

**TIME Task Force Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Federal Highway Administration
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth St, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
August 15, 2006**

I. Welcome: Bob Callan, Federal Highway Administration

Mr. Callan welcomed everyone to the Sam Nunn Federal Center to participate in the TIME quarterly meeting. He thanked the FHWA representatives for their continued support and efforts to the Task Force. Mr. Callan remembered the first TIME meeting, which was four years earlier, and all the accomplishments and strides the organization has since made such as training, publications, committees, open road policies, and quick clearance goals.

Mr. Callan also recognized the extraordinary efforts of GDOT, in particular the Highway Emergency Response Operators (HERO) and their current expansion plan.

In conclusion, Mr. Callan challenged the group to start thinking about safety in relation to quick clearance.

II. Introductions and Background: Gary Millsaps, TIME President

There were a few new members in attendance at the Quarterly Meeting. Mr. Millsaps welcomed the new faces, briefly discussed the benefits and goals of the TIME Task Force, and initiated self-introductions among the group.

Goals of TIME

- Increase public awareness of regional incident management.
- Develop/deliver common training for incident responders.
- Coordinate, communicate, and cooperate between different agencies in the region.

Mission of TIME

Develop and sustain a region-wide incident management program to facilitate the safest and fastest roadway clearance, lessening the impact on emergency responders and the motoring public.

Purpose of TIME

- To continue the dialogue on ways to improve inter-agency coordination and cooperation.
- To create an opportunity for multi-agency training this promotes teamwork.
- To serve as a platform for participants to develop common operational strategies and a better understanding of other agencies' roles and responsibilities.

TIME Task Force Contact Information

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III. Strategic Highway Safety Plan: Randy Clayton, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

As part of the Federal SAFETEA-LU Law all states must develop a strategic highway safety plan (SHSP) by October 1, 2006 to not lose out on flexible project funding. In addition, all SHSPs must be in place by October 1, 2007 to not lose out on Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) funds.

The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) developed a 1998 Strategic Highway Safety Plan with 22 key emphasis areas in an effort to reduce the national fatality goals from 7,000 to 5,000.

Georgia has the 4th highest number of fatalities in the nation. In 2005, Georgia had an increase of 103 highway deaths which accounted for 18% of the nation's fatality increase. Georgia had a total of 1,744 fatalities in 2005.

Georgia has committed to working together on common highway safety initiatives using state resources collectively to maximize safety in terms of enforcement, education emergency medical services, and engineering. TIME is participating as a task member to help the SHSP initiatives by encouraging new data collection methods to obtain accurate crash reporting response times and traffic flow recovery times.

For more information please contact Randy Clayton, Operations Manager.

Strategic Highway Safety Plan

Governor's Office of Highway Safety

rclayton@gohs.ga.gov

(404) 651-8503

Questions and Discussion:

- There was a 10-year goal established in 1998 to reduce injuries.
- All modes of transportation are being analyzed for the SHSP.
- The increase in fatalities could be a result of insufficient resources. The task force is looking at existing and future resources.
- Consideration should be given to photo enforcement.
- The TMC cameras are used for traffic management purposes and to support law enforcement efforts. However, there is no plan to use TMC cameras for recording or surveillance because of privacy and legal issues.
- The TIME Task Force is on board with SHSP and is excited about making changes for the better.

IV. Traffic Records Coordinating Committee: Bob Dallas, Governor's Office of Highway Safety

The Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (TRCC) is a key emphasis area in the SHSP. There were issues related to the TRCC, so GOHS looked at each aspect of the crash reporting process in February 2004. A strategic plan was put together to address the issues collecting and recording traffic data.

Crash records collect accident data and document the location of recurring issues. A few issues include:

- The inadequate number of Level 1 Trauma Centers outside of Atlanta. 60% of traumas are related to crash records.
- Speed is consistently increasing crash rates.
- When we are making decisions based on data, how old is the data? Is it up-to-date and accurate? We need to be able to access good data quickly.
- It is difficult for law enforcement to grow as rapidly as residents and the population.
- \$3.5B lost in crashes for productivity, health care, etc. Half of the congestion in metro Atlanta is due to crashes.

