

First Coast TIM Meeting

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

Meeting Minutes

The list of meeting attendees and the Meeting Agenda are attached to these meeting minutes.

- Donna Danson welcomed everyone and stated that the purpose of the TIM meeting is to provide an opportunity to discuss issues we may have and to learn from each other.
- Donna asked the team members in attendance to introduce themselves.
- Donna asked if anyone had any comments on the meeting minutes from the last TIM Meeting. There were no comments from those in attendance.
 - Donna stated the minutes from the last meeting were sent to the team members and that no comments had been received.
 - At this time, the minutes are considered to be approved as sent out to the team.
- Mike Goldman gave the construction project update.
 - The current Construction Project List is available on the FDOT website.
 - PIO continues to get complaint calls about the signage at the I-10/I-95 Interchange. Motorists are getting confused and exiting on the wrong exits.
 - The I-10 resurfacing project is currently working on the EB lanes and will switch to the WB lanes after the 1st of the year.
 - Two things are happening with the I-10/Chaffee Road Construction Project, the overpass is being raised so that there will not be such a height restriction, but also the lanes on Chaffee are being narrowed. This has caused some complaints from motorists.
 - Captain Gaston stated that the Contractor on the Chaffee Road project has not been coordinating and communicating well with FHP regarding lane closures and motorist impacts. He wanted to know if it may be possible for future Construction Contracts to include mandates for the Contractor to communicate lane closures and openings with the FHP Communications Center.
 - Captain Gaston also mentioned that they are updating the Map on their CAD system to have SR 9A represented as I-295 as it will be in the future. This is being done with a current upgrade and if it were to be done later when the Roadway designation is actually changed, that it would cost more money.
 - Mike Goldman stated that FHWA has given the go ahead for SR 9A to be changed to I-295. Bids will be received in February for the project to install the new signage and project completion is anticipated for 2012.
 - Captain Harris stated that several weeks ago she was driving on I-10 EB and was detoured onto I-295 due to the I-10 repaving project having the roadway closed. Captain Harris said that she went North on I-295 to the I-95 Interchange and was then detoured due to the Northern Interchange Project. Captain Harris stated that these two detours made it very confusing for motorists, especially motorists not familiar with the area, and wanted to know if it was common procedure to have two projects have

detour routes in the same area. Mike Goldman stated that this does need to happen once in a while, but that the two Contractors are supposed to coordinate with each other to make sure that there are no signage conflicts and that the detours are not confusing to motorists.

- Ed Ward led the Incident Debrief based on the attached incident list.
 - Ed Ward stated that Hurricane season is officially over and that it had been an uneventful season for the State of Florida although there had been quite a few named storms.
 - The Statewide/Regional Evacuation Planning effort is starting to wrap-up after almost 4 years of work. The presentation of the evacuation plan and routing for the Jacksonville area is going to be presented at the Planning Council's Office on December 16th at 1:30pm.

- ITS – Craig Carnes for Pete Vega
 - Craig stated that the SR 21 Project is currently in the final testing phase. The SR 21 Project installed 19 new CCTV cameras, 7 new Arterial Dynamic Message Signs (ADMS) , and changed out controllers from Collins Road in Duval County to Old Jennings Road in Clay County. The cameras and ADMS can be viewed and controlled by Duval County, Clay County and FDOT D2 ITS.
 - The US 17 Project will have their Construction Kick-Off Meeting tomorrow, so they will be out on the roadway working soon. The US 17 Project will install 9 CCTV cameras and 4 new Arterial Dynamic Message Signs. The Project limits for this project are from Collins Road in Duval County to Creighton Road in Clay County. The cameras and ADMS will be able to be viewed and controlled by Duval County, Clay County, the Town of Orange Park and FDOT D2 ITS.
 - Pete is in Tallahassee today to begin negotiations with the Department of Management Services, who will assist with the construction of the new TMC, next to the FHP's JRCC. If the timing works out the Department could possibly begin construction no later than one year from now.
 - Transpo is about three plus weeks away and is being held in Ponte Vedra. There for passes for all three days or only one day. There will be an Incident Management Round-Table discussion on Tuesday December 14th. Go to www.ITSTranspo.org for more information.

- TMC/511 Update – Sean Wilcox
 - Sean Wilcox stated that it has been fairly slow lately, but wanted to let everyone know that the TMC and Road Rangers are performing safe tows to get disabled vehicles off of crowded shoulders and to a safer area for the safety of the motorist as well as the Road Ranger.
 - Captain Gaston mentioned that he felt that FDOT should be designing pull off areas into new Roadway Construction Projects. For some of the Roadway projects that require barrier wall for long distances, such as the upcoming Overland Bridge Project and the Collins Road Project on I-295, due to the area of the work and the length of the project it can be assumed that there will be a number of accidents within the Construction Zone. If FDOT would design pull off areas within the Construction Area, FDOT, Road Rangers, and other first responders could move the vehicles to these areas to work portions of the accident clean up and crash investigation paperwork, so that everyone was safer and not in the travel lane. Captain Gaston will send Mike Goldman an e-mail as a reminder to speak with FDOT D2 Construction and Design.

