



TIME Task Force Meeting Minutes
Cobb County Department of Public Safety Training Facility
November 18, 2004
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Attendees:

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Telephone Numbers	E-mail
Mark	Bartlett	Federal Highway Administration	404-562-3630	
Anthony	Bradford	Georgia Department of Transportation	404-635-8012	anthony.bradford@dot.state.ga.us
Samuel	Brown	Department of Public Safety - GSP	404-699-4368	sbrown@dps.state.ga.us
Anthony	Coleman	Georgia State University	404-651-2130	acoleman@gsu.edu
Dee	Corson	Georgia Department of Transportation	770-387-4813	d.corson@dot.state.ga.us
C.T.	Cox	Cobb County Police Department	770-590-5752	charles.cox@cobbcounty.org
Doris	Distel	Department of Agriculture	770-535-5955	kddistel@earthlink.net
Rick	Edmunds	Gwinnett County Police Department	770-513-5822	rick.edmunds@gwinnettcounty.com
Daniel	Fodera	Federal Highway Administration	404-562-3913	daniel.fodera@fhwa.dot.gov
Verdell	Hawkins	Georgia Department of Transportation		verdell.hawkins@dot.state.ga.us
Mike	Hendon	URS Corporation	678-230-7927	mike_hendon@urscorp.com
Gary	Johnson	Fulton County Police Department	770-306-3001	gary.johnson@co.fulton.ga.us
Julia	Kilgore	Cobb County E911 Communications	770-499-3911	julia.kilgore@cobbcounty.org
Gary	Lockridge	Dekalb Fire Rescue	404-245-8128	gglockridge@co.dekalb.ga.us
Christine	Macaulay	PB Farradyne	404-364-2413	macaulay@pbworld.com
Scott	Malcolm	Cobb County Fire Department	770-644-2777	scott.malcolm@cobbcounty.org
John	Maloney	City of Alpharetta	678-297-6200	jmaloney@alpharetta.ga.us
Bob	Manning	Gwinnett County Transportation Department	770-822-7460	bob.manning@gwinnettcounty.com
Gary	Millsaps	Georgia Department of Transportation	404-894-3857	gary.millsaps@dot.state.ga.us
Scott	Mohler	Transcore	770-246-6232	scott.mohler@transcore.com
Chris	Porter	Georgia Department of Transportation	404-635-8009	christopher.porter@dot.state.ga.us
Thomas	Rutledge	Gwinnett County Fire & Emergency Services		tommy.rutledge@gwinnettcounty.com
Carl	Schwenk	Cobb County Fire & Emergency Services	770-499-4431	carl.schwenk@cobbcounty.org
Gus	Shanine	Federal Highway Administration	404-562-3632	gus.shanine@fhwa.dot.gov
Scott	Simonton	Georgia Department of Transportation	404-894-9131	scott.simonton@dot.state.ga.us

First Name	Last Name	Agency	Telephone Numbers	E-mail
		Transportation		
Mshadoni	Smith	Federal Highway Administration	404-562-3638	Mshadoni.Smith@fhwa.dot.gov
David	Smith	Forsyth County Sheriff's Office	770-781-3063	dsmith@forsythco.com
Wayne	Thaxton	Gwinnett County Police Department	770-417-2376x5731	wayne.thaxton@gwinnettcountry.com
Toni	Tidwell	Clayton County Police Department	678-618-2541	tntarab@aol.com
T.D.	Wade	Atlanta Police Department	404-209-5260	twade@atlantapd.org
Marcus	Wittich	NET	404-667-4787	mwittich@nateng.com
Kay	Wolfe	Street Smarts	404-264-0359	kayw@streetsmarts.us

I. Welcome

Lt. C.T. Cox (Cobb County Police) welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda. He also provided background information on the Cobb County Public Safety Training Facility.

