

**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Semi-Annual Miami-Dade/Broward Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team Meeting**

<b>Date/Time:</b>	October 6, 2021		1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Florida Department of Transportation - District Six SunGuide Transportation Management Center Online Meeting		
<b>Hosts:</b>	Felix Lopez, Alex Mirones, and Rulx Belizaire		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
	Shawn	Kinney	FDOT Central Office
	Alejandro	Motta	FDOT District Six
	Carlos	Dardes	FDOT District Six
	Jinyan	Lu	FDOT District Six
	Shuan	Blue	FDOT District Six
	Don	Avery	SunGuide TMC – District Six
	Gabriel	Guzman	SunGuide TMC - District Six
	Nikolas	Muriel	SunGuide TMC - District Six
	Arlene	Willis	FDOT District Four
	Joudy	Mendez	FDOT District Four
	Dee	McTague	SMART SunGuide TMC - District Four
	Timothy	Stanberry	SMART SunGuide TMC - District Four
	Bob	Murphy	Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
	Douglas	Prager	Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
	Mary Lou	Veroline	Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
	Michael	Washburn	Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
	Ralph	Etienne	Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
	Gerardo	Cosme	Miami-Dade Expressway
	Jorge	Delgado	American Towing
	Dale	Young	APTIM
	Neil	Campbell	APTIM
	Cedric	Dallas	Department of Public Works – Miami-Dade Transit
	Chad	Tavares	FDOT - North Dade Maintenance
	George	Hoffman	FDOT - S. Miami-Dade Construction
	Yosvany	Segui	FHP Troop E
	Sandra	Bello	HML Public Outreach
	Rachael	Shulman	Kauff's of Miami
	Chris	Warren	Louis Berger Services
	Ginny	Burcham	Louis Berger Services
	Oscar	Gonzalez	Media Relations Group
	Evita	Johnson	FHP - Miami Regional Communications Center
	Sergio	Gonzalez	Pinnacle Consulting Enterprises
	Fabio	Alvarez	Port Miami Tunnel
	Luis	Enrich	Port Miami Tunnel
	Johnny	Valdes	Port Miami Tunnel
	Wendy	Conforme	Port Miami Tunnel
	Yenny	Farinas Diaz	Port Miami Tunnel
	Alexis	Margaret	Sunshine Towing
	Alexis	Ramos	Sunshine Towing
	Arlhey	Carmenate	WSP USA
	Giuseppe	Scaringi	WSP USA
	Jessica	Guevara	WSP USA
	Manuel	Gonzalez	WSP USA

## 1. Purpose of Meeting

This meeting serves as a platform for our TIM partners to highlight and discuss ongoing initiatives, activities, or events affecting the surface transportation system in southeast Florida. It also provides an opportunity to coordinate and share information regarding department related projects and incident management.

## 2. TIM Agency Updates

### 2.1 - FDOT District Six TIM Update

Felix Lopez, District Six SunGuide TMC Incident Management Program Manager, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He provided the purpose of the meeting and announced the presenters.

Alex Mirones, District Six SunGuide TMC Manager, started with the meeting's theme of responder safety and Florida's Move Over Law, along with the importance of raising awareness as frequently as possible. Alex announced that the Department hosted a Move Over Press Event due to the recent law enforcement and road ranger struck-by crashes this year. This event is an addition to the Crash Responders Awareness Week (formally known as National Traffic Incident Responders Awareness Week) held in November and the Move Over Campaign held in January. FDOT hosted the event with Florida Highway Patrol at the Troop E Headquarters parking lot on August 27, 2021. In addition, there was media coverage from multiple news stations including CBS 4, NBC 6, WSVN 7, ABC 10, and Telemundo 51. Alex Mirones shared media coverage from CBS 4 <https://www.nbcmiami.com/news/after-ranger-injuries-fdot-urges-residents-to-follow-move-over-law/2539097/>. FHP and eight police departments across the county supported the event with an informational and enforcement detail.

Alex spoke about protest demonstrations that impacted the Palmetto Expressway and other areas throughout Miami-Dade County. Large crowds unexpectedly shut down the highway. 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.

Alex talked about reckless drivers stopping traffic to perform donuts on our roadways. He mentioned the challenges of preventing and catching the dangerous illegal activity. Alex also encouraged and invited the TIM Team to share ideas on how to get ahead of the activity.

Rulx Belizaire, District Six SunGuide TMC Incident Management Coordinator, presented updates about construction projects, special events, responder training, RISC events, and a wrong-way driver event. Rulx said they have additional certified trainers for the Responder Training Safety Course to accommodate more training classes should an agency request. Rulx presented data showing an uptrend of RISC activations by fiscal year from 2016 to 2021. He also showed data identifying the majority (70%) of all RISC events were on I-95 and SR 826. Rulx remarked on the uniqueness of the District Six RISC program due to coverage on arterial roadways, Okeechobee Road and Krome Avenue.

