

SunGuide Software

User’s Group

Meeting Minutes

**Date: June 10, 2021**

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

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| Agenda: |  |
| Topic | **Led By:** |
| Item 1: SG-5805: Add additional messaging options for TPS sign.  Item 2: SG-5143: Make Chronology report to be able to be generated entirely or only in section of interest.  Item 3: SG-5396: Associated Event with Managed Lanes Action List Execution  Item 4: SG-5782: RISC Module Enhancements | Tucker Brown  Tucker Brown  Tucker Brown  Tucker Brown |

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| Attendees: |  |
| Ray Mikol, D1  Luis Hernandez, D1  Robbie Brown, D1  Justin Merritt, D1  Jason Summerfield, D2  Tanesha Sibley, D2  Jason Evans, D2  Richard Hemming, D3  Greg Reynolds, D3  Kevin Mehaffy, D3  Robert Briscoe, D3  Jacques Dupuy, D4  Dee McTague, D4  Simon Cooke, I-595  Shannon Watterson, D5  John Hope, D5  Eddie Grant, D5  Jay Williams, D5  Sheryl Bradley, D5  Kyle Higgins, D5  Giovanny Varela, D5 | Mark Laird, D6  Alex Mirones, D6  Mike Crawson, D7  Ed Allbritton, D7  Dan Buidens, D7  Tony Abid, FTE  Jermaine Da Silva, FTE  Cherie Phillips, FTE  Umesh Subramanyam, FTE  Brent Poole, CFX  Wang Lee, MDX  AJ Skillern, SwRI  Tucker Brown, SwRI  Christine Shafik, CO  Mark Dunthorn, CO  Carla Holmes, CO  Juan Abreut, CO  Karthik Devarakonda, CO |

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| Discussion: |  |

Christine Shafik: Welcome to the SSUG meeting for the purpose of taking notes this meeting will be recorded. I will turn it over to Tucker to start the presentation.

**Item 1: SG-5805: Add additional messaging options for TPS sign.**

Tucker Brown: The current state is when a DMS is marked as TPS sign, some functionality is not available in the standard DMS status dialog for these signs. The enhancement would be to add the following:

* Ability to blank or clear message on the sign.
* Ability to refresh/resend message.
* Send other messaging to the sign in case of closure or maintenance.
  + This may be something TPS should be able to send based on the facility status.

There would be more control over to what you do to the signs. Any questions or comments on those?

Jason Evans: The only thing with status is there needs to be a discussion about the different types. You probably don’t have to be as strict as we are with Express Lanes messaging. I don’t know what kind of messaging people would want if a rest area was closed. Maybe a predetermined message or fixed message just to let people know rather than having someone put up a different value.

Tucker Brown: I want to say part of the functionality here is that DMS is in place with a static sign and would only support a small amount of characters anyway. So, part of this is determining if this is even an option. The easiest route to go is make it so you could send manual messaging to DMS. Maybe manual messaging is the way to go just because of the number of cases. I don’t know if there is consistent messaging that needs to be followed or doing it generically in the software. The more complicated and restrictive way is to have static messaging that applies to certain cases.

Dan Buidens: Were those signs capable of letters? Or are they just numbers?

Tucker Brown: My understanding is that they are full NTCIP signs, and we can send whatever we want. To my knowledge they support any character you want there.

Jason Summerfield: I think it depends on what model you have. In our case we have Daktronics signs like they did for express lanes, depending on what font you have, you can fit several characters on there. We have had FDOT Test on there in a small font since it is not a sign for highway travel advisory. I could see a smaller font that says closed on the sign.

Tucker Brown: If we open it up more generically, like if your numbers ran and you wanted to do it in another font it will complicate it. If we just open messaging through those signs, then we can just pick whatever font you need.

Dan Buidens: Does it sound like this function is already there since they could put FDOT Test?

Tucker Brown: The ability to send a message like that would be there and you could change it to a generic but to change it to a truck parking specific sign, the software does not allow you to do that.

John Hope: District Five likes the posting of graphics as an alternative.

Tucker Brown: Through a manual message that someone puts up? Or through truck parking and you have a message created specifically for that instance of it being closed?

John Hope: For now, manually.

Tucker Brown: If we open it up for manual messaging, the text and graphics is all supported.

Jason Summerfield: I think the other scenario, other than closure, that might come up that require strange messaging would be hurricane evacuations.

Christine Shafik: We heard from D2 and D5, any other Districts have opinions?

Dan Buidens: I am not opposed to this especially with hurricane evacuations. Now I am wondering what the symbol is, when you watch the news, it is a circle with the hooks on it. A red circle, not sure if that is in our approved library or not but some food for thought.

District One: We are good with this; we can only support two or three characters in our TPAS signs now.

Dee McTague: District Four has no objection.

