



SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL ITS COALITION

September 27, 2006 Meeting Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, September 27, 2006

TIME: 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

PLACE: Florida Department of Transportation District 4 / Broward County Traffic Engineering
SMART SunGuide Transportation Management Center (TMC)
2300 West Commercial Boulevard
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309

MEMBERS PRESENT: See Attached List

INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES

Mr. Jesus Martinez of the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) District 6 Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Office called the meeting to order. Self introductions for all attendees followed. Mr. Martinez also made the announcement of Mr. John Easterling's recent position promotion as the new District Traffic Operations Engineer for the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE). Mr. Girish Kumar of HNTB Corporation distributed the handouts that included the agenda and sign-in sheet.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Kumar informed that the meeting minutes for August 2006 meeting were ready but needed a few minor changes. The minutes will be e-mailed in a few days and final comments will be due 10 days from date sent. Members may submit comments to Mr. Kumar or Jesus Martinez via e-mail.

EXECUTIVE SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Martinez, the chair of this sub-committee, reported on the meeting held on September 13, 2006. He provided a report on an update from Penny Kamish of SmartRoute Systems (SRS) on the Advanced Traveler Information System (ATIS) activities. The update included status of CCTV images recently added to the Palm Beach Interim Traffic Management System (ITMS) web site and other QA/QC performance measures that are being developed to track program effectiveness. Ms. Dee McTague is assisting with compilation of the performance measures. SRS was also able to provide additional radio station spots beyond their contractual requirements as an effort to increase radio marketing.

Mr. Martinez also added that there were surplus funds left because of the lapsed time it took to fill the vacant Marketing Manager position. Mr. Martinez stated that this is going to be discussed with Mr. John Easterling during the next sub-committee meeting as well as other members to determine how the surplus funds will be used. Mr. Martinez reported on the September 14, 2006 Feedback Teleconference with SRS held primarily to discuss the interactive voice recognition (IVR) system enhancements and the IVR report distributed by Logic Tree. The data automation activities continue and plan to include regional information feeds to improve 511 system quality.

Mr. Martinez announced that the Marketing Manger position for the 511 system has been filled. The new marketing Manager is Ms. Jessica Castro formerly employed by the Miami-Dade Expressway (MDX) Authority. Mr. Martinez announced the next Steering Committee meeting to be held during the first week in November.

OPERATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Dee McTague substituting for Mr. Steven Corbin, chair of this sub-committee, reported that the sub-committee meeting was held on September 21. Ms. McTague reported on the statewide expansion of the South East Florida Regional TMC Operations Committee (SEFRTOC) to include TMC communications and coordination with other TMCs around the state. The new name to be adopted by the sub-committee is FUSION, which stands for, "Florida Unified Statewide Integrated Operations Network". The last meeting included



September 27, 2006 Meeting Minutes

participation by Mr. Keith Bradley of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to discuss TMC operations security related issues. Other items discussed were the scheduling of the next statewide operations meeting as well and continued discussion on Spurbowl preparations activities with the Superbowl subcommittee.

A brief discussion on TMC preparedness during hurricanes prompted the topic of District 4 TMC relocation during such events. Ms. McTague stated that the alternate TMC facility for relocation is the Turnpike's Pompano Plaza TMC but will not be done until the SunGuide software's center to center communications functionality is fully operational. Mr. Easterling added that this is a challenge at this time since both agencies use different platforms.

Mr. Mike Millard of SRS asked what was the current District 4 policy on evacuation during hurricanes. Ms. McTague replied that the TMC's policy is to evacuate for any category 3 hurricane. However, the main concern is when to evacuate and determining the key staff to remain. Mr. Rory Santana of FDOT District 6 added that the TMCs might need to look into how far to evacuate and perhaps look into a neighboring state depending on the storm's impact.

PUBLIC OUTREACH SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. John Easterling of Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE), chair of this sub-committee stated that he is working on setting the next sub-committee meeting date. He added that he would like to include more member agencies and encouraged their participation. A SunPass representative will be available at the next meeting.

