

Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Task Force Quarterly Meeting, January 13, 2009

The meeting was conducted at the Fairburn Annex in the City of Fairburn. Approximately 105 people attended, a new record!

Topics of Discussion

Computerized Citation Systems

Corporal Pete Jones of Cobb County PD delivered a presentation on electronic citations and their advantages for saving time on the side of the road. Corporal Jones said each traffic stop is now only 5 minutes for him, no matter how many tickets he writes. All of the presentations from this meeting are available on the TIME Task Force website at www.timetaskforce.com.

Towing & Recovery Incentive Program (TRIP) Update

Todd Long of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA) presented return-on-investment calculations for the TRIP. Since launching in January 2008, the average clearance time of a major commercial vehicle accident has been reduced by 179 minutes! Todd also presented an update on IT3.

After Incident Review

TIME Operations Committee Chair Lonnie Blackstone, Rhino Services, and Battalion Chief George Camp of Fulton County Fire Dept. presented a debrief of a gasoline tanker incident that occurred November 18, 2008, on the southbound ramp from I-285 to I-85 southbound in south Fulton County. This incident became a TRIP activation, but notice to proceed could not be given due to the haz-mat situation. Fuel was running off the ramp onto the grass and down onto South Fulton Parkway. Since the night was cold, fumes were not a major problem. However, one motorist did penetrate the "hot zone."

Lessons Learned:

1. Make sure the perimeter of the incident scene is maintained at all times. The incident management team should work together to enforce traffic control.
2. This incident was in the flight path of planes landing at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. When such an incident happens, FAA in the area should be notified, so that they can decide whether or not to shut down the nearby airport.

Committee Updates

- The Operations Committee is very busy organizing Traffic Incident Management (TIM) Teams throughout the metro Atlanta area. For more information, contact TIME Vice President Rory Howe or Operations Chair Lonnie Blackstone. They can be reached via e-mail on the TIME website; just click on their names on the TIME Board Info page.
- The Communications Committee wants your help spreading the word about the TIME Task Force! Chairman Art Mehring discussed the committee's projects, including development of a PowerPoint, brochure updates, and a Speaker's Bureau. If you know of an organization or civic group that is looking for a speaker, please contact Art Mehring.

- The Training Committee Chairs are Captain Soffie Thigpen, Georgia State Patrol, and John Weaver, Towing & Recovery Association of Georgia (TRAG). There are several training courses already scheduled for 2009; see www.timetaskforce.com for more information and registration.

Lastly, Kimberly Larson, Communications Specialist for GDOT's District 3, provided an update on the I-85 construction project in Coweta County.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Monica Luck

Secretary, TIME Task Force