II. Goal Setting

Gary Millsaps (HERO) discussed the 2005 Goals of the TIME Task Force. He asked the group for input on strategies to keep the momentum of the organization going and to keep everyone involved. The Goals presented were:

1. TIME will increase active participation by local agencies by ___%
2. TIME will raise public awareness of the Task Force and benefits of proper traffic incident management.
3. TIME will formalize the organizational structure of the Task Force.
4. TIME will improve clearance time for all traffic incidents.

1. TIME will increase active participation by local agencies by ___%

The following discussions arose from Goal #1; the steering committee will review everyone's input and make a decision:

- What is meant by "active" participation?
- "Active" should include participation in: committees, on the streets, and meetings.
- Consider attending an X minimum number of meetings to be classified as 'active'.
- Some members didn't want to put a quantity on meeting attendance because some responders are participating in TIME on the scene and are unable to attend meetings.
- Membership should be two-fold: contributing to task force initiatives (including sub-committees) and attending quarterly meetings.
- The purpose of membership is for agencies to support the efforts of TIME.

- “Active” should be agencies that put the TIME initiatives on the streets, as long as the agencies are supporting our efforts than that is good.
- Consider different levels of membership.
- Measure qualitative goals if agencies are participating.
- The percentage should be local agencies that are meeting TIME goals.

Bottom Line—Change Goal #1 to read:

“Increase number of agencies adopting the goals for the TIME Task Force by __%”

2. TIME will raise public awareness of the Task Force and benefits of proper traffic incident management.

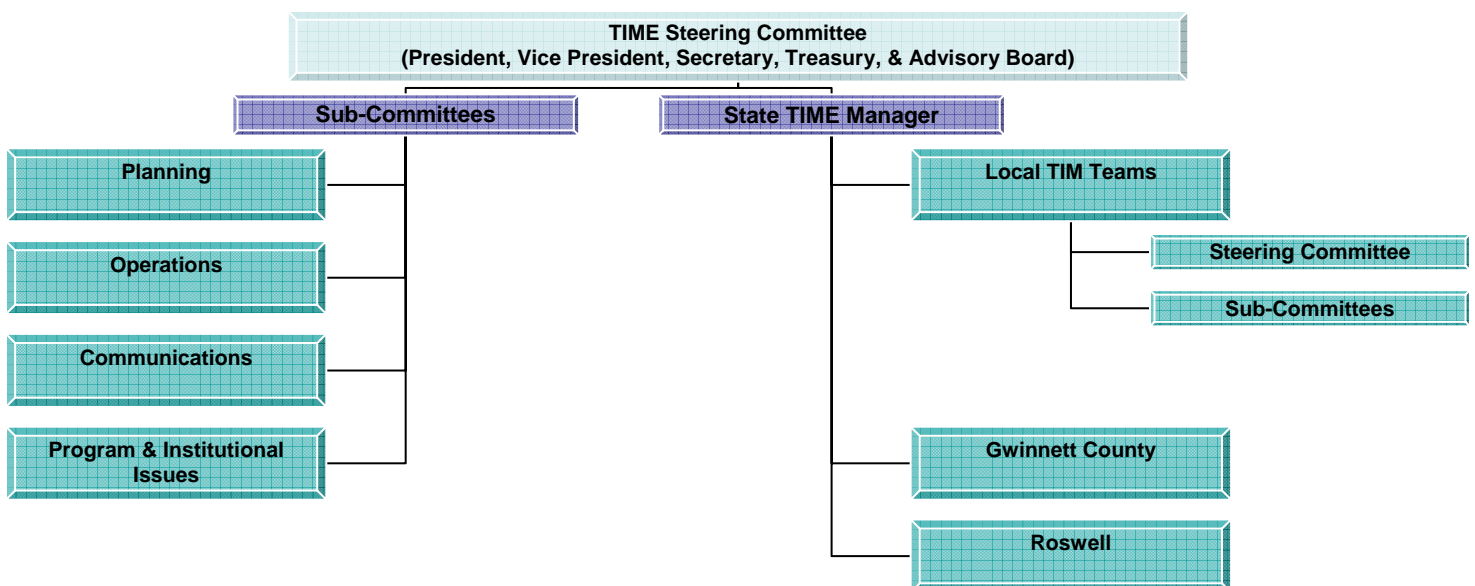
The following discussion arose from Goal #2:

- Get agencies together with PIOs.
- There was a transportation forum on the radio earlier this year that discussed TIME specifically.

