

SunGuide Software

User’s Group

Meeting Minutes

**Date: March 12, 2020**

**Time: 2:30-3:30 EST**

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| Agenda: |  |
| Topic | **Led By:** |
| Item 1: District Contacts for Technical IssuesItem 2: Scheduling SunGuide UpgradesItem 3: 4084 – On Ramp Backup Event Type RequestItem 4: 5124 Location “Do Not Publish Flag” | Christine ShafikChristine ShafikTucker BrownJason Summerfield |

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| Attendees: |  |
| Justin Merritt, D1Ryan Brown, D1Ray Mikol, D1Margret Treiber, D1Jason Summerfield, D2Jason Evans, D2Tanesha Sibley, D2Kevin Mehaffy, D3Aven Morgan, D3Greg Reynolds, D3Robert Briscoe, D3Jacques Dupuy, D4Clay Congdon, I-595Adrenamae Rolle, I595Kyle Higgins, D5John Hope, D5-CFX | Dan Buidens, D7Sam Taylor, D7Jared Roso, D7Mike Crawson, D7Kelly Kinney, FTEKarla Smith, FTETucker Brown, SwRIAJ Skillern, SwRIChristine Shafik, COMark Dunthorn, COGregory Dudley, COJennifer Langford, COAlex Brum, CO |

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| Discussion: |  |

Christine Shafik: Thank you for joining us today, we have some different slides not everything is going to be JIRA issues.

**Item 1: District Contacts for Technical Issues**

Christine Shafik: We are going to start with District contacts for technical issues. The Central Office needs one SunGuide Administrator contact per District for technical issues. I will send out an official request copying the TSM&O Engineer. We are looking for a go to person during emergencies.

**Item 2: Scheduling SunGuide Upgrades**

Our other request is when any District is going to a new version of SunGuide. We want to ensure consistency statewide, so we have a new process to take:

* Notify Central Office when SunGuide upgrades are scheduled
* Create a JIRA issue and update with date of upgrade
* Note if on-site support is needed

Please also add it to my calendar so I can make the team here aware. We want to be able to coordinate statewide between FDOT, SwRI, and the network.

Does anyone have any questions on the topics just discussed?

Ray Mikol: For the District contact, should that be from Operations side or the IT side?

Christine Shafik: We need a SunGuide expert that can answer our questions so I will leave it to the Districts to determine the person.

Ray Mikol: Thank you.

Wang Lee: Are you talking about a hotfix or a new release like if we went from 7.1.2 to 7.2?

Christine Shafik: I don’t think the hotfix will be an issue unless you are requesting SwRI to help you. Please keep us in the loop as well with hotfixes.

Wang Lee: Thank you.

Christine Shafik: Any other questions?

**Item 3: 4084 On Ramp Event Type Request**

Tucker Brown: The issue states that there is an event type for “Off Ramp Backup” but nothing for “On Ramp Backup”. The proposal is to add a new statewide event type for “On Ramp Backup”. Our question is that if we do include it, should it be included in the performance measures? Most of this is for general discussion. Does anyone have any comments or questions?

District Seven: We actually like this and figure it would it be more of a congestion I don’t think we would have anything for lane blockage or performance measures. I think it would be used for on ramps for arterials.

Tucker Brown: So, no performance measures?

District Seven: Correct, no from District 7.

District Four: We agree.

District Two: We agree as well.

District Three: We agree too.

Tucker Brown: I hear a strong support for not including it in performance measures.

John Hope: For the response plan generation, in this case the messaging on the DMS signs would not be on the road that the on ramp is associated with. If the DMS are selected how would they be affected?

Tucker Brown: We can treat these one of two ways. We can treat it as part of the event and the other depends on where it is located. If you are on an on ramp, backed up onto another roadway, it would be the off-route template. You can set up different templates if you don’t like the default one. It is going to depend on how the locations are set up. On the on ramp you would declare that as the primary roadway that you are about to get on to. If that is the case, then it would still traverse backwards. If you create this location and put it on the ramp, then declare it as arterial roadway. It would travel down the arterial roadway and probably go down the limited access as well. So, the interstate/limited access would be an off route. A lot of it will depend on how you configure the location for hosting that event. Does that make sense?

John Hope: Kind of. Say for example this is an off ramp for I-4, we wouldn’t necessarily want to sign on any of I-4’s DMS that are leading up to it. So how would that be configured?

