

TSM&O DISSEMINATOR

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

July-August 2021



PUSH
BUTTON TO
TURN ON
WARNING
LIGHTS

District Six Showcases Latest TSM&O Initiatives at Statewide Industry Conference

Combining Research, Education, and Evaluation to Achieve Safe Mobility for Life

District Four TSM&O Develops an Innovative SharePoint® Site for Interagency Collaboration



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Contents

3	District Six Showcases Latest TSM&O Initiatives at Statewide Industry Conference
4	Combining Research, Education, and Evaluation to Achieve Safe Mobility for Life
6	Road Ranger Recognition
7	2022 Call for Nominations for ITS Florida Board Members
7	Break Time
8	District Four TSM&O Develops an Innovative SharePoint® Site for Interagency Collaboration
10	CONTACTS

FDOT TRAFFIC ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS

MISSION

Provide leadership and serve as a catalyst in becoming the national leader in mobility.

VISION

Provide support and expertise in the application of Traffic Engineering principles and practices to improve safety and mobility.

Looking to be a Contributor for the Next Issue of the TSM&O Disseminator?

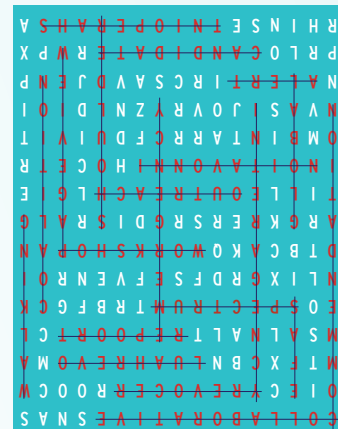
Email Jennifer Langford
(Jennifer.Langford@dot.state.fl.us)
with your story subject and title.

We would love to have your contribution be a part of the next edition.

Photo credits: FDOT

PHYSICAL ADDRESS:
Barry Building
3185 South Blairstone Rd.
Tallahassee, FL 32301

MAILING ADDRESS:
Burns Building
605 Suwannee Street, MS 90
Tallahassee, FL 32399





District Six Showcases Latest TSM&O Initiatives at Statewide Industry Conference

By Javier Rodriguez, District Six TSM&O Program Engineer, FDOT

The District Six Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) Office was selected to present at the Florida Puerto Rico District of the Institute of Transportation Engineers (FLPRITE) Summer Meeting 2021. The event was held June 23-24 and was the first in-person meeting for the organization since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event was well attended by a large spectrum of industry professionals from across the state. The goal of the meeting was to bring the industry together to reconnect and share best practices after a challenging year, brought upon by the effects of the global pandemic. The event kicked off with agency updates from the Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE), FDOT District Four, and FDOT District Six and was followed by a select list of presenters divided across several tracks that showcased the latest in planning, traffic engineering, and multimodal strategies.

The District Six TSM&O Office was selected to present on two topics this year. It participated in the "Innovation for Everyday Mobility" track which focused on the operational solutions that keep traffic moving. The first presentation was on how the TSM&O Office, housed at the SunGuide Transportation Management Center (TMC) remained operational amidst the restrictions caused by the pandemic.

The presentation was selected by the FLPRITE for its timely topic and perceived benefits to eventgoers. It emphasized the importance of maintaining traffic services for the motoring public, especially during emergency situations, and the ways to achieve this. It detailed the unique challenges faced by regional TMCs and how the District pivoted its existing contingency plan to ensure operational continuity and staff safety. It also shared resources and lessons learned that were instrumental in helping the District meet its operational goals during this time.

The second presentation steered eventgoers toward the Connected and Automated Vehicle (CAV) efforts being made by the District. It showcased the latest details about the Keys COAST project in Monroe County, including the current schedule and upcoming milestones. This presentation showed the strides being made in the District's comparatively new arterial management division and how CAV strategies are expected to improve area traffic.

The theme for this year's FLPRITE's meeting was *Road to Recovery: Exploring Opportunities for Safety, Mobility, and Innovation*. As the industry recovers from the past year and a half, the District will continue participating in events that promote the advancement of TSM&O principles and ideas such as this one. These events are an invaluable resource that provide learning opportunities to safeguard the quality and growth of our industry, which is especially important during challenging times. For more information about FLPRITE, please visit: <https://www.flprite.org/>.

For more information, please contact Javier Rodriguez at (305) 640-7307 or by email at Javier.Rodriguez2@dot.state.fl.us.



