

# ALACHUA TIM TEAM MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009

## MEETING MINUTES

For the list of attendees, please see the attached sign in sheet.

Pete Vega opened the meeting by asking everyone to introduce themselves.

Pete then stated the purpose of the meeting, which is to maintain appropriate communications between member agencies and discuss any issues that have been had, so that future incidents can be handled in the most effective manner.

Laurie Windham gave the Construction update

- The US 441/13<sup>th</sup> Street Project is ongoing. The Contractor is focusing on the UF area from Archer Road to NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street. This area is almost completed. The Project is being done in segments to limit the traffic impacts. So far the work is going smoothly.
- SR26 CSX overpass at US301 is ongoing.
- SR121 Project – the Alachua end is completed and the other end is nearing completion.
- The SR 222 Project is switching to daytime lane closures due to the rain in the afternoons not allowing paving operations. With the daytime lane closures, the paving operations should be completed this week.
- The Main Street Project is set to start the Tuesday after Labor Day and they will begin working on the North End. There will be an Open House for this project on Tuesday August 25<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 1pm and then 3pm – 6pm. The location of the Open House will be at 301 North Main Street.
- The University Avenue Project will be starting in January.
- Pete asked Chris Dolan if the City of Gainesville was being kept in the loop for all of these Projects, so that they could adjust signal timing if needed. Chris stated that they have very good communications with FDOT and everything to this point has been handled very well.

A handout, listing incidents, which have occurred since the last meeting, was given to everyone. Pete asked everyone to look over the list and see if there were any accidents that had been missed or if anyone had any knowledge of the incidents that were on the list and how the Team may have been able to do a better job of communications or roadway clearance.

- Bruce Strickland spoke briefly about the accident that took place on I-75 NB at MP 378 and stated that it took a while to get the debris cleaned up. He also wanted to know when the rock would be cleaned up that had been left in the ditch. Clint Daugherty, with AAG Environmental, stated that SWS was responsible to clean this up.
- Bruce then mentioned that Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, FDOT Maintenance would be working on I-75 SB at SR 121 correcting approach and departures. This operation will be shutting down the SB on ramp and two lanes. This will cause people to detour to Archer Road, which will cause a bottle neck in this area. The lanes will be closed from 7pm – 6am. Then on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> the NB side at this location would be done.
- Pete mentioned that there appeared to be communications issues with the accident on I-75 at MP 404. Gina Busscher had notified the TMC that lanes were closed, but FHP was saying that the lanes were open. John Gourley, with FHP, stated that originally 2 lanes were closed for the accident, but then the helicopter had to come in for the Life Flight, so all lanes were closed to land the helicopter. Once the helicopter took off, the one lane was opened and the clean up and investigation took place in the 2 lanes that were originally closed. Steve Scanlan stated that the miscommunication probably occurred due to time delay in disseminating the information. So, by the time FDOT got the information that it may not have been current. It was discussed that unless FDOT has a person at the scene, then the FHP should be used as current/accurate information.

Pete stated that Ed Ward could not attend the meeting, so if there are any EOC Updates that he will forward them to the TIM Team Members.

Chris Dolan provided updates for ITS and Traffic Signal work for the City of Gainesville

- 177 Signal Controllers have been changed to Naztec controllers at this point.
- One of the hold-ups for the project has been the installation of fiber by GRU Communications. The City is now doing the fiber installation by themselves, but are currently about a year behind.
- 53 PTZ cameras have been installed to date.
- They have been having issues getting cabinets, but recently received 20 cabinets and more are on the way.
- The Traffic Management Center is anticipated to begin Construction in late September or early October and will take approximately one year to complete. The building will now also house all of Public Works.

Pete then gave an update of the Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program.

- Only one Company in the Alachua area has expressed the desire to participate in the RISC Program. University Towing is waiting for inspection by FHP and then will be certified to participate in the Program. Once they are on the contract an announcement will go out to all TIM Team Members.

