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**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, January 24, 2006

**MEETING TIME:** 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

**MEETING LOCATION:** FDOT District Six SunGuide Transportation Management Center (TMC)  
Conference Room

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** See Attached List

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#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Javier Rodriguez of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 6 SunGuide called the meeting to order and welcomed attendees. Self-introductions for all attendees followed. Mr. Girish Kumar of HNTB Corporation distributed the handouts for the meeting including the TIM Meeting Agenda and sign-in sheet, the November 15 Miami-Dade TIM team meeting minutes, two sample localized Open Roads Policy draft documents and a sample transmittal letter from other counties in Florida.

Mr. Kumar asked the attendees if there were any comments on the meeting minutes from the November 15 meeting. No comments were offered and the attendees approved the November 15 meeting minutes.

#### **TASK FORCE UPDATE - I-95 DIVERSION ROUTE PLANS**

Mr. Angel Reanos of PB Farradyne, the facilitator of this task force, provided an update on their activities. He started with providing a brief history of the I-95 diversion route plans. He said that coordination is very important to implement the diversion route plans successfully, due to the number of agencies involved. He also noted the issues related to the bridge crossings. He reported that the task force met on December 9 and will continue to meet on a monthly basis. Mr. Reanos urged that successful implementation of the I-95 diversion route plans would require more agency coordination. He said that the task force meeting minutes will be distributed to the TIM team once they are finalized.

Mr. Charlie Robbins of DMJM+Harris asked if there is a time-based criterion to trigger the diversion routes. Mr. Reanos replied that the task force will be developing criteria. Mr. Robbins asked what the response times were for an incident. Lt. Juan Gonzalez of City of Miami replied that they usually respond immediately to an incident. Replying to one of Mr. Kumar's questions, Mr. Reanos said that FDOT District 6, City of Miami Fire Rescue, Public Works Department and Florida Highway Patrol are the current task force members. Mr. Rodriguez encouraged City of Miami Police to participate in the task force. Lt. Gonzalez volunteered Mr. Frank Fernandez (also present) to attend the task force meetings. Mr. Kumar quoted the sign collapse in California on January 23, 2006, as an example to explain the importance of the I-95 diversion route plans.

Mr. Reanos mentioned that I-95 diversion route plans were revised, based on the comments offered at the August 12 Workshop. He mentioned that the next task force meeting will be in the second week of February, and the time of the meeting will be announced later.

#### **US 1 ROAD RANGER PILOT PROGRAM UPDATE**

Mr. Miguel Iglesias of the FDOT District 6 SunGuide updated the attendees on the US 1 Road Ranger Pilot Program starting with a brief history. The program was being well received by the motorists and municipalities along the corridor. He added that the FDOT District 6 SunGuide was in the process of meeting with different cities along the US 1 corridor to identify safe havens for the Road Rangers to clear vehicles involved in incidents or otherwise blocking the travel lanes. Mr. Frank Fernandez from City of Miami Police Department commended the Road Ranger program by quoting an example of how efficiently the Road Rangers dealt with an incident that was causing a major road block.



## **511 SERVICE STATUS UPDATE**

Mr. Mike Millard of SmartRoute Systems (SRS) announced that the new IVR-based 511 service had been rolled out. He mentioned that there were some changes that were needed to make the service more effective. Some regular callers still preferred to use the non-IVR option because of their familiarity. There were some changes to the keypad functions (such as the # versus \* keys) that the regular users from the past needed to adapt. Callers also needed to be aware that the IVR was sensitive to background noise. Overall the functionality that an IVR-based system provides is superior to the old system.

Lt. Gonzalez asked if the information provided on the 511 reports is based on the camera feeds. Mr. Millard replied that most information is from FDOT's Transportation Management Center (TMC), FHP and Police Departments. Lt. Gonzalez asked how often the report is updated. Mr. Millard replied that the information is updated as soon as they receive it. He added that most information is confirmed by TMC before being included or updated on 511. He requested the attendees to call SRS with any comments regarding the new IVR system.

He also added that they were working on modifying report formats. He reminded that the official website for South Florida's 511 was [www.511southflorida.com](http://www.511southflorida.com). Mr. Fernandez asked how quickly an incident is detected. Mr. Millard replied that an incident is usually posted within 4 minutes of being notified. However, if there is no Road Ranger to confirm, it may be delayed until confirmed. He also offered to take any specific comments from the attendees after the meeting.