Safe Walking for Life!



Combining Research, Education, and Evaluation to Achieve Safe Mobility for Life

By Gail M. Holley, Safe Mobility for Life Research and Program Manager, FDOT

Florida leads the nation with 20 percent of our population over the age of 65. For more than 30 years, the State Traffic Engineering and Operations Office's Safe Mobility for Life Program has spearheaded engineering changes on the state highway system to compensate for the natural changes that occur as people age. This includes countermeasures such as increasing the width of pavement markings, adding larger lettering on guide signs, advance notification signage, and more.

The program also conducted various human factors studies to gain a better understanding of how devices or countermeasures can affect road users before installation or implementation. One study focused on learning how to improve driver understanding of traffic control devices or roadway features through educational materials. A [research-based checklist](#) was created to develop tip cards and other educational materials to improve driver understanding of traffic control devices and reduce the possibility of crashes for road users of all ages.

In 2009, FDOT partnered with Florida State University's Pepper Institute on Aging to grow the program and form the diverse Safe Mobility for Life Coalition with a new focus: Helping Floridians maintain independence and remain active in their communities even after they transition from driving. Keeping Floridians safe, mobile, and independent beyond the driver's seat supports Florida's Target Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways.

The Safe Mobility for Life Coalition develops a variety of educational tools and materials to help Floridians maintain their safe driving abilities while also seeking mobility independence. Each month's outreach and education campaign centers around a different focus area, allowing us to educate others on specific topics and drive online traffic to resources about those topics.

Combining Research, Education, and Evaluation to Achieve Safe Mobility for Life, continued from page 4

The Coalition recognized February as Walking Month with a goal of educating aging road users about the benefits of walking, safe walking tips, and how to use walking as a transportation option. We used the following strategies to meet this goal:

- Released the new *Walking: Tips on How to Use Transportation Options in Florida* booklet developed in partnership with Alert Today Florida.
- Hosted a virtual **Safe Walking for Life Workshop** for 27 attendees with the Tallahassee Senior Center.
- Shared educational messaging about safe walking behaviors through shared and owned media channels, such as social media, SafeMobilityFL.com, and partner newsletters.

Over the course of the month, we were able to reach an estimated 21,700 people through social media messaging and have since distributed 938 print versions of the Walking

booklet statewide. We continue to re-evaluate our strategies and adjust to ensure we are getting key information in front of the people who need it the most. With each month focusing on a new topic, we can find new ways to connect with Floridians about their transportation futures.

Our approach works because of the support of individuals and groups across the state. If we are going to get to zero, we need collaboration on all levels. You can join the movement by sharing messages throughout your network. [Click here](#) to sign up for updates through our Listserv. The Safe Mobility for Life Coalition's [Outreach page](#) also features downloadable graphics, YouTube videos, and toolkits to educate on a variety of roadway features and topics. [Visit the Resource Center](#) to download and order print materials developed specifically for aging road users.

For more information, please contact Gail M. Holley at (850) 410-5414 or by email at Gail.Holley@dot.state.fl.us.

WALKING

Tips on How to Use Transportation Options in Florida

Icon	Value	Description
Book icon	938	Walking booklets distributed
Eye icon	293	Walking booklet PDF views
Thumbs up icon	581	social media engagements
Person icon	21,700	social impressions
Globe icon	1,588	website pageviews

SafeMobilityFL.com

Road Ranger Recognition

Trooper Golden presenting Road Ranger Eric Wittmann with the Distinguished Safety Partner Award.

On Wednesday afternoon, June 2, Road Ranger Eric Wittmann responded to a call of a vehicle crash on I-10, near mile marker 170. Wittmann arrived at the scene to find a pickup truck hauling a travel trailer had flipped over, resulting in a large amount of debris strewn over the roadway.

The crash was serious, involving injuries and making both lanes of westbound I-10 impassable. Upon arrival, Eric quickly assessed the situation and set about assisting the other first responders at the scene with scene clearance and traffic control. This involved pushing the crashed vehicle and debris out of the roadway and establishing a shoulder route for traffic to go around the scene until it was fully cleared out.

In a June 30 FLHSMV News Release, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) Trooper Anthony Golden sent an email to Arterial Operations Manager David Roark with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) providing commendation to Road Ranger Wittmann. Highlights from the email read: "Eric has assisted me at several scenes..... He has a high level of professionalism and a want to help demeanor... Eric performed at this specific scene, well above the standard while displaying a high level of situational awareness... I would like to express my gratitude for Eric, and I hope he is recognized as an asset to the Road Ranger Program".

Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) Major Warren Fast, Troop A Commander, personally thanked Eric for the service he continues to provide and also offered his gratitude to the entire Road Ranger program.

On Wednesday, June 30, the FDOT, FHP, and AutoBase Inc. took time to recognize Road Ranger Eric Wittmann with a "Distinguished Safety Partner Award" at the Florida Highway Patrol Troop A Station in Panama City.



Pictured: left to right, Arterial Operations Manager David Roark, AutoBase Inc. Manager Johnathon Wilkes, Road Ranger Eric Wittmann, Trooper Golden, Freeway Operations Manager Greg Reynolds, and Major Fast.



2022 Call for Nominations for ITS Florida Board Members

By Russell Allen, Atkins, ITS Florida

On behalf of the Nominating Committee and Board of Directors of *ITS Florida*, we are pleased to announce this call for nominations for officer and director-at-large positions on the Board of Directors. Anyone from an *ITS Florida* member organization in good standing can offer nominations for any of these offices; however, the existing officers traditionally "move up the ladder", which leaves the Office of Treasurer entirely open.

Below is a list of the offices to be filled for calendar year 2021.

- President and Chairman of the Board (1-year term)
- Vice President (1-year term)
- Secretary (1-year term)
- Treasurer (1-year term)
- Directors at Large (2-year terms)



All *ITS Florida* members are invited to nominate candidates for these offices. Nominations must come from an *ITS Florida* member organization in good standing, and self-nominations are accepted and encouraged. We would ask that large member organizations coordinate their nominee(s) prior to submission to *ITS Florida*. Please complete the form online via this link: [Board of Director Nomination Form \(formsite.com\)](https://formsite.com).

The Nominating Committee will recommend the acceptability of nominees to enter into candidacy to the Board of Directors. The primary representatives of *ITS Florida* will be invited to vote for the candidates in early December.

The bio, photo, and vision statement that is submitted will be emailed to the membership. The election voting will take place online. If nominated candidates wish to communicate with the membership separately, please send an email to Sandy Beck (email below) and it will be forwarded to the membership.

Traditionally, it is the custom of *ITS Florida* that the Treasurer, Secretary, Vice President, and President move through the ranks to the offices of Secretary, Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President, respectively. Officers are encouraged to plan on a five (5) year commitment. Directors-at-Large who are active members of the Board are sometimes nominated for a second two-year term. Of course, neither of these is assured, but this information is provided to you for planning purposes. The Board of Directors generally meets 6-11 times annually at various locations in Florida. *Officers and directors are expected to participate actively in these meetings, and other assigned subcommittee and task force activities during the course of the year.* Potential nominees should ensure that their employer is willing to support the time commitment and cover travel expenses as appropriate.

For your information, you may find a copy of our bylaws, which will give you a good idea of the duties of the officer and at-large positions, on the web site at www.itsflorida.org.

For questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Sandy Beck at itsflorida@itsflorida.org, or any member of the Board as listed on the *ITS Florida* web site.

Break Time



- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| SPECTRUM | SHOULDER |
| EMERGENCY | COMMENDATION |
| INNOVATION | CANDIDATE |
| GLOBAL | COLLABORATIVE |
| WORKSHOP | SHAREPOINT |
| OUTREACH | INTERAGENCY |
| PAGEVIEW | OVERHAUL |
| COALITION | SAFE |
| TROOPER | ALERT |
| WALKING | RECOVERY |



District Four TSM&O Develops an Innovative SharePoint® Site for Interagency Collaboration

