

Treasure Coast Traffic Incident Management Team Meeting Minutes – March 2011



Meeting Date: March 17, 2011

Meeting Time: 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Location: FDOT Treasure Coast Operations Building #3
3601 Oleander Ave.
Ft. Pierce, FL 34984

Attendees: Listing Attached

REVIEW ACTION ITEMS/PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Chuck mentioned that the Florida Division of Forestry website -- www.fl-dof.com/wildfire/information.html -- is a good resource for incident responders to check for up-to-date information on wildfires.

INTRODUCTIONS / AGENCY REPORTS FROM TIM MEMBERS

Chuck started introductions and agency reports. Several reports were given.

- Art Brown introduced Karen Zebrowski as Transfield Services' new zone manager for Indian River County. Her contact number is (321) 752-9680.
- Peter Buchwald reported that the St. Lucie TPO at its February meeting adopted the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan, which includes \$600 million of federal funding for local transportation projects.
- Chief Carlos Duran said the St. Lucie County Fire District has added a 4,500-gallon tanker to its fleet to assist with brush fires.
- Sgt. Kevin Ale said the FHP has two new troopers in the Fort Pierce district.
- Lt. Steve Gove said the new southbound weigh-in-motion station in Martin County will begin equipment testing April 4-6. The station is scheduled to open April 18.
- Guy Francese reported that Chief Duran was presented the "TIM Team Member of the Year" award at the annual SMART SunGuide awards ceremony.

UPDATES

Wildfire Conditions

Chuck reiterated the importance of monitoring fire conditions on the Division of Forestry website, with the worsening drought conditions in the region. Chief Carlos Duran of St. Lucie County Fire District reported that several brush fires had been reported in the area between Becker Road and Gatlin Boulevard, but he did not know if the fires were affecting traffic on I-95.

Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Project Update – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

All of the ITS equipment that was installed along the 71-mile stretch of I-95 in Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties is operational. The equipment includes HAR stations, 12 Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) and 69 Closed Circuit Televisions (CCTVs). The ITS project was formally accepted by FDOT on February 25, 2011. Bob Murphy reported that camera images should be available on the 511 and SMART SunGuide websites this summer. Sgt. Ale asked if the cameras are available at the FHP Lake Worth Communications Center. Bob said the Communications Center does not have a fiber optic connection to display the Treasure Coast cameras on its video wall, but can view them on iVEDDS.

I-95 Construction – Chuck McGinness, AECOM, and Dale Walker, FDOT

Repaving from Bridge Road to Kanner Highway will take place with overnight closures from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. The project is scheduled for completion in early 2011.

Construction of southbound weigh-in-motion station, south of SR 714 has all lanes open. Completion is estimated to be spring 2011. The station is scheduled to begin operations April 18, 2011.

Dale Walker gave an overview of three upcoming widening projects on I-95.

I-95 from South of SR 70 (Okeechobee Road) to South of SR 614 (Indrio Road)

The scope of the proposed improvements includes the design and construction of two additional inside lanes in each direction from approximately 4,400 feet south of SR 70 to just south of SR 614 in St. Lucie County. This project is divided into the two sections. Section 1, from south of SR 70 to north of SR 70, will be modified from the existing 6-lane



typical to a proposed 10-lane ultimate typical section; Section 2, from north of SR 70 to south of SR 614, will be modified from the existing 4-lane typical to an 8-lane ultimate typical section. To accommodate the additional lanes, the bridges at SR 70, SR 68 (Orange Avenue) and Angle Road will be widened. The I-95 bridge at SR 713 (Kings Highway) will be replaced. This project also includes the reconstruction of the ramps at SR 70 and SR 68 interchanges and signalization upgrades for the new ramp configurations at SR 70 and SR 68. Existing highway lighting will be upgraded

Additional work in this scope includes the resurfacing and widening of SR 70 and SR 68. The limits on SR 70 are from 1,400 feet west of I-95 to east of Jenkins Road. The Design/Build firm shall coordinate with a separate FDOT project on SR 70 from Florida's Turnpike to 1,400 feet west of I-95. Additionally, Dale said there is another project to resurface SR 70 from Jenkins Road to U.S. 1. The limits on SR 68 are from Kings Highway to east of Copenhaver Road / Lamont Road.