## **SUPER BOWL 2007 EVENT MEETING UPDATE**

Mr. Saud Khan of FDOT District 6 reported that the planned December meeting had been postponed. However, it was clear that FDOT District 6 will closely coordinate traffic management issues with the event coordinators. Mr. Kumar suggested that District 4, Turnpike and other relevant agencies should be invited to the coordination meetings. Mr. Rodriguez encouraged Mr. Khan to participate more in the Miami-Dade TIM meetings. Mr. Iglesias added that pre- and post-Super Bowl events should also be within the coordination purview.

Mr. Khan emphasized the importance of developing incident management plans for all the major corridors. Mr. Robbins expressed that the MOT plans should be standardized for Road Rangers. Ms. Monica Savits of Anchor Towing asked if the statistics for SIRV response times were available. Mr. Robbins replied that it was 25 minutes from notification. These statistics include Level 2 and Level 3 incidents.

## **HURRICANE TASK FORCE**

Mr. Rodriguez announced that a Hurricane Task Force has been formed per direction from TIM. He volunteered Mr. Manuel Fontan from FDOT District 6 to head the Task Force. Also, he invited volunteers from other agencies. He said that the main goal for this Task Force will be to have a hurricane plan before the next hurricane season. He added that DMJM+Harris will support this Task Force. Mr. Iglesias volunteered to participate in this Task Force.

Mr. Kumar noted that this task force would develop the protocols and timelines for inter-agency communications. For example, the TIM has already decided that an automatic emergency meeting will be held when a hurricane threatens South Florida. This task force will develop the protocols and logistics necessary to implement this direction. Furthermore, there is recognition that this should not be a duplication of effort since each agency or a group of agencies may already hold similar pre-hurricane briefings or meetings. There was general consensus that the special TIM meeting would augment those efforts since this would be one forum where multiple agencies expected to respond participate.

Mr. Kumar added that another significant task would be to collectively approach FP&L to assign a high priority to restoring power to the FDOT/FHP/FDLE complex. He emphasized that FHP and Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) should actively participate in this effort with FP&L. Similar alliances could be formed to approach FP&L in other regions.

Mr. Rodriguez also invited volunteers from Miami-Dade Police Department for the task force, Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX), ICA and City of Miami Police Department. Mr. Kumar noted that the South Florida Region (through the regional coalition) already has Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) in place for TMC



operations. These could be used as a starting point or a sample to develop TIM-based operating plan to reflect the diversity of the TIM agencies. Mr. Robbins suggested that Emergency Operations Center (EOC) should be involved. Mr. Rodriguez also invited Mr. Khan to participate. Mr. Kumar mentioned that Mr. Jonathan Lord represents Miami-Dade EOC at the local TIM team.

#### **OPEN ROADS POLICY TASK FORCE**

Mr. Kumar explained that FHP and FDOT have signed this policy at the state level. At local level, he emphasized the need to expand this policy to the local stakeholders such as police and fire rescue departments. He mentioned that the handouts include examples of local TIM team policy documents. He added that all the responding agencies should be aware of and try to work towards the success of this policy. He urged that the Miami-Dade TIM should support a similar initiative.

Mr. Rodriguez said that a Task Force would better address the local TIM team's needs. He requested for volunteers from other agencies to head this effort. Mr. Kumar addressed the importance of this initiative in the context of the 2005 TIM self assessment and the resulting strategic areas of improvement. Mr. Urbano Dieppa of the City of Hialeah Police Department was suggested as someone who could lead this effort. Mr. Dieppa was not in attendance. Mr. Reanos mentioned that Florida west coast TIM teams had already embarked on this initiative for their regions and there was support from several agencies. Mr. Kumar noted that the Florida's Turnpike was pursuing a similar policy with the Miami-Dade Medical Examiner's Office among others along their statewide system.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Raul Corbo of Anchor Towing mentioned an incident on Miami Gardens Drive at the Florida's Turnpike (Turnpike), where a truck traveling on Turnpike fell onto Miami Gardens Drive, in-turn causing a full closure on Miami Gardens Drive. Mr. Corbo noted that the FHP called his wrecker company (which was on rotation for Miami Gardens Drive). The wrecker company was in the process of clearing the scene when they were asked to stop because it was a Turnpike-related incident and the rotational wrecker for the Turnpike system needed to be called. According to Mr. Corbo, as a result the incident took significantly longer to clear and that was contrary to the spirit of the Open Roads Policy. Mr. Rodriguez requested Mr. Iglesias to provide an update regarding this incident at the next meeting.

#### **MEETING CLOSE**

The next TIM meeting will be a joint meeting at District 4 SMART SunGuide TMC (**post meeting note – March 22 at 1:30 PM**)

Mr. Rodriguez then brought the meeting to a close.

