

SunGuide Software

User’s Group

Meeting Minutes



Date: November 8, 2018

Time: 2:30pm-3:30pm EDT

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| Agenda: |  |
| Topic | **Led By:** |
| Item 1: Planned Events Proposed Enhancement | Tucker Brown |

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| Attendees: |  |
| Alain Capucci, D1  Jason Summerfield, D2  Greg Reynolds, D3  John J. McFadden, COT  Shayla Khalilahmadi, D4  Dee McTague, D4  Marlon Chin Shue, 595  Jacques Dupuy, 595  John Hope, D5  Alex Mirones, D6 | Mark Laird, D6  Jared Roso, D7  Mike Crawson, D7  Tucker Brown, SwRI  Derek Vollmer, CO  Mark Dunthorn, CO  Frances Ijeoma, CO  Karthik Devarakonda, CO  Jennifer Rich, CO |

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| Discussion: |  |

This meeting is being recorded for the purpose of taking meeting minutes.

1. Planned Events Proposed Enhancement

**Tucker:** Here is the standard new event dialog. Normally when setting a status here you would put it as notified or confirmed. We would like to have a third status of “planned” and have the start time below it. It would indicate that someone is creating it and putting it in the system but a creation time wouldn’t exist on the system yet. The rest of the event creation would be standard.

When you get to the event list you have a lot of different colored bars for different category of events. We would add one in for planned events. You can see there is an additional column for start date. The date added or the date updated may or may not be on their depending on the implementation stuff we have done. The date updated probably would but the date added wouldn’t until it starts. You would have a way to get into these events and would be able to click on them and see all of these in one place at one time. There would also be a way to do a quick start and either as a ribbon button or right click option to start now. That way you can immediately start the event and it will go as a regular event.

The standard event window is not different. Notice that the status says planned, and this would be on all. The start time would be a modifiable field and you could go in and change the start time if you wanted to. All of the other event fields would be available to you too. You can open up a response plan and just not activate it yet. You wouldn’t be able to activate a response plan for a planned event. You would need to get it to active status before activating the response plan.

As the event gets closer to starting, a system configurable setting of a reminder would come up and then it would pop up a dialog. Once it pops up there are a few different options: start immediately, start at the scheduled time, start at the scheduled time and activate the response plan, or reschedule. There is a question of what happens if no one responds to it at all and the start time actually occurs? A lot can be done.

**Mark Laird:** When we first create the event, can we have something that makes it require confirmation?

**Tucker:** If we have it where it does require confirmation and no one confirms it, does it void it?

**Mark Laird:** I would say void it, but not sure how soon you want to have it void. Maybe leave it in the event list to have the operators void it later. That way it is still there in case someone is late confirming it.

**Mark Dunthorn:** So, the status would still be planned even though the start time is in the past. I think we let them deal with it.

**Kevin:** I would assume this would be used mostly for work zones. Is it possible to have an icon on the map instead of pop ups? Pop ups could crowd the page and be annoying.

**Tucker:** The point of the pop up is to make sure someone looks at it and does something with it. The icon on the map, is perfectly doable but unless its flashing how would someone know to do something with it?

It could flash or be an alert, and it could go into the alert box. Potentially you could flash the event location on the map. It would look more like the alarm handling.

**Marlon:** Can it be flashing when in the event list?

**Tucker:** A flash in the actual event list itself could be doable. So no pop up or an alert, but flash the event? Or flash in addition to the pop up?

**Marlon:** Flash it in the event list. In addition to the pop up with the alert.

**Mark Dunthorn:** I think we need to summarize where we are at.

**Tucker:** Does anyone want the pop up? We can always have the alert.

Anyone in favor of the pop up?

**Dee**: Second the alert idea.

**Tucker:** An alert that goes into the alert box on the right with also flashing the row in the event list when there is something to actually do about this. Do we want to flash the event icon on the map?

**Marlon:** I don’t see a purpose to that.

**Alex:** Are we talking about the same alert that house the FHP, Visio pad, weather, etc.? And we will be choosing to make the planned event flash as opposed to a life-threatening event?

**Tucker:** The flashing would be in the event list itself, not in the alert box. It would be consistent with all of the other alerts there.

**Alex:** Sounds good to me.

**Tucker:** I think we have a consensus. Does anyone else have any questions?

**John:** Yes, for the alert scheduling, it looks like you have to specify a date and a time. Is there any thought to making it an occurring event? Either weekly, monthly, etc.?

**Tucker:** I have a slide on that soon.

**Kevin:** Start time is important, but could we put an end time on it? Would there be value in that?

**Tucker:** Would it specifically get shut off or would it be another reminder?

**Kevin:** A reminder before it is deactivated would be helpful.

**Tucker:** So, you would also want a reminder for the end time that would allow for actions that would be terminate response plan or terminate response plan and close events. I think those would be the first two now.

**Marlon:** Can we consider putting something incase no one responds? Something on the event?

**Tucker:** We discussed earlier that there would be an option to specify if it needs confirmation. If it does it would pop up, if it does not it would put in the alert and it would start at the start time. If it requires confirmation and it is past the start time, it would go to the planned events section and would sit there until an operator confirmed it or got rid of it.