The vision of the Committee is to create a crash report system electronically using a laptop or hand-held device. Driver's license would be scanned, VIN numbers would be scanned, and exact locations would be determined with GIS when possible. This process would allow crash reports to be printed on-scene for motorists. In addition, data would be electronically sent to police stations and GDOT quickly. The data will be more accurate and reliable.

Questions:

- How will this software be provided?
 - The cost is \$35-\$40K per year for the software TRACKS which is currently being used by Cobb County. Each jurisdiction can use any system preferred providing it meets the same protocol and can communicate with others similar systems.
- Has any consideration been given to helmets in passenger vehicles to improve safety? Seatbelts and air bags injuries and fatalities have been calculated, however there hasn't been any discussion on helmets. It could be good to look at how many injuries/fatalities are from head trauma.

V. After Incident Review (AIR) Process: Daniel Fodera, Federal Highway Administration

Currently Level 4 incidents are debriefed to gain lessons learned and improve overall incident management. The TIME AIR Committee meets with primary responders and obtains an incident overview, determines expectations, and notes strengths and weaknesses.

TIME would like to update the AIR process to allow ease in providing data. Mr. Fodera offered suggestions to improving the processes. Ultimately, a form with drop down menus or pre-stated selections would make filling out this form quicker and easier on responders. TIME will survey the group and collect suggested improvements and update the process and forms.

Comments and suggestions:

- Record clearance times in debrief forms.

- Consider a Web-based form.
- There are restrictions with Department Polices on filling out these forms. The committee will ask Task Force members what the obstacles are to completing this form.
- If agency management approval is needed to fill out forms, please let TIME know. TIM Teams can work with management to work out any issues.

VI. Activity Updates: Christine Macaulay, TIME Secretary/Treasurer

- **Fulton County Fire Department Training, Olen Smith and Richard Blackman (Fulton County FD)**

Fulton County is developing a training course and a train-the-trainer course. This course includes roll-over procedures, quick clearance methods, extrication training, and more! Mr. Blackman shared pictures of recent training amongst different disciplines. Please contact Fulton County ¹to participate in this amazing training opportunity.

- **FHWA TIME Self Assessment, Daniel Fodera (FHWA)**

The results of the FHWA TIME Program Assessment have been gathered for 2005. In 2003, the overall score of the TIME Program was 45% out of a possible 100%. In 2004 the overall program scored a 60.5%. In 2005 the resulting score was 70%!

- **National Performance Measures, Daniel Fodera (FHWA)**

FHWA has recently completed a brief study of performance measures for Traffic Incident Management (TIM). The study performed by Texas Transportation Institute examined TIM performance measurement practices of transportation and public safety agencies (primarily law enforcement and fire/rescue) across the United States. The goal of the study was to provide a better understanding of how transportation and public safety agencies measure performance in traffic incident management and to identify the differences in the definitions and data sources of the measures of used.

The study found that while many agencies measure performance related to traffic incident management, the definition of the measures are inconsistent across transportation and public safety disciplines. Agencies tend to measure what is important to them with little coordination on measurement with other agencies in the same region. The most common measures for traffic incident management are:

- Number (or frequency) of incidents
- Detection time
- Response time
- Clearance time

There is no common definition of these measures, however, or any general agreement on what constitutes an "incident".

¹ Contact information in *Table 1: Attendees* at end of document.

The FHWA will undertake a new initiative in 2005 to improve performance measurement for Traffic Incident Management programs. This initiative will involve transportation and law enforcement partners in eleven states. It will seek to standardize definitions and look for ways to link data in databases that these agencies maintain to enable comprehensive assessments of program performance.

VII. Adjourn

Table 1: Attendees (sorted by last name)