I-95 from south of SR 614 (Indrio Road) to the St. Lucie/Indian River County line

The scope of the proposed improvements includes the design and construction of two additional inside lanes in each direction from approximately 2,500 feet south of Indrio Road to the southern ramp termini of the Indrio Road interchange. One lane of widening continues to the north and ends at the St. Lucie / Indian River County line. To accommodate the additional lanes, the bridges over Indrio Road will be widened. The section from south of Indrio Road to the southern ramp termini points at the Indrio Road interchange will be modified from a 4-lane typical to an 8-lane ultimate typical section. The section from the southern ramp termini points at the Indrio Road interchange to the St. Lucie / Indian River County Line will be modified from a 4-lane typical to a 6-lane ultimate typical section. The project also includes the reconstruction of the northbound exit ramp at Indrio Road. In addition, existing highway lighting will be upgraded.

I-95 from the St. Lucie/Indian River County line to north of SR 60 (Osceola Boulevard)

The scope of the proposed improvements includes the design and construction of one additional lane in each direction from the St. Lucie/Indian River County line to north of SR 60. To accommodate the additional lanes, the bridges at 4th Street (Citrus Road), 90th Avenue and SR 60 will be rebuilt. Additional work in this scope includes adding one lane to SR 60 at the interchange, resurfacing the entrance ramps, and widening the exit ramps from one lane to two lanes.

Dale said the southernmost project is expected to begin this fall. Ranger Construction is the apparent adjusted low bidder. The contractor will have 1,187 days to finish the work. This does not include holidays or weather days. Mel Pollock of the Corradino Group is the CEI on the project. Mel will be responsible for working with law enforcement and fire rescue agencies to address their concerns, including access to emergency turnarounds and emergency pull-off areas. Dale said there are plans to add a median retaining wall in the southernmost project to address the FHP's concern about crossover crashes.

The other two projects are expected to get underway in late 2011/ early 2012. The widening projects include the addition of sound walls in two locations – adjacent to the southbound rest area at Mile Marker 133 and north of Indrio Road adjacent to the Spanish Lakes neighborhood. A visual barrier will be built on the east side of I-95 opposite the new southbound weigh-in-motion station. Dale said the ramp work will occur at night and there will be limited daytime lane closures. Two lanes will be open in both directions most of the time, except for special circumstances (moving of barrier wall). The construction will impact the existing ITS system and some of the conduit and/or ITS structures will have to be relocated.

Road Ranger Program Update – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

Guy mentioned that the 2nd Annual Statewide Road Ranger Survey for Incident Responders can be taken at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/roadrangersurveyincidentresponders>. It is available until March 31.

Chuck reported on the Road Ranger statistics for February 2011.

Assists for February 2011 - 1,288

- Martin County 609 (47%)
- St. Lucie County 398 (31%)
- Indian River County 215 (17%)
- Palm Beach County 66 (5%)

Assists for six month total - 7,753

- Martin County 3,679 (47%)

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- St. Lucie County 2,538 (33%)
- Indian River County 1,139 (15%)
- Palm Beach County 401 (5%)

Types of Assists

- Disabled vehicles – 5,049 (65 percent)
- Debris on roadway – 848 (11 percent)
- Crashes – 214 (3 percent)
- Abandoned vehicles – 755 (10 percent)
- Pedestrians – 64
- Other – 827

Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Update – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

There have been no RISC activations since the last meeting.

Upcoming Traffic Events – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

Chuck reported that the 2011 Tour de Force police charity bicycle ride will be traveling through the Treasure Coast area on April 12-13. The participants will be escorted by the FHP, sheriff's deputies and local police officers. The route is primarily along U.S. 1 and SR A1A, so there should be no impact to I-95.

PRESENTATIONS

Transfield Services – I-95 Asset Management (Indian River County) – Art Brown, Transfield Service

Art Brown, the regional Emergency Response Coordinator for Transfield Services, said the company provides essential services to key industries, including the Florida DOT. They provide a range of services in the areas of Transportation Infrastructure, Property and Facilities Management, Natural Resources and Industrial, and Project Management.

Transfield Services is responsible for maintaining various types of infrastructure, including interstate highways, primary and secondary roads, stationary and movable bridges, tunnels and tunnel systems, administrative facilities and toll facilities.

Art said safety is a priority and the company's goal is to achieve no injury to anyone, anytime, while respecting the community and environment.