- There have been two RISC activations in Jacksonville. One RISC event involved a semi in a construction zone. There was 2x4 lumber, 16 feet long, dumped all over the Roadway between barrier walls on the shoulders. The RISC Contractor cleaned up the area and had the lanes opened in approximately 2.5 hours after arrival, thus missing the 90-minute clearance time and not getting their bonus. The other RISC event was cleaned up and lanes were clear in a little over an hour so the vendor got their bonus.

Pete Vega also gave some updates on ITS and 511

- Pete has inquired about getting ITS Projects into the Work Program for the Gainesville area on I-75. Due to budget constraints at this point it is not an option but Central Office continues to consider it a priority. It may be necessary to look at these ITS projects in smaller chunks to be able to get them funded section by section.
- The new 511 System started on June 16<sup>th</sup> and has been working well to this point.
- D2 has employed the services of an airplane to assist with providing traffic information to 511 for large planned events and major accidents. If the plane is needed for Football Games or other planned major events contact Pete. If a major accident occurs that will tie up I-75 for an extended period, call \*FHP and ask for the Traffic Management Center Operator. They will coordinate with their supervisor to get the airplane to the area.
- As part of the new 511 System, you can go to FL511.com and register to get customized traffic reports for your daily commute along I-75.

Next Pete gave the general announcements:

- Next Meeting we will have John Long from Florida Gas Transmission Company discussing coordination with their Company during incidents.

Pete then introduced Don West from the Florida Division of Forestry (DOF) to discuss Wild Fire Protocol.

- Don discussed prescribed burns and how DOF works with FHP in cases where smoke may impact the Roadway. He also provided several handouts for Florida Forest Fire and Open Burning Regulations and precautions for drivers when encountering smoke on Roadways. He also provided the recent contract that was signed by the DOF, FHP and FDOT, which outlines each agency's responsibilities.
- Bruce Strickland mentioned to Don that anytime DOF has upcoming prescribed burns to give FDOT Maintenance a call and Maintenance will set up signage that may be needed.

Pete asked if anyone had anything else that they would like to discuss and then thanked everyone for their participation in the TIM Team and adjourned the meeting.

**ALACHUA  
TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM  
AGENDA**

**AUGUST 12, 2009**

<b>WELCOME</b>	<b>Team Members</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION/GREETINGS</b>	<b>Team Members</b>
<b>PURPOSE</b>	
<b>MINUTES –APRIL 2009- APPROVAL</b>	<b>Team Members</b>
<b>CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPDATE</b>	<b>Gina Busscher</b>
<b>INCIDENT DEBRIEF - (Ed Ward's List attached)</b>	<b>Bruce Strickland/ Team Members</b>
<b>EOC UPDATE</b>	<b>Ed Ward</b>
<b>CITY OF GAINESVILLE TMC</b>	<b>Chris Dolan</b>
<b>RISC UPDATE</b>	<b>Donna Danson</b>
<b>ITS/511 UPDATE</b>	<b>Craig Carnes</b>
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	
<b>NEXT MEETING - SPECIAL GUEST – JOHN LONG FLORIDA GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY</b>	
<b><i>WILD FIRE PROTOCOL</i></b>	<b>Jim Brenner Division of Forestry</b>
<b>MEETING ADJOURNED</b>	

**REMINDER: NEXT ALACHUA TIM MEETING:  
OCTOBER 14, 2009**

**HIGHWAY SAFETY SMOKE MANAGEMENT  
INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT**

FDACS CONTRACT #

014763

HSM# 1028-09

An AGREEMENT made pursuant to Section 163.01, Florida Statutes (F.S.), by the STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES, DIVISION OF FORESTRY ("DOF"), the STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ("DOT"), and the STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES, HIGHWAY PATROL ("FHP") providing for cooperative efforts in WARNING and INFORMING Florida's public concerning roadway visibility hazards/distractions resulting from wildfire and prescribed burning. Representatives from these agencies will collectively be identified as the Highway Safety Smoke Management Task Force.

