee**

We have received another MOU from West Palm Beach Fire Rescue. Palm Beach County is now at 95% return. We still have one more MOU to collect. The process has been successful.

### **Low Visibility Risk Index (LVRI) Follow up – Guy Francese**

Guy showed the team a map of the state of Florida with a color key that indicates the threat level for fog/smoke visibility. The map can be found on the Division of Forestry website at [http://flame.fl-dof.com/fire\\_weather/observations/obs\\_lvri.html](http://flame.fl-dof.com/fire_weather/observations/obs_lvri.html)

### **Fire Hydrant Study Update – Gregg Letts**

Gregg explained that the purpose of the study was that severe incidents along D4 freeways spurred much conversation by the Broward and Palm Beach TIM Teams as to the availability and whereabouts of water (fire hydrants) to service the freeways when the Fire Departments' "on-truck" supplies are depleted at a scene; especially in locations where existing sound walls exist along the freeway.

The tasks for the study were:

- Retrieve current water distribution maps indicating locations of existing fire hydrants.
- Identify closest possible fire hydrant access locations that are located within 1000' of the centerline of the expressway
- Correlate the identified hydrants to its D4 freeway mile post (to the nearest 0.01 mile)
- Correlate the identified hydrants to their actual address, if possible; otherwise, its minor and major roadway crossing (closest local surface streets)

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- Correlate the identified hydrants that fall behind an existing sound wall to the closest access hole in the sound wall, if possible.
  - Create and populate an MS Excel spreadsheet; sort all data by County and Roadway in mile post order.

The possible future tasks could include:

- Design standardized hydrant location signs and sign installation procedures for District 4
- Place blue Raised Pavement Markers (RPMs) for each point along the shoulder perpendicular to the fence and/or sound wall access hole to indicate the location of a hydrant (as per MUTCD 2003 Edition, Rev. 2, Section 3B.11)
- Populate a GIS map with the information from the spreadsheets

### Scene Safety: Lightning Safety – Mike McGee

Mike reviewed a safety handout on lighting. This issue was brought up after a Florida Highway Patrol Trooper was struck by lightning last month in Palm Beach County while at the scene of an accident. Mike described some safety precautions that can be taken if lightning is a threat.

- The safest place commonly available during a lightning storm is a large, fully enclosed, substantially constructed building, e.g. your typical house, school, library, or other public building.
- If you cannot flee to a safer location, take action to minimize the threat of being struck. Proceed from higher to lower elevations.
- Avoid wide-open areas, including sports fields, beaches and golf courses. Avoid tall, isolated objects like trees, poles, and light posts.
- Avoid water-related activities such as swimming (including indoor pools), boating and fishing. Do not remain in open vehicles like farm tractors, cable less construction machinery, riding lawnmowers and golf carts (sun roofs offer no protection).
- Do not consider unprotected open structures such as picnic pavilions, rain shelters and bus stops.
- Avoid contact with metal fences, metal bleachers, or other long metal structures.
- And the cardinal rule remains: Do not take shelter under trees to keep dry during thunderstorms.

### District IV Assistance to FPL & PBSO – Sgt. John Churchill

Sgt. Churchill stated that an environmental protest took place in front of the site where FPL is building a natural gas powered electric plant. The goal was to not let the roadway get backed up from passing vehicles. There was an area that was set aside for the protesters. Sgt. Churchill said that the actions taken to prevent blockage and accidents went very well.

### MOT Training for First Responders – Guy Francese

Guy informed the team on a presentation that was conducted at Transpo 2008 this year that was meant for first responders. This training covered topics on maintenance of traffic (MOT) and vehicle staging when responding to an incident scene on the highway.

### New SMART SunGuide TMC Website – Bob Murphy

Bob displayed a live version of the new website and described the new features of [www.SmartSunguide.com](http://www.SmartSunguide.com). Bob also explained in detail the newly designed map on the main page where you can create personalized travel routes. Bob went through the different tabs on the website that describe the TIM teams, Road Rangers, and SIRV as well as other services we offer and numerous publications.