Bottom Line—Communication committee will work to improve public awareness.

3. TIME will formalize the organizational structure of the Task Force.

The following graph was presented as a proposed organization structure:



The following comments took place regarding Goal #3; the steering committee will provide more details and input at the next meeting:

- Organizational structure is needed.
- Formalizing organization is especially important because of future funding.
- Formal Steering Committee will make TIME more efficient.
- The steering committee should define the responsibilities for each role/office.

Bottom Line—Define roles of each officer and look into non-profit organization establishment.

4. TIME will improve clearance time for all traffic incidents.

The following items were discussed as a group:

- GDOT is putting together performance measures
- Do local agencies have performance measures? Yes, they have access to the information to develop performance measures.
- Anthony Bradford will look into filtering clearance/response times by jurisdiction.
- TIME is focused on freeway system only!
- Add the term ‘freeway’ to goal.

Bottom Line—Change goal #4 to read:

“TIME will improve clearance times for all traffic incidents on the freeway”

III. Debriefing

- a. *I-75 @ I-285 in Cobb County*
Clayton County Police Department (Captain Toni Tidwell) and
Georgia Department of Agriculture (Doris Distel)

Clayton County Police Department (Captain Toni Tidwell)

A trailer hauling cows was leaving Dublin heading to Kansas and overturned on I-75 @ I-285 in Cobb County. Clayton County Police Department responded to the incident and immediately called the Department of Agriculture and GDOT HEROs.

- The incident resulted in 13 dead cows and lots of broken bones.
- Initially an officer jumps off the trailer onto a cow in an effort to tie him up and restrain him; however, the cow takes off down the freeway with the officer still holding on.
- Clayton County PD is on the phone with the doctors trying to find out if the cows should be tranquilized.
- Serious communication problems; no one brought medicine to treat cows.

- Finally, the steer's eyes were covered with a shirt, tranquilized, and hauled to the back of the truck
- Road opened at 6:30 pm
- Clayton County now has a Stock Trailer
- Three cows were grazing in the media; PD made a "V" with the cars and used cattle panels to get them back on the truck.

Georgia Department of Agriculture (Doris Distel)

- Thank you HEROs!
- DOA received the call @ 2:30 pm and wasn't able to get on the scene until 6 pm; problems that contributed to the delay included:
 - It was in the middle of the Georgia National Fair in Perry, Georgia
 - It was one employee's first week on the job.
 - DOA couldn't find accident and didn't have the information on where it was. They were also stuck in the congestion on the freeway and unable to get to the scene.
- Communication with Clayton County, but no communication b/w office and people in the field – this problem is now fixed!
- Words of advice: Safety first! Don't try to treat animals or open truck. Animals must be contained first.
- DOA now has cattle panels.
- If they could have gotten to the scene quicker, that they could have done something.
- DOA policies have now changed to prepare for such incidents.
- Freeway was closed for 4 hours on Friday afternoon
- DOA has given all counties in Georgia the contact information for the Department of Agriculture.

***Additional contact information for the Department of Agriculture can be found on the [TIME Web site](#) ***

*b. I-85 @ Old Peachtree Road
Gwinnett County Police Department (Wayne Thaxton) and
Gwinnett County DOT (Bob Manning)*

Fatal Traffic Collision @ I-85 Southbound near Old Peachtree Road; Suwanee, Georgia October 11, 2004 @ 3:23 AM; 5 drivers (no passengers) and vehicles involved. The cause of the collision is a traffic violation. The posted limit for this area is 55 mph southbound, due to the construction area. The Lincoln Continental was going an estimated 70-80 mph and rapidly overtook the Jeep Cherokee. The Jeep was going at or about the 55 mph speed. The impact happened in the 2nd travel lane from the wall. The Jeep spun to it's right and struck the Mack tractor trailer that was in lane 4. The tractor trailer crossed the 4 lanes and struck the median wall. The trailer separated and went over the wall, into the northbound lanes. Broken concrete was thrown across the northbound lanes. The tractor did not cross the wall but slid down the wall. Spilled fuel from the

tractor ignited and burned the cab of the tractor. The driver did not get out of the vehicle and died from smoke inhalation. No one else was seriously injured or transported for emergency medical treatment.