**WITNESSETH**

WHEREAS DOF, DOT, and FHP, having mutual concerns, responsibilities, and duties relating to smoke intrusions from wildfire and prescribed burning on Florida's state highways, these agencies desire to enter into an AGREEMENT to accomplish their mutual objectives and to cooperate in protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Florida:

STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1.1 DOF has the primary responsibility for prevention, detection, and suppression of wildland fires wherever they may occur. DOF shall provide leadership and direction in the evaluation, coordination, allocation of fire suppression resources, and monitoring of wildfire management and protection, in accordance with Sections 590.01 - 590.125, F.S.
- 1.2 DOT has sole authority and responsibility for the placement of all traffic control devices on Florida's state highways to warn motorists of the presence of hazards in accordance with Section 316.006(1), F.S.
- 1.3 FHP has the authority and responsibility to patrol the state highways and regulate, control, and direct the movement of traffic thereon in accordance with Section 321.05(1), F.S.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits flowing to each party hereto and the state of Florida, the parties agree as follows:

- 2.1 DOF will notify FHP whenever DOF has knowledge that smoke may impact traffic on the state highway system. The information supplied by DOF will include the DOF contact person, state road number, the location of the hazard (which should include visible landmarks, e.g., "south of toll plaza X", or "north of mile marker Y"), and the extent to which visibility is or may be restricted.
- 2.2 FHP will respond to smoke hazards on Florida's state highways, and evaluate the need for precautions necessary to minimize loss of life and property. DOT will assist as requested by FHP.
- 2.3 DOT has supplied to DOF, and will continue to supply as needed, 48" x 48" temporary

## HIGHWAY SAFETY SMOKE MANAGEMENT INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

orange mesh warning signs or incident management pink retroreflective "REDUCE SPEED" temporary signs for use during smoke emergencies. In accordance with state standards, the temporary traffic control warning signs (orange signs) read as follows: "REDUCE SMOKE SPEED". DOT will maintain specifications for smoke on the highway signs. All signs placed on rights-of-way will comply with DOT policy.

- 2.4 DOF is authorized, but not required, by this AGREEMENT to place orange signs or incident management pink retroreflective "REDUCE SPEED" temporary signs (pink signs) to warn motorists of an existing smoke hazard. When in possession of orange or pink signs, and when there is adequate time DOF may place these signs at appropriate locations along the state highway system. When DOF posts the orange or pink signs, the FHP will be notified when and where these temporary signs have been placed, so that FHP can immediately review the conditions to determine whether additional assistance and signage is necessary by FHP and DOT. DOF will coordinate the removal of the temporary traffic control warning signs (orange or pink) with FHP.
- 2.5 DOF will distribute specifications for 48" x 48" temporary warning signs that will be made of yellow reflective roll-up vinyl (yellow signs), in accordance with DOT specifications, that may be used as a precautionary measure by prescribed fire practitioners, including DOF, when burning in the vicinity of public roadways. The yellow signs read as follows: "PRESCRIBED BURN" and "FIRE SMOKE AREA". Although use of these yellow signs is optional, the DOT, DOF, and FHP will strongly encourage prescribed fire practitioners to use the yellow signs along non-limited access public roadways. Prescribed fire practitioners may **not** place yellow signs on limited access public roadways. With at least 48 hours notice and delivery of the yellow signs from the prescribed fire practitioner, the DOT will place the signs along limited access public roadways prior to ignition of prescribed fires, and remove signs after completion of the burn. Additionally, DOF will advise prescribed fire practitioners on the conditions of use and placement of these signs.
- 2.6 The orange mesh "REDUCE SMOKE SPEED" warning signs, pink retroreflective "REDUCE SPEED" temporary signs, yellow "PRESCRIBED BURN" signs and yellow "FIRE SMOKE AREA" signs referenced in the AGREEMENT are depicted in ATTACHMENT 1 thereto.
- 2.7 DOF will ensure that the contents of this AGREEMENT are reviewed in the Florida Certified Burner Program, dealing with the mitigation of smoke on Florida public roadways. This will include information on contracting with off duty law enforcement personnel to assist during prescribed fires.
- 2.8 The Highway Safety Smoke Management Task Force will be responsible for the developing and updating a pamphlet and website that describes the signs and their meaning. The primary purpose of this pamphlet is to instruct motorists as to what they should do in the event they are confronted with a smoke hazard on Florida's public roadways. This information will reflect the information in the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles drivers' manual.