- Greg Gaylord stated that his company has removed barrier wall, placed accident vehicles behind the barrier wall and then replaced the barrier wall, so that they can come back at another time to remove the vehicles during better conditions.
- Road Ranger Update – Greg Gaylord
 - There have not been any significant accidents or injuries related to the Road Ranger Patrols since the last meeting.
 - FDOT has received the contract and paperwork for a second sponsor for the Road Ranger Program. This will help make sure that the program is funded to continue it's current services and may assist in expanding services.
 - Donna stated that Sponsorship Signs will be installed at the beginning and end of the Road Ranger Service Patrol areas. The beginning signs will give sponsor information as well as contact information and patrol areas for the Road Rangers.
- TIM Team Performance Measures – Craig Carnes
 - Everyone had previously received copies of the Incident Listing, provided by Ed Ward, and the PowerPoint Presentation and Event Chronologies from SunGuide.
 - Craig gave an overview of the Event Chronology and how the items that are input into the SunGuide Software during an incident generate it.
 - Captain Gaston stated that one of the reports says that an e-mail was sent out and asked who the e-mail was sent to. Sean Wilcox stated that this is the e-mail that is generated and sent to 511 subscribers who have signed up for that service.
 - Captain Gaston wanted to know if it would be possible to install signs, especially on bridges and other areas with narrow shoulders, which stated that accident vehicles are to be removed from travel lanes if possible. He referenced the accident from November 13th on the Dames Point Bridge, in which a motorist had a flat tire on top of the bridge. The motorist parked the vehicle on the narrow shoulder just over the top of the bridge. The placement of the vehicle caused vehicle swerving, which caused a multi-vehicle accident in the SB direction of travel and closed all lanes SB. During the accident debris flew into the travel lanes in the opposite direction (NB), which caused a multi-vehicle accident, which closed all of the travel lanes NB.
 - Craig gave a brief presentation on the Performance Measures for the TIM Team, specifically noting response times and incident durations.
 - Captain Gaston asked why there is an asterisk on the Performance Measures slide which states that FHP Data is not available for Notification Duration. Craig stated that he will get back with Captain Gaston to clarify. Sean stated that he believes that this is not an issue with FHP communication with the TMC, rather that the TMC is normally notified by FHP and that this row is intended to be the TMC notifying others. Craig will verify.
 - Captain Gaston noted that one of the incidents are stated to be at I-95 and US1/Phillips Highway. Captain Gaston stated that FHP identifies the I-95 South US1 Interchange as such and the I-95 Northern US1 Interchange is identified as I-95 and Phillips Highway. This is done to avoid confusion of the two interchanges.
 - Captain Gaston noted that FHP is going to be collecting more data during accident investigations starting on January 1st. FHP throughout the State has previously not reported as much data as Federal Highways wants and FHP will now be collecting the required data and more. Captain Gaston expects this to slow response times due to more workload and the same number of personnel as well as increased incident duration times due to the need to collect more data at the scene.
 - Kenton Brown asked Craig how one of the reports shows that a tow service was on scene only 12 minutes after the accident and FHP, EMS and others arrived later. Greg Gaylord stated that the towing industry is seeing that insurance companies are having tow companies fight over towing to the point that towing companies are

willing to stage in parking lots and wait for insurance companies to dispatch them to accident scenes. Greg stated that it is not uncommon for the driver to call the insurance agent for a tow truck prior to calling 911 and that with services such as OnStar that this accounts for the decreased response time as well.

- Captain Gaston told Craig that if FHP is given advanced notice of what accidents will be reviewed at the meetings that FHP can bring the accident report as well as the FHP CAD print out. That way there will be much more information on the accident, so that issues presented may be able to be investigated.

- Announcements

- Road Rangers will be patrolling with half of their staff on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. Captain Gaston asked Donna what time the Road Rangers were going to work on Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving. Donna stated that they were scheduled to work until 6:30pm. Captain Gaston asked if their hours could be extended to 9pm each night to allow for them to be working during peak travel hours for the Holiday. Sunday traffic will not start to increase until noon, so the Road Rangers could work from Noon – 9pm. Donna will see what she can do to adjust their schedules.
- Kenton Brown wanted to let everyone know that DEP is no longer going to clean up “mystery spills” in construction areas. If the Contractor spills oil, gas, or other liquids, they must be held responsible to have it cleaned up. DEP is going to look at FDOT to have these spills cleaned up by the Contractor or others.
- Donna has copies of the TIME-4 Safety Video Training if anyone wants a copy.
- Donna has copies of the FHWA Field Operations Guide, which is a good tool for any responder to have in their vehicle. Donna has 100 copies for anyone who wants them.
- Captain Harris wanted to know if the WB off ramp from I-95 to Airport Road could have guardrail installed so that anyone traveling too fast in the curve will hit the guardrail instead of going over the embankment. Michelle Sanders is going to find out what may be able to be done.

- Donna adjourned the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Mike Goldman to check with Design and Construction to see if wording can be included in Roadway Contracts, which requires contractors to communicate with the FHP Communications Center prior to lane closures and upon re-opening the lanes. Requested by Captain Gaston
2. Mike Goldman to check with Design and Construction to see if pull off areas can be designed into new Roadway Projects for accident investigation and motorist break downs. Requested by Captain Gaston.
3. Donna Danson to check to see if signs can be placed prior to bridges, which remind motorists to pull disabled vehicles off of the roadway and not block lanes. Requested by Captain Gaston.
4. Craig Carnes to clarify why there is an asterisk on the Performance Measures slide which states that FHP data is not available for Notification Duration. Requested by Captain Gaston.
5. Donna Danson to check on extending the Road Ranger hours for the day before Thanksgiving and the Sunday after Thanksgiving. Requested by Captain Gaston and Captain Harris.
6. Michelle Sander to check with Roadway Maintenance to see if guardrail can be installed on the I-95 to Airport Road West Exit Ramp in the sharp curve. Requested by Captain Harris.