By: Nicole Forest, District Four TSM&O Resource Manager, FDOT

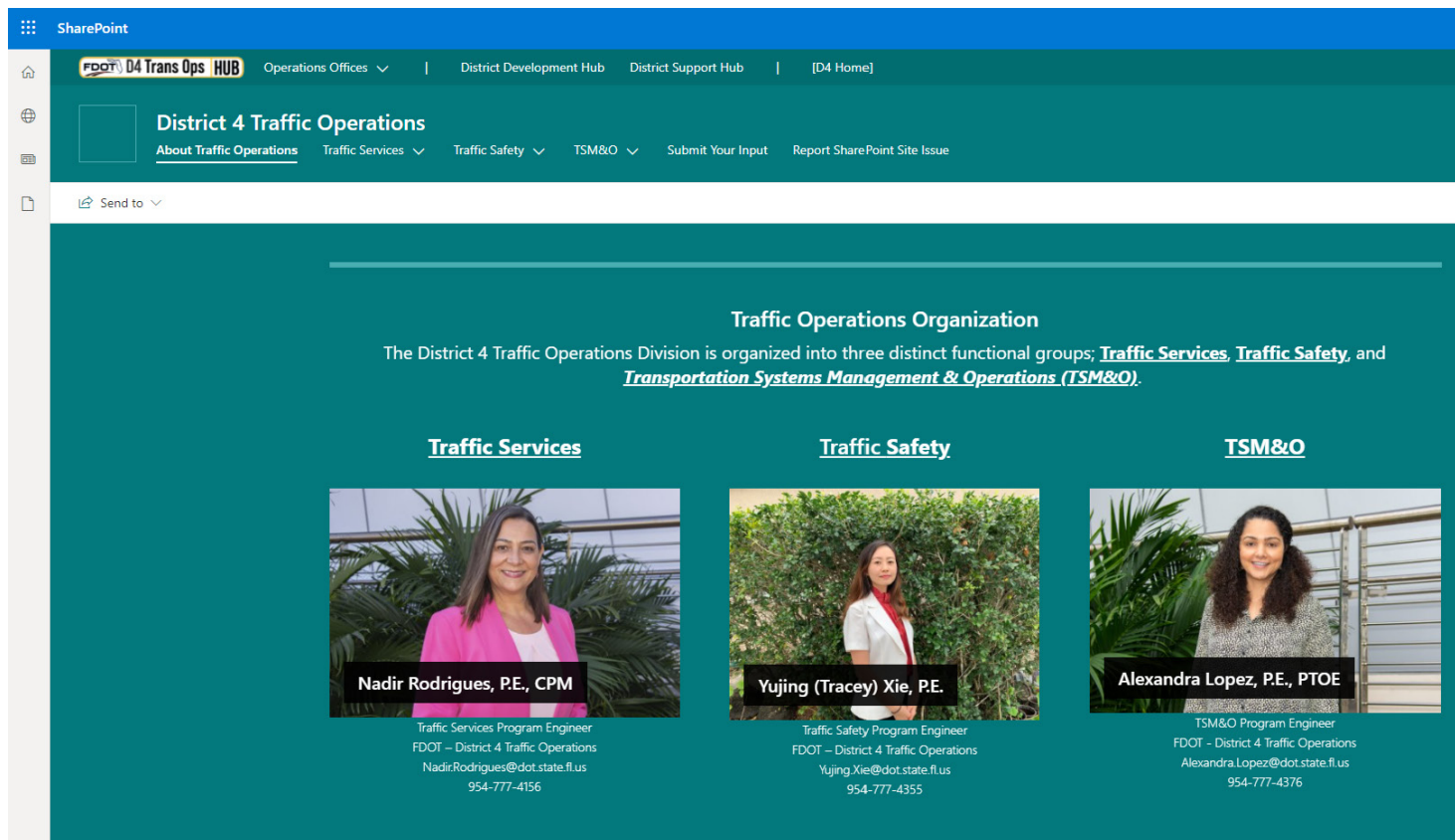
The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Four Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) program utilized available resources to develop a modern, more collaborative SharePoint environment to replace their existing, outdated Traffic Operations SharePoint site. On June 21, 2021, the new District Four Traffic Operations SharePoint collaborative site was launched to outstanding reviews.

The design of the new SharePoint environment is based on a hub and spoke concept, in which a hub site serves as the primary integrated connection mechanism for supporting resources in the District Four organization. In this design, the hub site is focused on Traffic Operations and its integrated departments of Traffic Safety, Traffic Services, and TSM&O.

Some of the benefits of the updated SharePoint environment are increased operational efficiency, heightened interagency collaboration, and an evergreen approach to document management.

The District Four TSM&O program, more specifically the Resource Management section, identified resources to hire a SharePoint specialist who could create a state-of-the-art SharePoint environment.

Not only is the new Traffic Operations SharePoint environment more user-friendly and operationally smoother, but it also features a unique method for collaboration with all users. It was important to the District Four TSM&O program that users outside of District Four have the ability to access the updated environment through the existing FDOT Infonet portal.