**HIGHWAY SAFETY SMOKE MANAGEMENT  
INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT**

- 2.9 The Highway Safety Smoke Management Task Force will meet as necessary and review concerns that may develop during the implementation of this AGREEMENT, and suggest changes that will improve overall efficiency. A meeting may be called by any of the agencies included in this AGREEMENT. Modifications to this AGREEMENT shall be valid only upon execution of a formal written amendment to the AGREEMENT.
- 2.10 This AGREEMENT supersedes all previous Highway Safety Smoke Management Interagency Agreements between DOF, DOT and FHP. This AGREEMENT embodies the entire agreement of the parties. There are no promises, terms, conditions, or obligations other than those contained herein.
- 2.11 This AGREEMENT is effective and shall begin upon signing by all the parties and will remain in effect until terminated. This AGREEMENT may be canceled at any time by the parties involved. The party desiring to effect cancellation will give the other parties at least ninety (90) days written notice.

HIGHWAY SAFETY SMOKE MANAGEMENT  
INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, DOF, DOT, and FHP execute this AGREEMENT

FOR THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER  
SERVICES



Mike Gresham, Director  
Division of Administration

8 Day of May, 2009

FOR THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES



Stacy Arias, Chief  
Purchasing and Contracts

22nd Day of May, 2009

FOR THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION



Stephanie Kopelousos, Secretary  
Department of Transportation

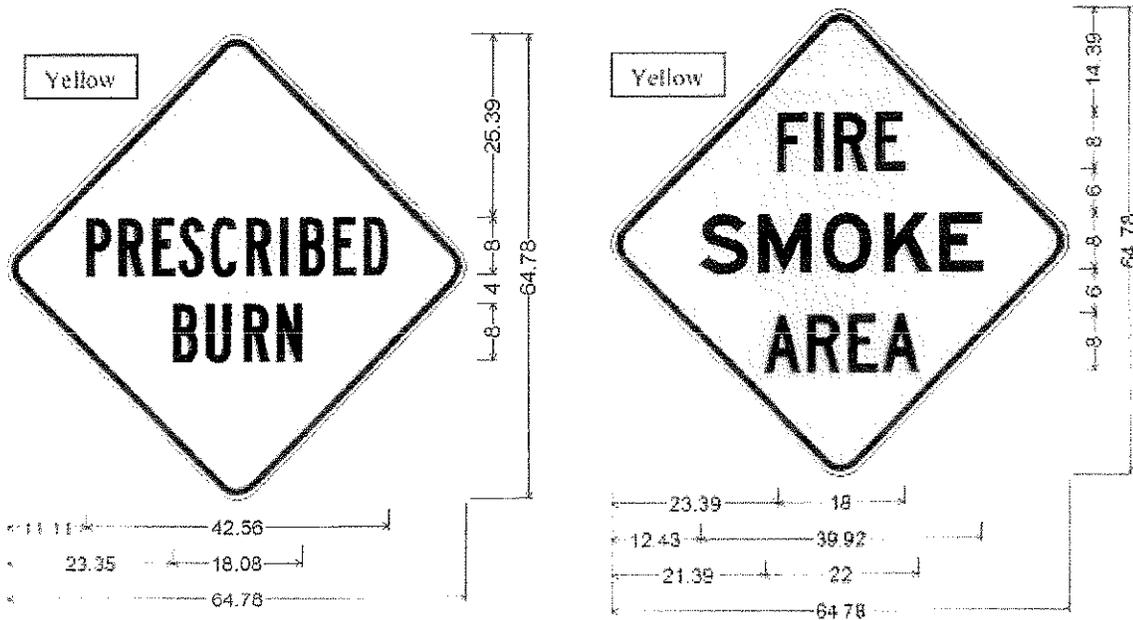
6th Day of June, 2009

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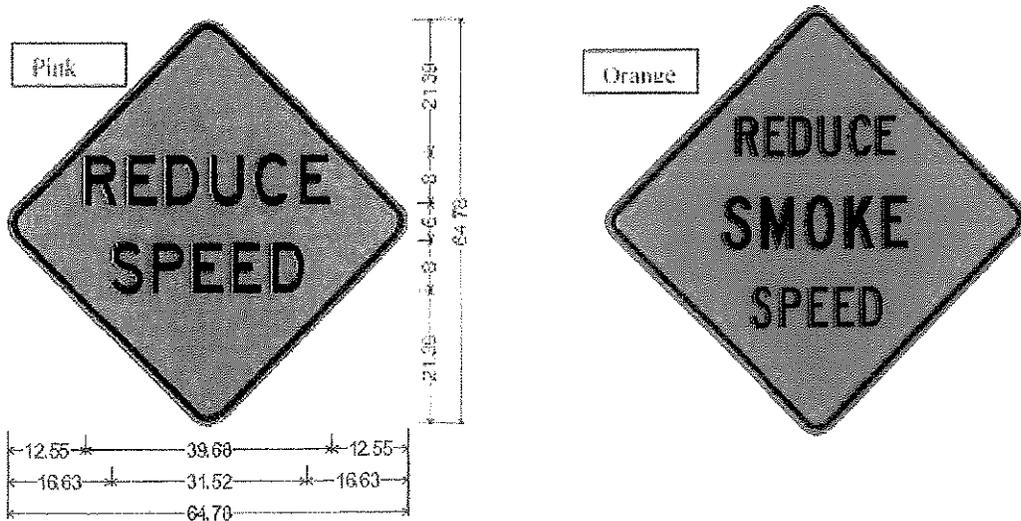
# HIGHWAY SAFETY SMOKE MANAGEMENT INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT

## ATTACHMENT 1

Temporary Retroreflective Yellow Roll-up Warning signs (yellow signs) to be used by Prescribed Burn Practitioners to inform the public about a burn in progress.