The performance measures are based off of the created date. The intent of this is to not set the created date in the database until the event actually goes live. If it is a planned event that database field would be blank until it is started. We don’t want to mess with performance measures. Additional columns would be created to handle the planned timing. The other consideration here is blockage time. We would create the planned events and set the blockage well before the event starts. We need to move the blockage time forward to the start of the event especially if you are activating a response plan. That way your blockage time doesn’t start when you plan it, it starts when you start the event itself. Does anyone have any problems or other considerations?

Currently, you can create an event and it will be live in the system. You can use SAS to manually schedule and active and terminate a response plan. The positive aspect of this is that you have all of the activations captured for the single event. We can do the same thing here where we plan the start of the event and the activation and response plan still come through SAS and it handles the nightly closures. The downside to that is if you do it through SAS you don’t get a nightly reminder.

The second option here is a series of single nightly events. Every night you have an event and it starts and stops and you get reminders on all of them. The problem with that is that you probably want it in a single event so that you can track your closures as a single event and see all of your activation and blockage times.

The third option here is a trickier. You plan the event for the first night and you have a start time on it and an end time on it. At the end time you terminate the response plan. Then you reschedule the start time of the event to be the following night. This gives you the reminders of when it starts and stops. It gives you the ability to track all of your times in a single event. The kicker here is that you would have to allow people to set it from active status back into a planned status. What do you think?

**Kevin:** If we are turning it from an active back into a planned, will that effect our counts?

**Tucker:** You will still do a single event that tracks all of your times as a single event.

**Mark Dunthorn:** Are we hearing consensus that people are okay with number three or are you still thinking about it?

**Tucker:** I think the least desirable would be the nightly events. If anyone has planned nightly construction does anyone do it as a single nightly event?

**Marlon:** I think for construction, yes, we do that.

**Kevin:** Yes, I agree. Wouldn’t your event report be extremely long?

**Tucker:** If you have nightly construction and have to activate a sign would you do one event that is five days long or are you doing five separate events?

District 7 it is nightly events for every single roadwork. We do have one construction project that is one event because it will remain closed but every time a lane closes it is a new event and when we open it we clear it.

**Tucker:** As part of the one event that is staying consistently open are you actively activating messages?

**District 7:** The signs stay up unless something more important needs to be posted.

**Tucker:** Whatever we do for nightly blockages, the single series of nightly planned events would work in any case that we use here. The question is should you be allowed to make it a single event?

**Luis Ruiz:** From a performance measures standpoint, being able to tie all of those events into one would be beneficial. However, I don’t know if that can be accomplished through another way like a tag or something.

**Tucker:** So, you are saying you are still tracking the nightly events but you need to find a way to aggregate the multiple into one?

**Luis Ruiz:** Yes, being able to aggregate the information would be beneficial.

**Tucker:** Is everyone tracking single events as nightly events? If so, this is really a non-issue. Because you will be able to schedule it and get a start and an end time and get notifications for both.

**Mark Laird:** I think the concept of the rescheduling is a good thing.

**Tucker:** You would be able to clone the event and maintain the response plan and lane blockage.

**Kevin:** I think that is a good idea.

**Tucker:** That was my last slide. Is there anything you would like to see covered?

**Kevin:** Would the event show up on the map and differentiate itself as a scheduled event?

**Tucker:** What about putting the clock up in the left corner? Does anyone not want to see the icons on the map? Hearing none we can put the clock on the left corner.

**Mark Dunthorn:** So on the nightly blockage, did we come to an agreement? Is everyone okay with option two?

**Tucker:** Yes, everyone is okay with option two.

**Derek:** I am not 100% sure I am okay with nightly blockages. I am going to discuss this over with Fred and some others first before we make a decision on that.

**Tucker:** Outside of the concept of planned events, if there was another concept of being able to aggregate multiple events into a single event list with a particular metric. If we take multiple reports and combine them into one would that work?

**Derek:** Maybe, that way I would know it is really only one construction event that happened. I want to talk with Fred to see how that would work.

**Kevin:** Doesn’t that bring us into having extremely long lists which slows down SunGuide?

**Derek:** So maybe that’s why we tie them together. Would you be okay with that?

**Kevin:** I think they do that now and clone it and make it a secondary but I am not positive. Some way to indicate they are part of one construction project would be good.

**Mark Dunthorn:** There are ways we could do this with tags. Anything else someone wants to bring up?

**Marlon:** Yes, I wanted to check on the spellcheck and to see if it is coming back?

**Mark Dunthorn:** Is that for the event comments?

**Marlon:** Yes.

**Mark Dunthorn:** Where are we at with that Jira issue?

**Tucker:** It has been put in but not completely rolled out.

**Mark Dunthorn:** Is there anywhere else people have a need for spellcheck? We will discuss this at our internal meeting and will bring back some information to the next SSUG.

**Mark Laird:** Think about the dictionary. We might get more standardized comments.

**Mark Dunthorn:** Any other comments for today? Thank you all.

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| New Action Items: |  |
| Action: | **Responsible Person:** |
| Look into spellcheck in Jira tickets. Take back information to next SSUG. | Mark Dunthorn/Tucker |
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