TECHNICAL SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

This item was tabled. Mr. Jesus Martinez announced that Mr. Ivan del Campo will be leaving MDX but a date has not been confirmed.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE SUNNAV PRESENTATION

Mr. John Easterling provided a presentation on the recent upgrades to Turnpike's SunNav software. Some of the new enhancements include a web-base version of SunNav, remote access, and center-to-center (C2C) communications capability. Other future enhancements will include a Road Ranger automatic vehicle location (AVL) system and capability to monitor toll equipment allowing for improvements in TMC operations and maintenance personnel use respectively. Mr. Easterling briefly described the software modules and stated that the new version including the GIS application is significantly better than the previous version.

Mr. Martinez asked Mr. Easterling about using the Central Office fiber management tool (FMT). Mr. Easterling replied that it was not being considered at this time.

Mr. Kumar inquired if there would be a junction of both the FDOT and FTE communication system at I-75/TPK interchange. Both Mr. Martinez and Mr. Easterling stated that there will be a future connection but the two districts have to determine the connectivity details. All members present concurred on the importance of inter-agency communication system connectivity for added redundancy.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES UPDATE

Mr. Kumar mentioned that there were no changes made to the goals at the previous Executive Sub-committee meeting. In general, the goals need to be updated and include a target date where applicable. Mr. Martinez encouraged attendees to submit their individual agency requests.

ATIS PROJECT STATUS

Mr. Mike Millard of SRS started by announcing that information from the Palm Beach ITMS and the District 4 and 6 TMCs is available on 511. The information can be shared with users via the 511 IVR and SunGuide



September 27, 2006 Meeting Minutes

website. SRS is also working with the SunGuide ITS office on a method to extract data from the SunGuide software to improve data collection.

Mr. Millard added that the 511 IVR is functioning well and suggested that attendees dial from their house to obtain advance traveler information and become familiar with the new system menu. Dr. Mohammed Hadi of the Florida International University (FIU) stated that he uses the system several times per day and was concerned with some of the system responses. Mr. Millard added that the goal is to train the system on how people want the system to respond.

Mr. Millard introduced Ms. Jessica Castro, the new 511 Marketing Manager and asked her to provide an update on the recent marketing activities. Ms. Castro stated that she was working on an aggressive marketing package. She informed that the City of Miami Beach has incorporated a 511 link to their web page. She is also reviewing the NBC 6 web page traffic information section and found that it is not very intuitive. Enhancements are to be completed within a week's period. Other marketing activities are in motion with the city of Weston on 511 program awareness.

Ms. Delphine Ritters of Broward County Traffic Engineering Department (BCTED) inquired about the policy on recording CCTV images. None of the districts record CCTV images. Mr. Santana added that all recordings made for any reason are kept on record for three years and are public record. Mr. Easterling added that the Turnpike's still images recorded for toll violation purposes are exempt from being a public record. Nonetheless, attendees agreed that there is always a potential that the public may inquire and make the request.

OTHER AGENCY UPDATES/TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENTS - OPEN FORUM

Mr. Martinez announced the SunGuide 2.2 software version installed a week after District 4. The ITS project deployment is moving forward with the Lower Keys Project scheduled to go into "burn-in" on September 28, 2006. The I-95 Package B ramp metering completed testing the last week of October. Corridors I-195 and I-75 are getting closer to final acceptance as the burn-in period comes to an end. The February 2007 letting for SR 826 ITS from SR 836 to I75 and the I-395 ITS from McCarthur Causeway to Alton Road is on schedule. The Miami Tunnel Project is scheduled to select one of the three short-listed firms by April of 2007.

Mr. Martinez mentioned the increased requests from the City of Miami and City of Aventura to post CCTV images on the SRS website for their use. The city of Hialeah is making plans to install CCTV in their region as well. Other activities in the SunGuide TMC continue to focus on finalizing the Hurricane Response Action Plan as well as developing standard operating guidelines (SOG's) for the TMC.

Mr. Martinez also provided an update for MDX. The SR 836 Project is pending the litigation with Mastec. The HAR portion of the SR 836 Project is not operational. MDX plans to procure the remainder corridors' ITS deployment under one package. In addition to these activities, the District 6 ITS Office and MDX are working on an operations agreement to have the SunGuide TMC manage MDX's SR 836 ITS, the Road Ranger Program and future ITS deployment.

