

# FINAL MEETING MINUTES

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

<b>Date/Time:</b>	August 17, 2022	1:30 PM – 3:30 PM
<b>Location:</b>	City of Hialeah Police Department's Training Room 810 E 56 Street, Hialeah, Florida, 33010	
<b>Host:</b>	Felix Lopez	
<b>Attendees</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>	
Carlos Dardes	FDOT District Six - TSM&O	
Alex Mirones	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six	
Felix Lopez	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six	
Nikolas Muriel	SunGuide TMC - FDOT District Six	
Maria Alzate	FDOT Okeechobee Road Projects - PIO	
Guillermo Bornet	Hialeah Fire Rescue	
Tim Stanberry	Florida's Turnpike / AECOM	
Lt. A. Camacho	Florida Highway Patrol	
Lt. Carlos I. Venegas	Florida Highway Patrol	
Felipe Gonzales	RK&K FDOT - D6	
Enrique Tamayo	RK&K FDOT -D6	
Rodolfo Bello	Hialeah Police Department	
Mohamed Mabrouk	Ally Energy Services Inc	
Carlos Vasquez	Miami-Dade County Traffic Signals & Signs	
Fernando Villa	Hialeah Police Department	

### 1. Purpose of Meeting

This meeting serves as a discussion platform for agencies directly impacted by Florida Department of Transportation District Six's roadways along the western region of Miami-Dade County including 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

Felix welcomed everyone to the Miami-Dade Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team Palmetto Corridor meeting. Attendees introduced themselves. All presentations will be made available on the FDOT District Six TSM&O website at <https://sunguide.info/incident-management-service/tim-team/tim-meetings/>

Felix started the session with an update from the Statewide TIM meeting. FDOT Central Office (CO) hosts an annual meeting with all FDOT Districts to discuss TIM topics with a focus on road safety and how to protect motorists.

Felix said that the Statewide TIM meeting was held in Lakeland at the SunTrax facility on March 29, 2022. This is where FDOT will be testing autonomous vehicles and systems. Felix said the facility was impressive and they saw an autonomous truck being tested.

Felix gave an update on automated safety alerts. The District Six Incident Response Vehicle (IRV) fleet is equipped with the iCone Connected Service. The iCone box is connected to the arrow board. When IRV raises the arrow board, the iCone box sends a signal which is received by Waze. Waze sends a roadway alert informing motorists to move over. District Six will soon transition away from iCone to a different system.

Tim Stanberry (Turnpike TMC Manager) said that Turnpike uses something similar to iCone devices.

Felix provided a quick update on the Okeechobee Road projects. He said that Maria would provide full details after his presentation.

### **SR 826/Palmetto Expressway Capacity Projects**

Felix provided a summary of the Palmetto Express improvements. He described the configuration changes previously completed for the northbound Palmetto Express. As a result, the northbound volume and average speeds have increased in the express and general-purpose lanes. Felix described the current southbound capacity improvement project. One of the major impacts of this project is the adjustment of the NW 103 Street westbound to southbound flyover. This adjustment is being done to allow roadway widening within the interchange. This will resolve a current bottleneck condition. This project is expected to be complete in 2024.

Mohamed (Ally Engineering Services) asked if the clearance times are improving in the southbound direction. Alex Mirones (D6 TMC Manager) said it is currently under construction; however, they have noticed some improvement. A better direction analysis will be conducted once the southbound direction is completed.

### **Transportation Management Center (TMC) Updates**

Felix provided the current deployment of the wrong way driver detection system (WWDS). Current operating WWDS are at the southbound SR 826 off-ramps to Bird Road and Miller Drive. The next two WWDS at the I-95 off-ramps at NW 95 Street are in the testing phase. An upcoming project will install 11 WWDS throughout Miami-Dade County. Construction on these new project off-ramps is anticipated in March 2023.

Carlos Vasquez (Miami-Dade Traffic Signal and Signs) asked if the Turnpike is installing WWDS by the South Dade Government Center. Tim advised that he is not aware at the moment.

Felix provided details of the special event for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village of Pinecrest Police. District Six participated by providing an IRV vehicle and public information staff to promote driver safety and awareness.

Felix gave an update on district clearance time. For example, from 2008 thru 2021, the roadway clearance time decreased from 40.1 minutes to 28.5 minutes; the incident clearance time decreased from 79.5 minutes to 50.4 minutes.

### **Asset Maintenance Contractors**

Felix introduced Louis Berger as the asset maintenance contractor for FDOT District Six in Miami-Dade County. Louis Berger started this role on August 1, 2021. Felix also gave details on the jurisdictional limits for the district's North Dade and South Dade Maintenance services.

### **Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program**

Felix continued onto the District's Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Program. Due to the heavy truck traffic, District Six had expanded the RISC program to Okeechobee Road and Krome Avenue. He shared images and provided a brief description of some recent RISC events on these arterials. Felix highlighted a tractor trailer on fire and a rolled-over dump truck loaded with gravel. He concluded with the program's goal, effectiveness, and intention of activating a package of heavy-duty equipment and expertise qualified to recover complex incidents.

Tim Stanberry (Turnpike TMC Operations Manager) said that Turnpike has a lot of RISC activations and talked about the RISC program at the Turnpike. He also briefly mentioned their program's objective when RISC is activated.

Guillermo Bornet (Hialeah Fire Rescue) asked who could activate RISC. Felix advised that the FHP, IRV, and the Traffic Management Center (TMC) can activate. Lt. Alex Camacho (FHP) said to be mindful when asking to activate RISC in case it is not needed because they have a lot of equipment being dispatched.

Lt. Camacho advised Guillermo that he can contact the TMC direct line for assistance with RISC activations.

### **National TIM Responder Training**

Felix advised the importance of the National TIM Responder Safety Course. District Six offers training each quarter but can do off-cycle training upon request. He provided contact information for anyone requesting training for their agency.

### **US 27/Okeechobee Road Reconstruction Projects**

Maria Alzate (Senior Community Outreach Specialist) presented the Segment One Project from Okeechobee Road from the Broward County line to west of SR 821/Florida's Turnpike. The project started on February 28, 2022 and will be completed in the summer of 2024. Maria continued with the Segment Two Project from east of NW 107 Avenue to east of NW 116 Way/Hialeah Gardens Boulevard. The project started on May 2, 2022 and will be completed in early 2026. Maria presented video footage of the area under construction.

### **3. Open Discussion**

N/A

### **4. Meeting Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.