Transfield is responsible for the maintenance of:

- Pavement (pothole repair, paved shoulders, striping, RPMs and resurfacing up to 1,000 feet)
- Rest areas (security, cleaning, lighting, facility maintenance, monthly inspections, comment cards)
- Movable bridges (inspections, structural, mechanical, electrical, emergency response, bridge tending)
- Fixed bridges (inspections, repairs, structural maintenance)
- Roadside maintenance (fence, sidewalks, handrails, slopes, ditches)
- Lighting (street lamps, sign lights, light poles)
- Highway call boxes
- Drainage structures (outfalls, retention, canals, headwalls)
- Highway signs (small and large signs, delineators, object markers, memorial markers)

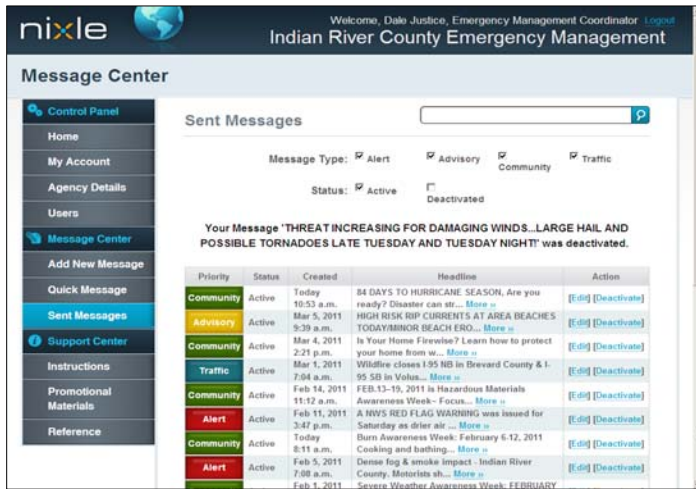
Transfield Services also is responsible for incident response along I-95 in Indian River County. This includes long-term MOT for crashes and debris removal. Karen Zebrowski is the local manager. The 24/7 Emergency Hotline for Transfield Services is 866-996-9949

Indian River County Emergency Management – Dale Justice, Indian River County Emergency Management Division

Indian River County has 140,000 full time residents. During the 2004 hurricanes, Indian River County sheltered more than 6,000 people. There was more than \$2 billion in damage and the county received \$45 million in assistance. About 680,000 cubic yards of debris were removed. Dale said in emergency situations public alerts are traditionally sent via radio, NOAA Weather Radio, COMCAST Cable TV Override, Government Access Channel, press releases, and E-mail. However, the problem with e-mail is that residents often change e-mail addresses which causes administrative errors and the e-mails are returned. A 3,000 member subscription email generates 1,000 -2,000 errors.



Dale said Indian River County began using NIXLE in mid-2010 after a legal review. Currently, there are 1,850 NIXLE subscribers for Indian River County Emergency Management alerts. All Indian River County Emergency Management e-mail alerts have replaced by NIXLE/Twitter/Facebook. Other traditional alerting methods remain intact. The main goal is to reach as many people using a variety of tools, including social media.



| INCIDENT TYPE | DISPATCH TIME | ARRIVE TIME | COUNTY | LOCATION | REMARKS |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------|---------|---|--|
| ROAD CLOSED DUE TO CONSTRUCTION | | | WALTER | 888 SE A1000 RD (12700 FT) | LEFT AND CENTER LANES CLOSED SOUTHBOUND FROM MILE MARKER 101 TO MILE MARKER 97.9 |
| ROAD CLOSED DUE TO CONSTRUCTION | | | BROWARD | 1-35 EXIT 72A NB (R2A BLVD) (PALM BEACH JUNCTION) | NB EXIT RAMP TO R2A BLVD WEST CLOSED FOR 45 DAYS BEGINNING MARCH 7, 2011 |
| Fire - Vehicle | 05:40 AM | 06:04 AM | BROWARD | 800 23RD ST (101 37TH AVE) (HOLLYWOOD) | |
| Vehicle Crash w/injuries | 07:14 AM | 07:26 AM | BROWARD | US 27 NB (HOMESIDE ROAD) (LAKEWOOD) | ALL LANES OPEN |
| Vehicle Crash | 09:47 AM | 10:42 AM | BROWARD | SR 195 JCTC (1681E) (SOUTH BOUND) | NO ROADBLOCK |
| Vehicle Crash | 10:28 AM | 10:52 AM | BROWARD | 1-35 NB (R2A BLVD) (PALM BEACH JUNCTION) | NO ROAD BLOCK |
| Roadway Debris/Obst | 10:55 AM | | BROWARD | 888 SE A1000 BLVD (DELRAY BEACH) | METAL LADDER IN LANE NEXT TO HOV LANE |
| Disabled Vehicle in Roadway | | | BROWARD | SR 195 S (SOUTH BOUND BLVD) (OCEAR BEACH) | CENTER LANE BLOODED |
| Vehicle Crash | | | BROWARD | 1-35 NB (R2A BLVD) (PALM BEACH JUNCTION) | |
| Disabled Vehicle in Roadway | | | BROWARD | 1-35 EXIT NB (1-35) (OCEAR BEACH) | |

