

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

<b>Date/Time:</b>	October 4, 2023		1:30 PM - 3:30 PM
<b>Location:</b>	Florida Department of Transportation District Six Auditorium 1000 NW 111 Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33172		
<b>Hosts:</b>	Felix Lopez and Rulx Belizaire		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Agency</b>
	Steve	Corbin	Autobase
	Felix	Fuentes	CSA Group
	Dave	Parsons	FDOT District Four – SIRV
	Igi	Vila	FDOT District Four – SIRV
	Lou	Dixel	FDOT District Four – SIRV
	Chris	Ison	FDOT District Four - TMC
	Natacha	Placide	FDOT District Four - TMC
	Andres	Sanchez	FDOT District Four - TMC
	Crystal	Schaeffer	FDOT District Six – Emergency Management
	Fransisco “Frank”	Jaconetta	FDOT District Six – Safety & Health
	Alex	Mirones	FDOT District Six – SunGuide TMC
	Felix	Lopez	FDOT District Six – SunGuide TMC
	Nikolas	Muriel	FDOT District Six – SunGuide TMC
	Rulx	Belizaire	FDOT District Six – SunGuide TMC
	Carlos	Dardes	FDOT District Six - TSM&O
	Ernesto	Polo	FDOT District Six – TSM&O
	Rex	Snow	FHP Troop E
	Claudia	Baker	Florida Department of Emergency Management (FDEM)
	Rebecca	George	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)
	Michael “Mike”	Washburn	Florida’s Turnpike
	Ralph	Etienne	Florida’s Turnpike
	Derek	Frantz	H2O Environmental
	Jose A.	Collar	Hialeah Police Department
	Oscar	Gonzalez	I-395 Signature Bridge
	Maria	Alzate	Infinite Source Communications (ISC) Group
	Oscar	Gonzalez	Media Relations Group (MRG)
	Robin	Yang	Miami-Dade Emergency Management (EM)
	Geraldo “Jerry”	Cosme	Greater Miami Expressway (GMX)
	Vladimir	Buitrago	Port Miami Tunnel
	Luis	Enrich	Port Miami Tunnel
	Michael	Mejias	Port Miami Tunnel
	Felipe	Gonzalez	RK&K
	Alexis	Margaret	Sunshine Towing
	Maggie	Ramos	Sunshine Towing
	Albert	Wilkes	Transcore

## **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**

District Six SunGuide TMC Incident Management Coordinator Rulx Belizaire welcomed everyone to the meeting. He provided the purpose of the meeting and requested that attendees introduce themselves individually.

Rulx gave an update on the District Six Miami-Dade TIM Team. In an effort to increase the safety of Road Ranger Service Patrols and Incident Response Vehicles, FDOT Central Office provided Statewide Safety Initiatives for districts to implement. These include Rear-Facing Red Light Bar, Advanced Warning Alert, Safety Messages on DMS, Road Ranger Tactical and Refresher Training, and Channelizing Lights. Additional initiatives include debris removal system and truck-mounted attenuators.

Rulx provided details of the D6 implementation of Rear-Facing Red Lights, Advanced Warning Alerts, Safety Messages on DMS and Tactical Training. Rulx also detailed some upcoming special events that may impact the region including: the Miami International Boat Show, South Beach Wine & Food Festival, Miami Open, Ultra Music Festival and Miami Grand Prix.

Rulx provided details of the current and upcoming Wrong Way Driving Detection (WWDD) projects. An update of planned activities for the 2023 Crash Responder Safety Week (CRSW) included a five-day social media campaign with videos, related articles on SunGuide.info, and CRSW handouts for Road Rangers.

GMX TMC Manager Jerry Cosme asked Rulx if the Rear-facing Red Lights and Advanced Warning Alerts were mandatory requirements of the Road Ranger team. Rulx explained these were identified by FDOT Central Office as safety initiatives the districts were expected to implement.

Florida's Turnpike Incident Management Program Manager Mike Washburn asked Rulx if Wrong Way Driver (WWD) notification alerts go directly to FHP. FDOT District Six TMC Manager Alex Mirones clarified that although that is not happening at this time, but Central Office SunGuide team is working on a read-only interface to be used by FHP. Development is still underway. Rulx added that allowing the TMC to vet the WWD alert and minimize false alarms sent to FHP.

### **2.2 - FDOT District Four TIM Update**

District Four TIM Coordinator Chris Ison gave an update on their RISC program, FHWA TIM Responder Training, and planned events for the 2023 Crash Responder Safety Week.

Severe Incident Response Vehicle Operator Lou Dixel provided a training presentation regarding 'Arriving to a Potential Hazmat Contamination Spill.' Lou reviewed specialized equipment, arrival to a Hazmat spill and the Emergency Response Guide (ERG) book. Additionally, he covered closures, communication, and cleanup/disposal.

Mike Washburn asked if SIRV Operator was responsible for notifying the State Warning Point or FDEP; and Lou replied no. Mike expressed concerns about allowing the responsible party to select their own vendor to recover (spills) first instead of activating an FDOT resource like RISC or Roadway Maintenance contamination unit.

### **2.3 - Florida's Turnpike TIM Updates**

Incident Management Program Manager Michael Washburn spoke about Crash Responder Safety Week activities, National data on Struck-by Fatalities, updates to the Move Over Law and use of Road Ranger red tags for abandoned vehicle. Mike also provided updates on Florida's Turnpike's RISC program and Specialty Towing & Roadside Repair (STARR) program.

Maggie Ramos of Sunshine Towing asked Mike about the 'Target Zero' logo used in the presentation. Mike responded that the logo is part of the consultant's name.

#### **2.4 – Greater Miami Expressway (GMX)**

GMX TMC Manager Gerardo "Jerry" Cosme provided an update on incident types, Road Ranger events, wrong-way driver events, and RISC events. Jerry also mentioned the effectiveness of their WWDD system and described the successful outcomes of a few events.

Mike Washburn asked Jerry how many RISC vendors does GMX have. Jerry responded that they had one RISC vendor.

Maggie Ramos asked about any measures GMX taking to prevent rollovers. Jerry responded about a system used on NW 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### **2.6 - Port Miami Tunnel**

The Port Miami Tunnel Manager Vladimir Buitrago provided statistical data on traffic volume by event types and vehicle types. Vladimir shared multiple videos of wrong-way driver incidents that were intercepted by the tunnel's operators and responders.

Alex Mirones asked if video was recorded at all times? Luis Enrich responded yes.

Mike Washburn asked about average clearance time. Vladimir and Luis responded in approximately 10 minutes, with recovery vehicles staged at the port, and partnership and clearance coordination with law enforcement. Mike added that explains the relatively short average clearance time of 10 minutes.

### ***3. Construction Updates***

#### **3.1 - SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road Reconstruction**

Senior Community Outreach Specialist Maria Alzate presented on the SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road Reconstruction activities. She shared updates about current and anticipated roadwork and traffic patterns.

#### **3.2 - SR 25/US 27/Okeechobee Road Reconstruction Projects Smart Work Zone Management**

Transcore Project Manager Albert Wilkes provided an update of the recently activated Okeechobee Road TMC including an overview of the TMC purpose, field devices, and project duration.

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

Senior Community Outreach Specialist Oscar Gonzalez presented construction updates about project schedule and cost, ongoing and upcoming construction activities, and project highlights.

### ***4. Open Discussion***

Alex Mirones announced that this was Rulx's last meeting as he was leaving the District Six TMC. He thanked Rulx for all of the good work he did as the FDOT District Six SunGuide TMC Incident Management Coordinator and wished him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

### ***5. Meeting Adjournment***

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