***For more detailed information on this incident, please logon to the [TIME Web site](#) and view the Gwinnett County Police Department's Debrief Presentation.*

IV. New Business/Announcements

Christine Macaulay (PB Farradyne) discussed new activities for 2005 which included:

- Formalizing organizational structure of TIME
- Plotting a timeline of accomplishments
- Developing an independent TIME Web site

Next Meeting: Wednesday February 2, 2005

Location: Dekalb County

Web Seminar
**“Making the Case for Traffic Incident Management:
A Washington State Case Study”**
November 18, 2004
12:45 pm – 2:30 pm

The National Transportation Operation Coalition hosted a Web seminar entitled “Making the Case for Traffic Incident Management: A Washington State Case Study”.

The panelists participating in the Web seminar included:

Mike Zezeski is the Director for the Office of CHART and ITS Development within the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA). In his position as Director, Mike directs and oversees all of SHA's ITS programs including the CHART statewide operations program. Prior to his position as Director of CHART and ITS Development, Mike served as Chief of the Traffic Development and Support Division within the Office of Traffic and Safety. He has over 27 years experience in traffic engineering, traffic operations and ITS. Mike is a graduate of Penn State University and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Transportation Engineering. He serves on many state and national committees involving ITS, transportation management and operations. Mike is a graduate of MD SHA's Advanced Leadership Program.

Bill Legg is a State ITS Operations Engineer with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). He has been with WSDOT for the past 20 years. His responsibilities include: coordinating the operations of the state's 7 Traffic Management Centers, coordinating the DOT's statewide Incident Response Program, infrastructure and system security, and management of ITS projects of statewide significance.

Lt. Larry Raedel is currently a Lieutenant with the Washington State Patrol (WSP). He works at the WSP Training Division and serves as the Assistant Academy Commander. During his 25 1/2 years of service he has had an opportunity to work in several areas of the agency, to include, but not limited to Traffic, Narcotics, SWAT, Personnel, Internal Affairs, Intelligence, and Training. Most recently he has been working on a Joint Operations Project with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Fire Service to develop a Traffic Incident Management (TIM) program. The objective of this program is to provide training to WSP, WSDOT, and Fire Service personnel to enhance responder and motorist safety, improve operational efficiency and communications.

Mark Hallenbeck is the Director of the Washington State Transportation Center (TRAC) office located at the University of Washington. TRAC is a joint endeavor between the state's Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the state's two largest research universities, the University of Washington (UW) and Washington State University (WSU). Mark has been with TRAC for 20 years, after working for four years as a consultant in Washington, D.C. Much of his research at TRAC involves the collection, use, summarization, and reporting of data that describe urban roadway performance. A major focus of his research has been the creation of performance reports that not only describe how well the freeway system is (or is not) working, but also help decision makers understand why the WSDOT wishes to undertake specific operational improvements, and what benefits those measures provide once they are implemented. He is currently working on enhancements to WSDOT's performance reporting system so that it includes better arterial performance measures. He is also working on new research that improves the Department's ability to measure and report on the benefits of specific incident management strategies.

The Web seminar can be located at the following html:

<https://talkingoperations.webex.com/talkingoperations/mywebex/default.php?Rnd4803=0.2526889559365767>

In addition, topics of interest to the group included:

1. Cost Benefit Ratio: This information can be found at the following html:

<http://wsdot.wa.gov/accountability/archives/GrayNotebookJun-03.pdf>

2. Training Curriculum: More information can be made available by contacting Larry Raedel, Lieutenant of the Washington State Patrol.