Florida Department of Transportation
511 Working Group Meeting
February 17, 2010
1:00-3:00 pm

Chris Birosak, FDOT D1	Donna Dansen, D2	Chad Williams, D3
Manny Fontan, D6	Jose Grullon, D6	Terry Hensley, D7
James Bitting, FDOT D7	John Easterling, FTE	Eric Gordin, FTE
Elizabeth Birriel, FDOT CO	Gene Glotzbach, FDOT CO	Arun Krishnamurthy, FDOT CO
Dee McTague, HNTB/D4	Olga Sanchez, LogicTree	Hong-Ting Chen, PBS&J
Erik Gaarder, PBS&J	TJ Hapney, PBS&J	Ryan Crist, SmartRoute/D2
Penny Kamish, SRS/FDOT D2	Vicky Mixson, Global 5	Mike Wacht, Global 5
Pete, MDX	Jason Summerfield, SRS / D2	

I. Welcome and Introductions

Gene Glotzbach gave an overview of the agenda.

II. EM Extract Update – Olga Sanchez

Olga Sanchez discussed the status of the EM Extract Update. She stated that LogicTree had received the new EM extracts on December 24, 2009 and that LogicTree was making new recordings and should have them processed and ready for testing on February 19, 2010. LogicTree had to make some application changes to play different spoken names and the plan is to have the system update ready by February 28, 2010.

III. Enhancement Status Update – Gene Glotzbach

- ✓ *District 6 would like the feedback to be provided more focused*
  - o Gene discussed possibilities for how to go about distributing the reports more directly to the Districts.
  - o Eli Sherer discussed the possibility of adding a sub-menu at the traffic report prompt before leaving a message.
  - o Discussion took place about wav files being a certain size before being emailed to the Districts.
  - o Gene stated that with the information given they could take their suggestions, put them in a short paper, take it to LogicTree and see what is feasible and what is not.
- ✓ *EM Extract Update – planned for end of February*
- ✓ *Third Party Data Feed*

  The Third Party Data Feed is essentially complete. Some testing has been done and there are a few minor glitches to fix. However, the Third Party Data Feed should be ready by the beginning of spring. The corresponding data agreement has gone through legal and is available on the FDOT Forms page.

Chris Birosak inquired whether someone who wanted data would be able to get it from one location or if they'd have to come to each District. Gene Glotzbach responded that they could do either. Gene added that entities seeking connections could come to the District or could get the information from the servers in Tampa to get all data. If they wanted just one District then they could go to the District. Free to government agencies. Private companies have the same fee structure as the CCTV agreement $1,000 hookup / $500 per year maintenance fee.

- ✓ *Opt-In Service – planned for mid-March*
  - o Discussion took place regarding how the Opt-in service would work and how it would protect consumers from others setting up accounts with their information.
  - o Options for how to contact the user regarding the opt-in were discussed. The possibilities discussed included:
    - ▪ Leave message with confirmation number.
    - ▪ Text message for cell phones a possibility, but leaves out those with landlines.
  - o LogicTree will provide a white paper on how the opt-in will work once a firm recommendation can be provided to the Districts.

- ✓ *Change CCTV Cameras in Order – IBI is working on this.*
  - o Currently there is no order for the CCTV cameras in the system and IBI is working to correct this. IBI will be asked to provide a document showing how the cameras will be ordered and listed on the site according to the way the roadway is numbered for FDOT approval.

IV. Mile Marker / Exit Issue – Gene Glotzbach

- ✓ Discussion took place regarding the need for a user to say mile marker or exit number before a number when identifying where they would like to receive a report on the roadway.
- ✓ Even though the IVR system does not prompt the user for a cross street, the IVR will recognize any number of a cross street and must disambiguate. Therefore, if a user gives a number that is recognized as a cross street in the system, it would have to disambiguate.
- ✓ Users are already prompted to say Exit or Mile Marker before the number, but most people barge the system before getting to the directions about Exit or Mile Marker number.
- ✓ It was also mentioned that the FDOT needed to be careful about adding additional prompts because it lengthens the call process for the user.

