

MEETING MINUTES

Miami-Dade Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team - Palmetto Corridor Meeting

Date/Time:	August 18, 2021	1:30PM - 3:30PM
Location:	Florida Department of Transportation - District Six SunGuide Transportation Management Center Online Meeting - Microsoft Teams	
Host:	Donald Avery and Rulx Belizaire	
Attendees:	Name	Agency
	Shawn Kinney	FDOT Central Office
	Carlos Dardes	FDOT District Six - TSM&O
	Elisabet Rivera	FDOT District Six - Maintenance
	Jinyan Lu	FDOT District Six
	Shuan Blue	FDOT District Six - Maintenance
	Alex Mirones	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six
	Donald Avery	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six
	Felix Lopez	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six
	Nikolas Muriel	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six
	Rulx Belizaire	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six
	Jorge Delgado	American Towing
	Robert Murphy	AECOM Traffic Incident Management
	Nodin Prospere	Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works
	Brandon Del Rosal	Downtown Towing
	Michael Miller	H2O Environmental
	Simon Gutierrez	Jacobs
	Rachael Shulman	Kauff's Towing
	Arlhey Carmenate	Louis Berger Services
	Chris Warren	Louis Berger Services
	Ginny Burcham	Louis Berger Services
	Manuel Gonzalez	Louis Berger Services
	Frank Aira	Miami-Dade County, Traffic Signals and Signs Division
	Mikhail Ryabov	Miami-Dade County, Traffic Signals and Signs Division
	Ray Vaughan	Miami-Dade Fire Rescue
	Bencze Vajta	North Dade Maintenance
	Alexis Margaret	Sunshine Towing
	Alexis Ramos	Sunshine Towing

1. Purpose of Meeting

This meeting serves as a discussion platform for agencies directly impacted by Florida Department of Transportation District Six's roadways in Miami-Dade County along the western region, which are Palmetto Express, SR 826/Palmetto Expressway, 75 Express, I-75, SR 997/Krome Avenue, and US 27/Okeechobee Road. This provides local fire rescue, law enforcement, asset maintenance, Florida Highway Patrol, and other agencies a forum to coordinate and share information regarding special events, construction projects, activities, initiatives, and issues specific to the area.

2. Discussion Items

SunGuide TMC Project Manager, Don Avery, started the presentation. The presentation is available at: <https://sunguide.info/incident-management-service/tim-team/tim-meetings/>

Don welcomed everyone to the Miami-Dade Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team Palmetto Corridor meeting. He explained the importance of hosting a TIM Team meeting for the western region of Miami-Dade County. Don said the intention of the meeting is to address incident management, agency initiatives, construction activities, and concerns unique to the western region of Miami-Dade County.

Don began the presentation with a recap of recent protest demonstrations which were impacting traffic on the Palmetto Corridor for several days starting on July 13, 2021. Large crowds shut down the Palmetto Expressway. The Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, Miami-Dade Police Department, FDOT Incident Response Vehicles (IRVs), Road Rangers, FDOT Asset Maintenance Contractor, and the SunGuide TMC all coordinated to set up detour routes. There were southbound closures on SR 826 at NW 103 ST, NW 36 ST, SR 836, and SW 24 ST/Coral Way, as well as a northbound full closure at SW 24 ST/Coral Way.

Don spoke about reckless drivers stopping traffic to perform donuts on our roadways. He mentioned the challenges of preventing and catching this dangerous and illegal activity. Don also encouraged and invited anyone to share ideas that their agency has used to get ahead of the activity.

Don provided a summary of the Palmetto Express improvements. He described the configuration changes of the express and general-purpose lanes in the northbound direction. As a result, average speeds have increased in express and general-purpose lanes; and volume in the general-purpose lanes has increased during the peak periods. Don also described the anticipated interim southbound improvement and finally the ultimate improvement project expected to be completed in 2024.

Rulx provided updates to the SunGuide.info website, the FL511 website, the FL511 App., as well as the SunGuide TMC's Responders Site.

Rulx continued with the importance of the National TIM Responder Safety Course and that the TMC has added new trainers. In turn, the TMC can host more responder safety courses as needed or by request beyond the normal quarterly sessions. He provided his contact information for anyone requesting training for their agency.

Rulx continued onto the district's Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program and how it is unique to the Palmetto Corridor/western region in comparison to the 95 Corridor/eastern region. The Palmetto Corridor has the RISC program on arterial roadways mainly Okeechobee Road and Krome Avenue due to the heavy truck traffic. The truck traffic is 6% on the Palmetto Expressway compared to 13% on Krome Avenue and 20% on Okeechobee Road. There were 35 RISC activations throughout the district since the last Palmetto Corridor meeting (August 19, 2020), and 20% of the activations occurred on Okeechobee Road and Krome Avenue. He shared images and provided a brief description of these RISC events. Rulx highlighted that rolled over commercial vehicles loaded with sand or gravel was the trend amongst all the events. He concluded with the goal, effectiveness, and intention of the program in activating a package of heavy-duty equipment and expertise qualified to recover complex incidents.

Chris Warren (Project Manager) introduced Louis Berger as the new asset maintenance contractor for FDOT District Six in Miami-Dade County. Beginning August 1, 2021, Louis Berger maintains all highways except for the MacArthur Causeway, which is being managed by the SR 836/I-95/I-395 Design Build Project. Also, the William Lehman Causeway has been added to the scope. Lastly, Chris provided an overview of Louis Berger's experience throughout the years.

Don introduced an interactive survey application. The results of the survey are below.



What are your ideas to prevent or help this issue?

Monitor social media and alert authorities	KEEP UP WITH SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS.	Check social media for group gatherings
Suspend licenses and impose significant fines.	Deploy armed QuinJets	LP capture- law enforcement
Once offender has been caught automatic suspension of DL for 1 year.	Less news coverage about the burnouts, more coverage of the arrests. Use existing Sunpass and LPR to find the offenders and show their arrest and convictions.	Only In Dade on Instagram has some of these videos

What are your ideas to prevent or help this issue?

Social media and law enforcement	If you see something, say something.	Borrow a car and join a reckless driving group, then report it
Increase public awareness and enforcement efforts	Dashcams	USE THE UNDERCOVER FHP MUSTANG

3. Open Discussion

Ray Vaughan (Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Sr. Telecom Technician) asked is there a live map available showing the exact locations of the incidents confirmed by operators. He would like more features than what is on the FL511 website. Ray elaborated that he would like the TMC's main screen of cameras to be his main screen as well. Don responded that this is a discussion for the IT group to see if it is possible. The two exchanged contacts and continued the inquiry offline.

Frank Aira (Miami-Dade County, Traffic Signals and Signs Division) asked can the presentation be shared. Alex Mirones responded that the presentations will be shared on our SunGuide.info website on the Traffic Incident Management Team page.

Ray asked Louis Berger does the road maintenance include construction areas. They seem to go without cleanup during the duration of the construction project. Elisabet Rivera (FDOT Asset Maintenance Project Manager) responded that Louis Berger maintenance agreements varies with each construction project. They may handle a portion, all, or none of the maintenance in a construction area. Elisabet requested for Ray to contact her directly to verify the area(s) and have it cleaned up.

4. Meeting Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 2:23 PM.