Mr. John Easterling, of the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise provided an update on the Part A ITS Package scheduled for construction in December. The project may be awarded if the bids are reasonable. On the Road Ranger Program's operations update, Mr. Easterling announced the program's extended hours of operations to 24/7 as of September 11, 2006. The program also added a tow capable unit for the Broward County construction segment of the Florida's Turnpike. The unit is dispatched by the Pompano TMC. The Turnpike is also planning on the deployment of 42 arterial and freeway DMS. The majority of the arterial DMSs will be installed in South Florida, primarily Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

Mr. Dong Chen of FDOT District 4 updated on the ITS project for the District 4 northern three counties. The \$26M ITS project will include fiber optic communications, cameras, dynamic message signs and power generators. The Palm Beach ITS project will follow six months after the previously mentioned project. The \$25M project will include fiber optic communication, cameras, dynamic message signs, power generators and lane control system (LCS). Broward County also plans on a \$5M project to include LCS on I-95 and power



SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL ITS COALITION

September 27, 2006 Meeting Minutes

generators at the FPL power drops. The ITMS is deploying 21 permanent DMS on the arterial crossings approaching I-95. The only exception is at Lakeworth Road due to difficulty in obtaining power.

Ms. Delphine Ritter stated that BCTED has accepted Phase 1 of the fiber optic communications system throughout the county. BCTED is working communication improvements to bring CCTV images to the District 4 TMC.

Mr. Mohammed Hadi of FIU updated on the mini-TMC installation at their ITS laboratory. A BARCO video wall with Argus controller was installed in the laboratory. The TMC consoles and furniture are expected to be installed within six weeks.

Mr. Keith Bradley of DHS met with the State Homeland Security Advisor. The meeting focused on domestic security and the application of technology and interagency coordination. The next meeting is scheduled for the first week in November.

NEXT MEETING/OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting will be held on December 6, 2006 at the FDOT District 4 / Broward County TMC, at 1:30 PM.

South Florida Regional ITS Coalition Meeting

September 27, 2006 – 1:30 PM at FDOT District 4/Broward County TMC

Sign-In Sheet



First / Last Name		Company	Phone	Fax	Email Address
Adriana	Toro	Broward County Transit	(954) 357-8487	(954) 357-8442	atoro@broward.org
Angel	Reanos	HNTB Corporation	(305) 551-8100	(305) 551-2800	areanos@hntb.com
Arlene	Willis	Willis Cox & Associates	(954) 572-9421	(954) 206-0267	williscoxassociates@yahoo.com
Bob	Murphy	Telvent Farradyne/Palm Beach ITMS	(954) 714-8081	(954) 714-6979	murphyb@pbworld.com
Dee	McTague	FDOT District 4 SMART SunGuide TMC/DMJM+Harris	(954) 847-2790	(954) 847-2685	dee.mctague@smartsunguide.com
Delphine	Ritter	BCTED	(954) 847-2758		dritter@broward.org
Dong	Chen	FDOT District 4	(954) 847-2796	(954) 847-2683	dong.chen@dot.state.fl.us
Girish	Kumar	HNTB Corporation	(305) 551-8100	(305) 551-2800	gkumar@hntb.com
Jessica	Castro	SmartRoute System	(305) 914-3910		jessica_castro@smartroute.com
Jesus	Martinez	FDOT District 6	(305) 499-2446	(305) 470-5832	jesus.martinez@dot.state.fl.us
John	Easterling	Florida's Turnpike Enterprise	(954) 975-4855 ext 1292	(954) 934-1351	john.easterling@dot.state.fl.us
Keith	Bradley	U. S. Department of Homeland Security	(305) 863-5241	(305) 863-5011	keith.bradley1@dhs.gov
Mike	Millard	SmartRoute System	(305) 914-3900	(305) 914-3990	mmillard@smartroute.com
Mohammed	Hadi	Florida International University	(305) 348-0092	(305) 348-2802	hadim@fiu.edu
Rory	Santana	FDOT District 6	(305) 470-5757	(305) 470-5815	rory.santana@dot.state.fl.us