Temporary Traffic Control Warning signs to be used when roadway visibility has been restricted by smoke. A roll up REDUCE SPEED sign made of retroreflective incident management pink roll up vinyl may be used now, as it will eventually replace the REDUCE SMOKE SPEED orange mesh sign. No new mesh signs are to be manufactured.





## Florida Department of Transportation

CHARLIE CRIST  
GOVERNOR

605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0458

STEPHANIE C. KOPELOUSOS  
SECRETARY

### DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

I, Stephanie C. Kopelousos, Secretary of the Florida Department of Transportation, delegate to Kevin J. Thibault, as the Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Operations, Deborah L. Hunt, as the Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development, and William F. Thorp, as the Interim Assistant Secretary for Finance and Administration, the authority and responsibility to take action on my behalf at anytime during my absence from the Department headquarters in Tallahassee. I also rescind any prior delegations to the contrary.

Handwritten signature of Stephanie C. Kopelousos in black ink.

Stephanie C. Kopelousos, Secretary  
Florida Department of Transportation

Handwritten date "May 28, 2008" in black ink.

Date

ALACHUA TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

August 12, 2009

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	JOB TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
1 Peter Veg	FDOT	504 W. 5th	D-2 ITS Engineer	386-5463	peter.veg@dot.state.fl.us
2 Laurie Windham	PBSJ FDOT	Lake City	Public Information	886-292-0401	lwindham@pbsj.com
3 Rick Dolan	FL. DIV OF FORESTRY	Gainesville	FOREST AREA SUPV.	352-955-6266	dolanr@doas.state.fl.us
4 Don West	FL. Div of Forestry	5350 NE 39th Ave Gainesville, FL	CENTER MGR.	352-955-6970	westd@doas.state.fl.us
5 Geraldine Kennedy	FL Dept. Env. Protection	7835 Baymeadows Rd Ste 2008 Seedsenville, FL 32286	Emergency Response Special	904-907-3914	geraldinekenedy@dep.state.fl.us
6 Don Mozick	F. DEP	7835 Baymeadows Way Ste B200 Truckeeville, FL 32256	Emergency Response	907-817-3225	donmozick@dep.state.fl.us
7 Lucella Thomas	FDOT	1109 S. Marion Ave Lake City, FL 32055	Studies Specialist	386-758-3747	lucella.thomas@DOT.state.fl.us