Mitigation of Accidental Discharges – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

The original publication was created in 2004 and has been revised for 2011. The document has been reviewed and endorsed by the Florida Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and Florida Highway Patrol. To review the document, visit <http://www.smartsunguide.com/TIM.aspx>.

Spilled vehicle fluids are generally petroleum products, such as crankcase oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, transmission fluid, brake or hydraulic fluid and other fluids (coolant, battery). These are usually not hazardous waste.

The objectives of the guidelines are to:

- Provide specific procedural guidance for spilled vehicle fluid cleanup
- Provide a reference for the disposal of spilled materials
- Provide guidance to responders and assist them in meeting the primary TIM goal of the Open Road Policy (clear within 90 min)

Scope:

Guidelines apply to spilled motor vehicle fluids from private and commercial vehicles used for the operation of that vehicle. They do not apply to any hazardous material cargo spill. Hazardous materials (HAZMAT) are materials posing immediate life-threatening danger to people and property, as defined in the US DOT “North America Hazardous Materials Guidebook.” Defensive Actions are those actions taken to contain the vehicle fluids, including containment, diking, or soil berming. Offensive Actions are those actions taken by trained responders to plug or otherwise stop vehicle fluid leaks.

Clearance Procedure:

For private vehicles and commercial motor vehicles, preferred clean up method is to soak up as much as possible using absorbent materials. Move absorbent materials out of travel lanes, store at roadside, preferably off the shoulder. DOT and other crash scene responders may apply absorbents and sweep off travel lanes regardless of the quantity. It is not necessary to await a licensed clean-up contractor.

The reportable quantity of 25 gallons does not automatically prevent or limit on scene actions to mitigate the spill. In fact prompt intervention is encouraged to limit the congestion impact and prevent the high probability of secondary incidents resulting from extended traffic blockage. It is very important that every effort be made to limit the amount of time the spilled fluids are in contact with asphalt pavement.

Quick Action Guide

- Identify spill as a vehicle fluid
- Stop leaking material at the source
- Contain and limit spill from spreading
- Apply available absorbents

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- Sweep material off travel lanes
- Second application if necessary
- Gradually restore traffic flow
- Identify responsible party and mark location of material
- Assure proper notification made,
- State Watch Point 800/320-0519

Post Incident Analysis Reports – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

I-95 SB in the Bronx, New York, Tour bus crash with multiple fatalities and injuries - March 12, 2011 5:30 a.m.

A charter bus was returning to Chinatown after an overnight trip to a casino in Connecticut. There was a driver and 32 passengers on board. The bus was traveling in the center lane when the bus driver claimed a truck clipped his front bumper as the bus was passing on left. Passengers discounted driver's version and said they didn't feel anything hit the bus. Passengers also said the bus had swerved to the right several times, hitting rumble strips before the crash. Other reports indicate the bus may have been speeding. The bus struck a guardrail, toppled on its side, slid along highway for 300 feet and crashed into a pole supporting a highway sign. The pole burst through the front window and sheared the bus in half, along the passenger window line. It then peeled the roof off all the way to the back tires. There were 15 people killed and 18 injured. The southbound lanes were closed more than 13 hours, until early Saturday evening.

Specialized rescue units from New York police and fire departments were involved in the rescue and extrication. State police are leading the investigation. National Transportation Safety Board is also investigating the crash and will analyze the camera in the bus, bus engine control module (determine speed), and GPS from tractor trailer. The Office of Emergency Management opened a family assistance center for the families involved.

Team members discussed how they would respond if the crash had occurred on I-95 in the Treasure Coast. It was agreed that it would take a cooperative effort of local agencies to handle such an event.