Tucker Brown: If you configure the location of that on ramp and you put it as the arterial and not I-4 in this case. The way you do the device linking is you set that up with a virtual node right on top of that location. The device linking then goes down the arterials. You can set this up in a way that does not pick any I-4 signs. It allows you to include I-4 signs if you want but you don’t have to. It depends on how it is configured.

John Hope: So, it is an arterial location even though it is called I-4 on ramp?

Tucker Brown: You can call it whatever you want. It depends on how you link it in the device link file. If you branched it off of I-4, it depends on how that branching actually occurs. If you have a virtual node that is sitting on I-4, and one branch goes down I-4 and the other goes to the on ramp to another virtual node, it would only go down the arterial because it wouldn’t go upstream then back down I-4. It all depends on the configuration and set up if you do or don’t want it to go down I4. Both ways would be supported. Does that make sense, John?

Are there any other questions? Hearing none we will move on.

**Item 4: 5124 Location “Do Not Publish Flag”**

Jason Summerfield: This is a follow up to the “do not publish flag”. We have met with our operations and as a recap: you create an event at a location that is flagged as do not published and it generates a response plan. The generated response plan automatically adds FLATIS item. Due to the publish flag being disabled, SunGuide FLATIS item has a notice in red stating that this item will not be published on FLATIS. When you hit publish, SunGuide publishes to FLATIS and FLATIS ignores the publish flag and publishes to FL511 anyway. In most cases that is not ideal because you do not want it to go on FLATIS even though you are generating a response plan.

Of the various suggestions, the one we came up with is that SunGuide will not send it out. We will still have a generated response plan and it will automatically add the FLATIS item. Because it is set to not publish, there will still be the notice stating that it will not publish to FLATIS. SunGuide does not publish it to FLATIS. In discussions here we stayed away from having an override option because it adds complexity to it. If the event is intended to be published on FLATIS, the EM location needs to be flagged as “publish” in local SunGuide system, or the operator needs to move it to another location that is flagged to publish. We thought it would be a simpler change and the only real change in SunGuide’s behavior is that it won’t actively publish the event. The operator will see the same things as before but now it works the way it says it does. I know there was a conversation before about being able to override, and our suggestion here is to not have an override because it is simple to change to another location.

Are there any questions?

John Hope: We discussed this at a previous SSUG meeting we have also discussed at District Five. District Five does not see a benefit to this and they typically handle events like this operationally.

District Three: We are having a similar side conversation wondering what events would we not want to publish? I guess we are wondering what the purpose would be.

Jason Summerfield: We mainly use it for weather events or silver alerts where we have to track what is being posted on a sign. But we don’t have a need for the incident to show up on FL511.

Mark Dunthorn: The location that you set your silver alerts to is the TMC, right?

Jason Summerfield: I believe so, yes. We have a location specific to silver alerts.

Mark Dunthorn: Okay, and this has come up with the FL511 team and they would prefer to not see events show up if they are not real events. We have had some inquiries as to why there is a silver alert at a specific location and when we have drilled into it, it turned out to be the TMC. It is not just District Two. I think we do have to do something here because there is the message that states it will not be published but then it is being published. We have to decide on whether we want to do this. This proposal makes sense to me, we would just be making the system behave how the GUI says it will.

Jason Summerfield: Yes, that is what we want, for SunGuide to work as it should.

Turnpike: So, this is location based and not event type?

Mark Dunthorn: Yes, that is correct.

Turnpike: I see this being a benefit as an event type to not being published. If we are putting up safety messages, fog messages, AMBER or Silver alerts and have a specific event type to not publish to FL511, that would be good. But it could be a future enhancement.

Mark Dunthorn: Do we allow that right now? Do we have a publish flag on event type?

Tucker Brown: Not on event type just on the location.

Mark Dunthorn: It is a different enhancement, but it does seem to have value. Do we feel like this is different enough for another JIRA issue?

Please create a ticket for this issue so we can discuss more in depth at another SSUG. Any more comments on issue 5124?

Christine Shafik: If there are no comments or concerns, we will end the meeting. We appreciate your comments and taking the time to attend. Enjoy the rest of the day.

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| New Action Items: |  |
| Action: | **Responsible Person:** |
| FTE add a JIRA ticket for the event type publish flag.  | FTE |
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