ALACHUA TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING

August 12, 2009

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	JOB TITLE	PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS
1 Clint Daugherty	AAC Environmental	P.O. Box 954 Memberly Fl. 32669	ER AGR.	352-215-5812	clintdaugherty@aacenvironmental.com
2 Craig James	Metric Eng.	2950 Halcyon Ln Suite 705 Jax, FL 32086	Project Manager	(904)260-1567	cjames@metriceng.com
3 Dolan	City of Gville	405 NW 30 <sup>th</sup> Ave Gville FL BDF 32609	Traffic Ops Supervisor	352-334- 2155	Dolan.Ch@Cityof Gainesville.org
4 John Gaudrey	FHP	6300 NW 13th St Gainesville, FL 32653	District Supervisor	352-955-3180	JohnGaudrey@flhsmv.gov
5 Steve Sparkman	FDOT	5701 N.W. 19 <sup>th</sup> Gville, FL 32609	Field Op. Maint.	352-381-4700	Steve.Sparkman@FLHSMV.FL.US
6 Steven Scanlan	"	"	GAINESVILLE MAINT ENGINEER	352-381-4700	STEVEN.SCANLAN@DOT.STATE .FL.US
7 Rick Moore	University of Gainesville, FL	3540 NW 74 <sup>th</sup> Gainesville, FL	OWNER	352-373-4671	DRYDANRICK@AOL.COM

DATE	UNIT	INCIDENT	LOCATION	LENGTH OF CLOSURE	DEATHS	90 MIN GOAL MET
6/18/2009	GAINESVILLE	ACCIDENT	U.S. 301 S OF 200-A BRADFORD COUNTY. DOT INFORMED AFTER THE FACT. POWER POLE PARTIALLY IN ROADWAY	2 HOURS	0	No
6/23/2009	GAINESVILLE	ACCIDENT	S.R. 24, WALDO RD. NEAR AUSTIN CAREY FOREST. N.B. LANES CLOSED DUE TO PICK UP RUNNING INTO BACK OF A LOG TRUCK	3 HOURS	1	No
7/7/2009	BRIDGE	ACCIDENT	S.R. 26 UNDER I-75 IN G'VILLE. OVERHEIGHT VEHICLE HAS STRUCK THE BRIDGE. MINOR DAMAGE TO BE REPAIRED.	1.50 HOURS	0	Yes
7/25/2009	FHP	ADDIDENT	S.E. 144TH ST. W.B. @ S.R. 100, BRADFORD CO. DRIVER INTENTIONALLY HIT ANOTHER VEHICLE HEAD ON IN AN ATTEMPT TO KILL THE OTHER DRIVER.	UNK	0	UNK
8/3/2009	GAINESVILLE	ACCIDENT	U.S. 441 N.B. @ I-75 S.B. ON RAMP IN ALACHUA. MOTOR HOME TURNED IN FRONT OF A MOTORCYCLE.	3 HOURS	1	NO
8/9/2009	FHP	ACCIDENT	I-75 S.B. @ MM 408. SINGLE VEHICLE CRASH. VEHICLE TRIED TO MERGE INTO THE LEFT LANE, OVERCORRECTED & OVERTURNED.	UNK	0	UNK
8/10/2009	GAINESVILLE	ACCIDENT	I-75 S.B. @ MM 404. SINGLE VEHICLE CRASH, WITH THREE OF THE PASSENGERS BEING EJECTED. ALL THREE S.B. LANES ARE BLOCKED.	1 HOUR	0	YES