Training Safety Tip – Chuck McGinness, AECOM

Chuck discussed a study, "Law Enforcement Officers' Fatalities in Motor Vehicle Crashes," that was released in January by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The study analysis used data compiled by the FBI on law enforcement officers killed and assaulted data and NHTSA's Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). The study period was from 1980 to 2008.

The main conclusion was that prior to mid-1990s more officers who died in the line of duty were killed by "violent means;" since then, motor vehicle crashes have become the major cause of officer fatalities

Florida ranked sixth in the number of law enforcement officers who were killed in motor vehicle crashes during this period with 35 fatalities (4.3 percent). The top five were California – 107 (13 percent), Texas – 81 (9.8 percent), Georgia – 43 (5.2 percent), New York – 39 (4.7 percent) and Alabama – 36 (4.4 percent).

Among the study findings were:

- Fatalities in passenger vehicles occurred more frequently at night (8 p.m. to 5 a.m.). Fatalities on motorcycles occurred mostly during daylight hours (noon to 4 p.m.)
- Passenger vehicle collisions with "motor vehicle in transport" have decreased from 60 percent in 1980s to 52 percent in 1990s to 48 percent in 2000s (first harmful event).
- Passenger vehicle collisions with "fixed object" (guardrail, traffic barrier, etc.) have increased from 29 percent in 1980s to 37 percent in 1990s to 41 percent in 2000s (first harmful event).
- As a subsequent Event, rollovers have increased from 17 percent in 1980s to 20 percent in 1990s to 26 percent in 2000s.
- Use of restraint systems (seat belts) went from 28 percent in 1980s to 56 percent in 1990s to 50 percent in 2000s.

There is no single cause for fatalities. There were no recommendations in study. Agencies should use it as a guide for developing their own safety programs. Some things that agencies should consider are:

- Driver fatigue
- Safe parking at incidents, particularly along I-95
- Move to a safe location to finish report
- Use of seat belts
- "Move Over" messages on Dynamic Message Signs
- Appropriate use of emergency lighting

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Open Discussion – All



Mike Washburn reported that Road Ranger coverage on Florida's Turnpike has been expanded, adding approximately 900 hours per month. In the area from the Lake Worth Road interchange (MM 93) to the Stuart interchange (MM 133), Road Ranger service is now available from 6 am to 8 pm seven days a week. In the area from the Stuart interchange (MM 133) to Fort Drum Service Plaza (MM 184) Road Ranger service is now available 8 am to 10 pm seven days a week.

Action Items

- FHP requested camera accessibility for the Lake Worth Regional Communications Center.
- Obtain "Move Over" stickers and cards for Road Ranger and Fire Rescue vehicles.
- Lt. Coker requested that emergency contact information be posted on construction equipment to contact appropriate personnel.

Attendees:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---|
| Ale | Kevin | FHP |
| Brown | Art | Transfield Services |
| Buchwald | Peter | St. Lucie County Transportation Management Organization |
| Chaney | Catherine | St. Lucie County Fire District |
| Coker | Lt. Harry | FHP |
| Devitt | Claudia | Transfield Services |
| Duran | Chief Carlos | St. Lucie County Fire District |
| Francese | Guy | FDOT District Four |
| Gove | Lt. Steve | FDOT – MCCO |
| Greene | Thomas | FDOT Treasure Coast Operations |
| Herndon | Chief Kevin | St. Lucie County Fire District |
| Justice | Dale | Indian River County Emergency Management |
| Kinchin | Vana | FDOT Treasure Coast Operations |
| Lawrence | ChloAnn | FDOT Treasure Coast Operations |
| Lopez | Gloria | Eagle SWS |
| McGee | Mike | AECOM |
| McGinness | Chuck | Treasure Coast TIM Coordinator |
| McKissack | Ed | Florida's Turnpike |
| Murphy | Bob | Project Consultant Manager |
| Myers | Kurt | St. Lucie Co Public Safety |
| Needham | David | SMART SunGuide RTMC |
| Ortiz | Adrian | Anchor Towing/TC Road Rangers |
| Ridenour | Greg | SIRV |
| Walker | Dale | FDOT Traffic Operations |
| Washburn | Mike | Florida's Turnpike |
| Weber | Wolfgang | Indian River County Sheriffs Office |
| White | Helena | Palm Beach Vista Center |
| Zebrowski | Karen | Transfield Services |