Carla Holmes: Tucker I have a question, could this system be able to support two phase messages? One phase being truck parking status number and the other phase be another message?

Tucker Brown: It could technically, yes. There is nothing in the software to restrict that. Whether you want that is an operational question.

Christine Shafik: That is also up for discussion.

Dan Buidens: I think you are also stuck with the MUTCD and the font sizes for two messages. I would have to consult the book.

Christine Shafik: Carla, lets have this as an action item to verify the MUTCD.

**Item 2: SG-5143: Make Chronology report be able to be generated entirely or only in sections of interest.**

Tucker Brown: Right now, when you run a chronology report, you get a full record of the chronology of what happened on the event. If looking for a specific type or set of message types, large chronologies make it difficult to find specific data.

The enhancement would have the ability to filter the types of messaging included in the chronology (Chronology Types). Develop RISC report with same ability. Any questions or thoughts on that?

Luis Hernandez: District One likes this.

Dee McTague: District Four likes it.

Dan Buidens: District Seven in favor.

Mark Laird: It sounds useful.

John Hope: District Five loves this!

Kevin Mehaffy: District Three likes it as well.

Kelly Kinney: Turnpike as well.

**Item 3: SG-5396: Associate Event with Managed Lanes Action List Execution**

Tucker Brown: The current MLS action lists are initiated by a user and do not allow association with an event. It is not associated with anything else, but it can look at DMS and CCTVs and things like that. Everything is a managed lane action.

The enhancement is to add the optional ability to select an open event to associate to list being run by the user. The event would be logged with the history of the execution of the list. We would add an event chronology entry indicating the action was started and add an event chronology entry indicating the results of the list execution. The ability to audit an event to add an action list execution would also be available. This would be a heavy tie into managed lanes action lists and events. Any comments?

Alex Mirones: District Six strongly supports this, for those of you who don’t know, this is how we control our warning gates. Our warning gates are several systems combined at each location and it has been challenging to organize that for reporting. This would be very helpful especially for anyone using warning gate systems.

Dee McTague: In that case, District Four supports this. We might end up with warning gates in the future.

Dan Buidens: District Seven agrees.

Tucker Brown: Sounds like there is good support for that one.

**Item 4: SG-5782: RISC Module Enhancements**

Tucker Brown: This was just enhancements to the existing functionality. The enhancements are:

* Generate and send an email to predetermined group for a RISC activation.
* When a contact is specified, add the contact information into RISC chronology.
* When a comment is entered by the user, add the entry into the RISC chronology.
* Rename “All Lanes Closed” to “RISC Clearance”. The intent is to signify the end of the RISC with may extend past any lane blockage. If anyone has a better name, we are open to ideas.

Romona Burke: More than likely the RISC will be done before the lanes are cleared so it is backwards.

Tucker Brown: Okay, that was intended to just end the RISC. Any comments on any of the four?

Kelly Kinney: Turnpike likes it.

Jason Summerfield: Would it be possible to do all lanes cleared continues on shoulder? Or work continues somewhere else?

Tucker Brown: The timestamp we are trying to capture is what is the end of the RISC? If we are still talking about lane blockages and clearance times, my assumption is that we are tracking that as part of the actual event. We could still cross reference times, RISC is still associated with an event number so if we need to go back and look at those it is still there. The time we are trying to capture is the end of RISC.

Jason Summerfield: Can we just call it that? End of RISC clearance.

District: Or RISC end time?

Tucker Brown: Anything like that, if you have specific wording, we can change it. RISC end time or anything similar we can do.

Mark Laird: How about RISC Complete?

Alex Mirones: I have a question on the second bullet, when it says contact specified to add the contact information into the RISC chronology. Would that contact be coming from the contact portion of SunGuide from the event details?

Tucker Brown: That reference is who did you contact to perform the work for RISC?

Alex Mirones: The contractor, okay.

Jason Summerfield: If District Two has not gone to 8.0, do we have a way to run the RISC chronology?

Tucker Brown: There is not a report that does a RISC chronology, no.

Jason Summerfield: Can we add that as an enhancement?

Tucker Brown: It is already there.

Christine Shafik: Any more comments or questions? Thank you for your input and good discussion. Does anyone have anything else to share?

Mark Laird: One question as it relates to OTM. The FLATIS people are dropping the third-party data feed support as of July 1st. If anyone is using the FLATIS module in OTM, you will need to get upgraded to OTM 4.6.2 which I haven’t distributed yet. Is anyone using the FLATIS module in OTM?

Christine Shafik: Thank you, Mark. Any other comments or questions? It was a good, quick meeting.

Cherie Phillips: I just wanted to let everyone know that we went to 8.0. It has been smooth and have had minimal issues. We have had good success with 8.0.

Christine Shafik: We are going statewide on 8.0 and hopefully it is soon. Any other questions? Hearing none, everyone has a great weekend and talk to you in a few weeks.