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Final Meeting Minutes

Monroe County Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Team Meeting

Date/Time:	November 13, 2025	10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	
Location:	Monroe Emergency Operations Center 7280 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, Florida 33050		
Host:	Florida Department of Transportation - District Six		
Attendees	Agency	Phone	Email
Nikolas Muriel	FDOT District Six / AECOM	305-987-3117	nikolas.muriel@sunguide.info
Greg Kirkpatrick	FDOT District Six / AECOM	305-407-6477	greg.kirkpatrick@sunguide.info
Fabian Arizmendy	FDOT District Six / AECOM	305-522-8703	fabian.arizmendy@sunguide.info
Carlos Dardes	FDOT District Six	305-640-7331	carlos.dardes@dot.state.fl.us
Crystal Schaefer	FDOT District Six	305-470-5130	crystal.schaefer@dot.state.fl.us
Tony Sabbag	HDR – D6 Construction	305-796-8600	asabbag@hdrinc.com
Aaron Cutler	SFES – FKA	561-398-1585	acutler@sfengineeringservicesinc.com
Cory Schwisow	Monroe County Emergency Management	305-849-9660	schwisow-cory@monroecounty.fl.gov
Joshua Baer	Monroe County Emergency Management	305-747-0690	baer-josh@monroecounty.fl.gov
James Todd	Monroe County Emergency Management	305-240-4260	todd-james@monroecounty.fl.gov
Chip Kasper	NOAA / NWS	305-304-6712	kennard.kasper@noaa.gov
Saundra Ratie	FHP	941-468-7313	saundraratie@flhsmv.gov
Tommy Brietweiser	Webber	305-619-3690	tomas.brietweiser@webber.com

1. Purpose of Meeting

Provide agency updates from the TIM Team which includes hurricane response, evacuation coordination, special events, and project updates. Updates were provided by the FDOT District Six Transportation Management Center (TMC), National Weather Service in Monroe County, FDOT District Six Construction, and the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority. It also serves as an opportunity to network and share lessons learned to improve interagency coordination and communication. All presentations listed below are available on the SunGuide.info website.

<https://sunguide.info/incident-management-service/tim-team/tim-meetings/>

2. TIM Updates

2.1 Introduction – Carlos Dardes / Cory Schwisow

Carlos Dardes opened the Monroe County TIM Meeting by welcoming all attendees and noting that this meeting is held semi-annually to review important updates related to special events, construction activities, and safety initiatives that impact both residents and travelers throughout the Florida Keys. He emphasized the importance of maintaining active participation and strong partnerships among TIM stakeholders in Monroe County, underscoring the critical role each agency plays in improving the three “C’s” of TIM: Communication, Coordination, and Cooperation.

Carlos also expressed his appreciation to Cory Shwisow, Deputy Director of Emergency Management for Monroe County, for hosting the meeting at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and for the continued support provided to FDOT. He then introduced Cory and invited him to deliver opening remarks and a safety briefing.

Following the briefing, all meeting attendees introduced themselves, stating their name, role, and agency.

2.2 FDOT District Six – Nikolas Muriel / Fabian Arizmendy

Nikolas Muriel provided updates on Traffic Management Center (TMC) operations, hurricane wrap up, special events, responder training, and crash responder safety week. He reported that from January through October 2025, the county experienced 703

SunGuide lane-blockage events along US 1, emphasizing the importance of coordinated incident management. Most of these events were scheduled road works, which accounted for 62% of the total.

A hurricane season recap followed, pointing out that this was the first season in ten years without a U.S. hurricane landfall. Nikolas outlined available emergency support equipment from both District Six and FDOT Central Office, including ITS trailers, CCTV resources, FirstNet-enabled communication capabilities, and mobile command units. He then discussed several special events anticipated in the region, such as the Key Largo Bridge Run, the Key Largo and Islamorada Food & Wine Festival, and the 7 Mile Bridge Run, as well as continued multi-agency traffic event management efforts for Homestead Speedway.

Nikolas also reviewed the National TIM Responder Training program, noting upcoming sessions in December 2025 and March 2026, which focus on responder safety, quick clearance, incident command structure, and interagency communication. In addition, he highlighted Crash Responder Safety Week, scheduled for November 17–21, 2025, explaining its national purpose to honor first responders and promote shared responsibility for roadway safety.

The Monroe County Traffic Signals section was presented by Fabian Arizmendi, who provided an overview of active arterial management strategies and recent signal timing adjustments made at Ocean Bay Drive/Atlantic Avenue, College Road, and Tarpon Basin Drive to reduce congestion and support emergency work. Fabian also reviewed several construction initiatives, including ongoing emergency signal improvements along US 1 and upcoming projects such as the College Road Signalization project, Key West Triangle improvements, and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons RRFB installation at Seaside Drive. He concluded with future project updates addressing flooding mitigation at Jose Marti/Eisenhower Drive, operational modifications at Sadowski Causeway, and pedestrian safety enhancements between Eisenhower Drive and S. Roosevelt Boulevard.

Joshua Baer asked Fabian whom he could contact to obtain traffic density data for Monroe County. Fabian explained that Bratislav from the Arterials Team could assist with that information and advised Joshua to email either himself or Nikolas to initiate the request. Cory then asked whether the Arterials Team makes timing adjustments upon request when issues arise with traffic signals. Fabian confirmed that once notified, the team will monitor the intersection and make any necessary adjustments. The group also asked whether additional traffic cameras would be installed in Key West, and Fabian confirmed that more cameras are planned for future deployment.

Carlos asked Joshua how the Monroe County EOC and the MCSO Dispatch Center currently access CCTV visuals along US-1. Joshua explained that their primary source is the Florida 511 website. Carlos acknowledged this and noted that FDOT has developed the Responders Site, which provides real-time CCTV images of active incidents, as well as access to the Event Management List showing incidents being managed by TMC Operations Staff. He invited both MCSO and the Monroe County EOC to register for login access if they believe this tool would be beneficial for their operations.

Carlos also highlighted that the District Six EOC has direct access to live CCTV feeds and suggested that the Monroe County EOC may benefit from pursuing a similar setup. He noted that live video access would be especially valuable during emergency activations, such as hurricanes or other major events. Carlos encouraged Joshua and Cory to reach out to Nikolas and Fabian if they are interested in exploring this option further, so discussions can begin on what would be required to support this capability. Joshua and Cory appreciated the information and said they would follow up on this via e-mail.

The presentation concluded with closing remarks and contact information for both presenters, with thanks extended to all participants and an invitation for questions.

2.3 National Weather Service/NOAA – Kennard “Chip” Kasper

Kennard “Chip” Kasper began by referencing Nikolas Muriel’s earlier presentation on hurricanes, noting that although the season continues for two more weeks, he is confident there will be no new developments.

Chip provided updates from the National Weather Service (NWS) Florida Keys, focusing on initiatives to enhance weather and water-level monitoring and decision support for regional partners. He introduced new water-level observation sites being deployed by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to expand the existing network of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and National Park Service gauges. These additions aim to improve monitoring capabilities across the Florida Keys, including locations such as American Shoal Light and other strategic points.

No questions or comments were raised by attendees during the Open Discussion session. All meeting participants then proceeded to the tour of the Monroe County EOC.

4. Meeting Adjourned

The presentations and meeting minutes are available on SunGuide.info (<https://sunguide.info/incident-management-service/tim-team/tim-meetings/>).