Rulx presented a WWD crash that occurred on August 24, 2021. He described the WWD event in detail. The driver did not enter the opposite direction from an exit ramp. The driver was reportedly driving along I-95 northbound south of Miami Gardens Drive when the driver made a U-turn heading south in the adjacent northbound 95 Express lanes. The driver continued southbound driving the wrong way along the 95 Express Flyover Ramp resulting in a head-on vehicle collision. The northbound vehicle fell off the Flyover Ramp onto a SR 9 ramp approximately 80 feet below. Two Road Rangers (one off-duty and one patrolling) heroically removed a passenger from the fallen vehicle before it caught fire.

### 2.2 - FDOT District Four TIM Update

Timothy Stanberry, District Four Traffic Incident Management Coordinator, provided an overview of their incident clearance times from fiscal year 2019 to 2021, upcoming TIM events, RISC events, Road Ranger's statistics, and SIRV assists. Tim played a video clip to raise awareness to the dangers of texting while driving.

### 2.3 - Florida's Turnpike TIM Updates

Michael Washburn, Incident Management Coordinator, presented detailed data of crashes by type (pedestrian involved, impaired driving, and distracted driving) from the recent three years. He also provided a trend analysis of RISC data compared per month, 30-mile range, and by cause. In addition, Mike shared the efforts Florida's Turnpike has implemented to raise responder safety and motorist safety. This included a Shoulder Safety PSA Campaign equipped with DMS messaging and video for social media and gas station pumps. He also reminded everyone of the upcoming

nationally recognized Crash Responders Awareness Week. Mike shared a video of Road Ranger (RR) involved crashes taken from RR dash cameras.

## **2.5 - PortMiami Tunnel**

Luis Enrich, Tunnel Operations Manager, and Johnny Valdes, Operations Supervisor, presented their TIM update. Luis provided traffic and operations summaries which included traffic volume per year, traffic data by category, managed incidents, and performance measures summaries. He also shared their project initiatives such as flashing LED wrong way driver signs, Pit-Lit Sunflower Cone Lamps for closures, Smart Sequential Road Flares, iCone, and new designs for their incident response vehicles. The designs included information about the Florida Move Over Law to increase awareness of the law and responders' safety. Johnny provided details of multiple incidents that occurred in the tunnel accompanied by videos.

## **2.4 - Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX)**

Jerry Cosme, MDX TMC Manager, shared information about WWD events, construction projects, MDX Road Ranger program, and event statistics. He also announced that DBI Services is the new contractor for asset maintenance and Road Rangers services effective July 1, 2021. He provided a fleet breakdown by truck types, color designs, as well as information about iCone technology and dash cameras on their vehicles.

## **3. Construction Updates**

### **3.1 - I-395/SR 836/I-95 Design Build Project**

Oscar Gonzalez, Senior Community Outreach Specialist, presented construction updates about I-95 mainline concrete pavement work (95% complete), ongoing widening work near SR 836, and progress regarding poured footers for the center pier. He shared videos on construction activity and the SR 836 double-decker sequence process.

### **3.2 - Golden Glades Multimodal Transportation Facility (GGMTF)**

Sandra Bello, Community Outreach Specialist, presented construction updates for the GGMTF. She provided images of the pedestrian bridge, bus loop, SR 7 Entrance, transit hub, restrooms, transit break lounge, and the connector road.

## **4. Open Discussion**

Mike Washburn asked if District 6, District 4, and MDX noticed an increase in RISC events. Tim and Rulx responded yes.

Don Avery asked PortMiami Tunnel the power source for the Pit-Lit Sunflower Cone Lamps (battery? rechargeable battery?). Luis responded that the lamps use four AA batteries, and he posted the lamp's specifications in the chat.

Don asked PortMiami Tunnel about the motorcycles and ATVs that enter the tunnel. Does Operations observe these vehicles? If yes, what happens when they get to the other side? Luis said that a Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) officer is dispatched. The operators typically monitor I-395 cameras for early detection to provide advance notice to MDPD.

Ralph Etienne (Florida's Turnpike Field Incident Response Manager) asked how crashes are cleared in the tunnel. Does the tunnel use wrecker rotation or does the tunnel have its own wrecker(s)? Luis responded that the tunnel has incident response vehicles (e.g., flatbed) to clear crashes and there are vendors on standby for significant incidents like RISC.

Oscar Gonzalez commented that the Downtown Neighbors Alliance (DNA), is very concerned with the reckless driving on Biscayne Boulevard. Maybe a partnership with them will help. The DNA represents many residential towers of Biscayne Boulevard.

## **5. Meeting Adjournment**

All presentations are available on the SunGuide.info website (<https://sunguide.info/incident-management-service/tim-team/tim-meetings/>).