District Four TSM&O Develops an Innovative SharePoint® Site for Interagency Collaboration, continued from page 8

District 4 Traffic Operations
About Traffic Operations Traffic Services Traffic Safety TSM&O Submit Your Input Report SharePoint Site Issue

Search this site

TSM&O - Resource Management

Welcome to TSM&O - Resource Management!

The TSM&O Resource Management Unit is made up of the Information Technology (IT) Department, ITS Maintenance, and Purchasing.

The Resource Management Unit is responsible for managing various contracts and resources, that play an integral part of the day-to-day operations and maintenance for the Department's Freeway and Arterial Management Programs. This is the backbone of the TSM&O Program. The main focus of the Resource Management Unit is to provide all the necessary tools needed to ensure the TSM&O Program runs smoothly.

Here you will find links to our Collaboration Portal, News & Events, links to Internal (FDOT) and External Links and Streaming Videos relevant to Resource Management.

Nicole L. Forest, CSM, FCCM
TSM&O Resource Manager
FDOT – District 4 Traffic Operations
Nicole.Forest@dot.state.fl.us
954-847-2631

Organization & Contracts

Visio TSMO - Resource Management Org Chart Cortes, Natalie

Edit Diagram Shape Info Share Comments

Page-1 50% Give Feedback to Microsoft

The new environment is fully integrated into internal FDOT network sites and provides an opportunity for other districts to gain insight into District Four Traffic Operations. The environment also supports a behind-the-scenes approach to document sharing and downloading.

For instance, the District Four TSM&O program transitioned to tracking standard operating procedure (SOP) updates with the assistance of the new SharePoint environment. Instead of using an outdated paper-trail process with Word® documents, District Four's TSM&O SOP documents are now updated in a "live-instance" wiki feature on SharePoint. The wiki feature is designed for groups of people to quickly collaborate and share ideas by creating simple pages and linking them together. This tool proved to be ideal for updating living documents like SOPs and business plans.

District Four TSM&O's efforts to give the Traffic Operations SharePoint site a much-needed overhaul proved to be successful and a great template for interagency collaboration and coordination.

For more information on the new Traffic Operations SharePoint environment, please contact Nicole Forest by email at nicole.forest@dot.state.fl.us.

CONTACTS

DISTRICT 1

Mark Mathes, DTOE
Alex Adames (Interim)
FDOT District 1 Traffic Operations
801 N. Broadway Avenue
Bartow, FL 33830
(863) 519-2490

DISTRICT 2

Jim Hannigan, DTOE
Peter Vega
FDOT District 2 Traffic Operations
2198 Edison Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32204
(904) 360-5630

DISTRICT 3

Kimberly Toole, DTOE (Interim)
Amy DiRusso
FDOT District 3 Traffic Operations
1074 Highway 90 East
Chipley, FL 32428-0607
(850) 638-0250

DISTRICT 4

Mark Plass, DTOE
Alexandra Lopez
FDOT District 4 Traffic Operations
2300 W. Commercial Blvd.
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309
(954) 777-4350

DISTRICT 5

Jim Stroz, DTOE
Jeremy Dilmore
FDOT District 5 Traffic Operations
719 S. Woodland Blvd., MS 3-562
DeLand, FL 32720-6834
(386) 943-5310

DISTRICT 6

Omar Meitin, DTOE
Javier Rodriguez
FDOT District 6 Traffic Operations
1000 NW 111th Avenue, MS 6203
Miami, FL 33172
(305) 470-5312

DISTRICT 7

Ron Chin, DTOE
Megan Arasteh
FDOT District 7 Traffic Operations
11201 N. McKinley Dr.
Tampa, FL 33612
(813) 615-8600

FLORIDA'S TURNPIKE ENTERPRISE

John Easterling, DTOE
Eric Gordin
Florida's Turnpike Enterprise
PO Box 9828
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33310-9828
(954) 975-4855

CENTRAL OFFICE

Trey Tillander, Director
Traffic Engineering and Operations Office
(850) 410-5419

Fred Heery
State TSM&O Program Engineer
(850) 410-5606

Raj Ponnaluri
Connected Vehicles, Arterial Management,
Managed Lanes
(850) 410-5616

Jeff Frost
State TIM/CVO Program Manager
(850) 410-5607

Derek Vollmer
Traffic Engineering Research Lab Manager
(850) 921-7361

Alan El-Urfali
State Traffic Services Program Engineer
(850) 410-5416