Agency	Title	First Name	Last Name	E-mail
Roswell Police Dept	Sergeant	Bill	Anastasio	banastasio@ci.roswell.ga.us
Atlanta Police Dept, Special Operations	Major	Pete	Andresen	pandresen@atlantaga.gov
Atlanta Police Dept	Sergeant	Mike	Anthony	manthony@atlantaga.gov
FHWA	Planning Manager	Max	Azizi	max.azizi@fhwa.dot.gov
GDOT- TMC	ITS Engineer	Ronald	Boodhoo	Ronald.boodhoo@dot.state.ga.us
GDOT- TMC	TMC Manager	Anthony	Bradford	anthony.bradford@dot.state.ga.us
FHWA	Division Administrator	Robert	Callan	robert.callan@fhwa.dot.gov
Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce		Esther	Campi	ecampi@macoc.com
Cobb County DOT	TCC Manager	Kathy	Clark	kathy.clark@cobbcounty.org
Fulton County Police Dept	Lieutenant	H.	Cotton-Tukes	hattie.cotton-tukes@co.fulton.ga.us
GDOT Office of Planning	Urban Systems Planning Engineer III	Jason	Crane	jason.crane@dot.state.ga.us
FHWA	Transportation Planner	Andy	Edwards	andrew.edwards@fhwa.dot.gov
GDOT- TMC	TMC Operations Manager	Erik	Fischer	erik.fischer@dot.state.ga.us
GDOT- TMC	NaviGator Systems Engineer	James	Gordon	james.gordon@dot.state.ga.us
TRAG	Safety Compliance and Training	Jerry	Gossett	jerrygossett@gcsllc.org
New Image Towing and Recovery Inc.	Manager	Tom	Hackler	hacklerthomas@yahoo.com
GDOT- TMC	State Traffic Operations Engineer	Carla	Holmes	carla.holmes@dot.state.ga.us
New Image Towing and Recovery Inc.	President/CEO	Lawton	Howard	lhoward@nitow.com
Roswell Police Dept		Rory	Howe	rhowe@ci.roswell.ga.us
Fulton County Police Dept	Lieutenant	Gary	Johnson	gary.johnson@co.fulton.ga.us
Cobb County Police Dept	Corporal	Pete	Jones	peter.jones@cobbcounty.org
Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC)	Principal Engineer	Caroline	Marshall	cmarshall@atlantaregional.com
Total Traffic	Traffic Reporter	Art	Mehring	artmehring@clearchannel.com
GOHS	Deputy Director	Rob	Mikell	rmikell@gohs.ga.gov
Prestige Wrecker	Vice President	William	Millirons	jmillirons@msn.com
Prestige Wrecker	Vice President	David	Millirons	mvlc1@bellsouth.net
Alpharetta Police Dept	Captain	Terri	Osborne	tosborne@alpharetta.ga.us
FHWA	Technology	Edward	Parker	edward.parker@fhwa.dot.gov

	Application Manager			
A Tow Atlanta	CEO	Page	Porter	page_porter@bellsouth.net
FHWA	Transportation Safety Engineer	Dana	Robbins	dana.robbs@fhwa.dot.gov
PBS&J		Bobbie	Sanghvi	bsanghvi@pbsj.com
Remtech Engineers		Larry	Seabolt	lseabolt@remtech-eng.com
FHWA	Transportation Manager	Gus	Shanine	gus.shanine@fhwa.dot.gov
Cobb County DOT		Bill	Shelton	bill.shelton@cobbcounty.org
Fulton County Fire Dept	Battalion Chief	Olen	Smith	olen.smith@co.fulton.ga.us
Georgia State Patrol	GEMA/Liaison Homeland Security, Captain	Larry	Smith	lgsmith@gsp.net
GRTA	Director	Steve	Stancil	sstancil@grta.org
A Tow Atlanta	Director of Operations	Donnie	Taylor	dtatow@bellsouth.net
FHWA	Transportation Planner	Ralph	Volpe	ralph.volpe@fhwa.dot.gov
Atlanta Police Dept	Lieutenant	T.D.	Wade	twade@atlantaga.gov
GOHS	Policy Assistant	Lauren	Walker	lwalker@gov.state.ga.us
City of Sandy Springs, Traffic Operations	Traffic Engineer	Chris	Waters	chris.waters@sandyspringsga.org
GOHS	Policy Advisor	Chanel	Watson	cwatson@gov.state.ga.us
Marietta Wrecker Service		Chris	Welchel	cawmws@bellsouth.net
Marietta Wrecker Service		Steven	Welchel	smwmws@bellsouth.net
College Park Police Dept		Ken	Wiley	kwiley@collegeparkga.com
Delcan	Sr. Systems Analyst	Marcus	Wittich	mwittich@nateng.com
GRTA		Marvin	Woodward	mwoodward@grta.org