V. Suggested Pilot Program for Data Collection – Mike Wacht

- ✓ Mike Wacht who went over the Pilot Program after ensuring that it was permissible to proceed with Districts 2 and 5 being present.
  - o Mike Wacht explained how the program would work and added that District feedback stated that the more instrumented areas would not need this service.
  - o The purpose would be to work with the dispatchers to teach them to verify that information is not in the system before they called. The focus would be on the actual dispatchers. It could be limited to preferred companies so that the number of people calling in would be limited. The program would not be for individual truckers to call in, but instead would be working with a small number of fleet dispatchers.
- ✓ The Districts brought up the following points regarding the presentation:
  - o Terry Hensley inquired why the truckers would not call *FHP instead. He added that the system seemed redundant and had a lot of issues considering he did not feel the service was needed.
  - o Eric Gordin pointed out that the FTE's biggest concern was not having TMC operators overwhelmed with telephone calls.
  - o Chris Birosak stated that it made sense to FHP enter the data into CAD.
  - o Gene Glotzbach added that the program would only include a select number of dispatchers that would provide information and that it had been his understanding that FHP did not always enter the data needed into CAD in a timely manner.

VI. Strategies for Posting Floodgates

- ✓ The following points were raised regarding the posting of Floodgates:
  - o Dee McTague stated that the only way District 4 had found to effectively post Floodgates to post them to the southeast Florida floodgate.
  - o Gene suggested that the District could put it on the roadway segment level plus the county.
  - o District 4 will test posting floodgates by using the roadway segment level within the county.
  - o Silver alerts were discussed and the issue was raised that if there were silver alerts in overlapping areas, callers may be prompted for multiple regions.
  - o SunGuide changes now provide additional support for Floodgates messages.
  - o It was suggested that sometimes it would be useful to post floodgates on the most well known city.

VII. SunGuide R4.3 IV&V – Arun Krishnamurthy

- ✓ Pre-recorded Floodgate Message Update
  - o Arun Krishnamurthy gave an update on the SunGuide R4.3 updates that are being made. He added that this update would not require a corresponding FL-ATIS update and that operators would be able to save information in a tree format.
- ✓ Multi-Floodgate Message Update
  - o Will allow multiple floodgates to be entered
- ✓ SAE Codes Update
  - o SunGuide and FL-ATIS for on / off ramps were expanded to include on ramps, off ramps and express lanes in addition to the ones that were already in the system.
- ✓ Congestion across County Lines Fix – Arun Krishnamurthy
  - o This is an enhancement that adds a lot of value. Will be able to record one event and will be able to enter the congestion limits across county and District lines as long as the EM location is in the posting District's system.
  - o This update requires unique sort ordering. If a District needs to change the sort order, SwRI has developed a utility that can be used. Districts will need to create a spreadsheet with the preferred numbering system and then import the information into it.
  - o Jason – Sort order – I believe that FL-ATIS is getting sort orders and information from the SunGuide feed. We may need to get with Eli and see if there's any coordination that needs to take place. If they're using their pre-defined sort orders that are used for the dump that may be an issue
  - o One recommendation is that even though there are EM locations for each District, it would be a good idea for the Districts to each add a few EM locations for the neighboring Districts so that if there is an event that spills over a District line the incident could be reported by the District where the congestion started and could include information on the spillover into the neighboring District in the report.
  - o Jason Summerfield suggested that some minor coordination among the Districts for C2C might be a consideration in the future
  - o If any of the Districts would like to add additional EM locations outside their District boundaries, my initial understanding was that the Districts will have to coordinate with the FL-ATIS team for EM extracts in another District. If any of the Districts want to add EM locations to utilize that functionality this might be a good time to add those into the system.

- Erik Gaarder pointed out that the Districts would probably want to wait until after the EM extract update was completed before adding any additional EM locations.
- Oracle 11g – In order to utilize the functionality of pre-recorded floodgates there is a need to upgrade to Oracle 11g. The testing has been fairly successful at TERL, SWRI and District 6. An issue was identified with Oracle at their facility. At this time, Arun stated that he was not encouraging anyone to upgrade to 11g until the issue is solved. There have been a couple of instances where there's a backup and that information is being written into data archive. There was a case where it kind of locked up the system, etc.
- Arun stated that no Districts had stated a preference to use SQL over Oracle and that he did not think SQL would be a better option than Oracle.
- Incident Severity Changes are primarily to allow the Districts to use the severity level they feel better represents the incident.

VIII. Highway Construction Option on 511 – Gene Glotzbach

General discussion took place regarding the highway construction option on 511.

IX. Upcoming Meetings / Other Topics – Gene Glotzbach

The next FL511 Working Group Meeting will be scheduled within the next month or so.