### Treasure Coast Traffic Management Support Office (TMSO) – Mike McGee

Mike explained to the team back in May, there was a kick off meeting for a TIM team in the northern three counties of Martin, St. Lucie, and Indian River. Currently a traffic management support office is being constructed and will connect to the existing FDOT Treasure Coast Operations facility. It will be approximately 1250 sq. ft. in size. Expected completion date is May 2009.

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**Post Incident Analysis (PIA) – Helena White**



Incident #: 538517 August 12, 2008 on I-95 SB at Glades Rd.

A tractor trailer was traveling southbound on I-95 when it collided with a vehicle on the entrance ramp a Glades Rd. This resulted in the tractor trailer jackknifing and caused one fatality. As a result of this accident a fuel spill of approximately 80-120 gallons spilled on the highway. The Glades Rd bridge overpass sustained minor infrastructure damage. No repair was required.

A secondary ramp closure at Glades Rd was done to facilitate rescue efforts and the duration of this incident was approximately 6 hours and 49 minutes. Congestion did not exceed 3 miles for the duration of the incident. No secondary accidents occurred as a result of this incident.

## **Training Safety Tip: Additional Vehicle Staging – Mike McGee**

The TIM Team is looking for agency input, policies and protocols for staging emergency vehicles at scenes. This includes any emergency lighting policies for safety, reducing traffic impact, etc. Please contact Mike at (954) 847-2634 or [mmcgee@smartsunguide.com](mailto:mmcgee@smartsunguide.com).

## **Action Items:**

- Send TIM team handout on lightning safety.

Arena	Mike	Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Barbato	Dan	Target Engineering Group
Brimlow	Rodney	Broward Sheriffs Office
Brochard	Gordon	Sisters Towing
Bryant	Jason	Palm Beach ITMS
Burgher	Tish	QCA Inc.
Burrie	Scott	FDOT - D4
Churchill	Sgt. John	Palm Beach County Sheriffs Office
Collins	Steve	Palm Beach County Fire Rescue
Cowart	Mike	DBI Services Corporation
Day	Timothy	Sisters Towing
DeCoveny	Brian	QCA Inc.
DeFago	Alicia	FDOT - PB PIO
Dickson	Tom	DMJM Harris
Egeli	Ibrahim	FHP-Troop L
Francese	Guy	FDOT - D4
Green	Kevin	West Palm Beach Fire Rescue
Hernandez	Gilberto	Sunshine Towing/Road Rangers
Jennings Jr.	Jim	Emerald Towing
Johnston	Hugh	American Compliance Technologies
Jones Jr.	Roger	FDOT - D4 Maintenance
Keister	Ronald	Boynton Beach Fire Rescue
Kennedy	Patrick	TBE Group
Kleynhans	Gerald	DBI Services Corporation
Landgraf	Greg	TBE Group
Letts	Gregg	DMJM Harris
Main	Jeff	Palm Beach Gardens Police Department
McGee	Michael	DMJM Harris
McGlynn	Nicole	DMJM Harris
McKissack	Ed	Florida's Turnpike
McTague	Dee	DMJM Harris
Millard	Mike	SmartRoute System
Mindick	Joshua	Boca Raton Police Department
Murphy	Bob	DMJM Harris
Needham	David	Palm Beach Vista Center
Pompos	Tim	Palm Beach Fire Rescue

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Purser	Robert	FHP-Troop L
Ramil	Luis	FHP-Troop L
Rapp	Meredith	The Corradino Group I-95 Mobility 2000
Reed	Harold	PBC Traffic Engineering
Ruslander	Harold	Palm Beach Medical Examiners Office
Salzman-Bojan	Mari	Florida's Turnpike
Scheidt	Mike	Kauff's Towing
Scott	Daryl	Boca Raton Fire Rescue
Turco	Charles	Boynton Beach Police Department
Valladares	William	Florida's Turnpike
Waters	Craig "Mud"	FDOT - D4 Maintenance
Werner	Catherine	Florida's Turnpike
White	Helena	Palm Beach ITMS