

TSM&O DISSEMINATOR

TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS

May - June 2022



FDOT Central Office Announces New SunGuide® Software Enhancements

**Traffic Engineering and Operations Office
Educates FDOT Daughters and Sons**

District Six Unveils New TSM&O Video

District Four Adds an Online RTMC Virtual Tour



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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 Deborah Fiesler
(deborah.fiesler@dot.state.fl.us)
with your story subject and title.

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

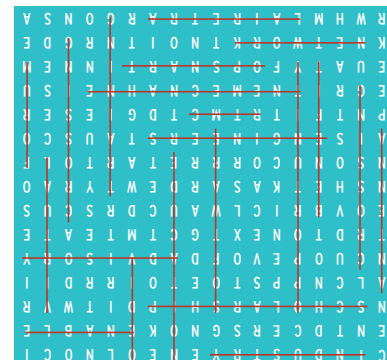
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The TSM&O Software Team collaborates while testing the latest SunGuide Software enhancements.

FDOT Central Office Announces New SunGuide® Software Enhancements

By Christine Shafik, PE, State TSM&O Software Engineer, FDOT and Carla W. Holmes, Gresham Smith

Since the last major release of SunGuide® Software, Version Release 8.1 in November of 2021, FDOT Central Office included new features and functionality to SunGuide to meet the needs of SunGuide Software users throughout the year without having to wait for annual major releases. Some of the new featured enhancements are:

- » **Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) Module.** It includes various enhancements that will make it more efficient for operators to manage RISC events, and for managers to review the timelines of these time-sensitive incident management activities.
- » **Searching historical SunGuide Software event reports using law enforcement case numbers and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) numbers.** Since RTMCs receive some event notifications directly from law enforcement CAD systems, this new search parameter will make it easier to locate event records.
- » **Allowing temporary approval of a word on a Dynamic Message Sign that is not on the Approved Words List.** This feature will make it more efficient for operators to use license plates in messaging, saving valuable time on time-critical tasks such as posting AMBER Alert messages.
- » **Ability to assign an active event to another user.** This feature will benefit RTMC operations by allowing supervisors and managers to better balance the workload among operations personnel as they manage multiple events.
- » **The introduction of a generic Wrong Way Driver (WWD) Alert Application Programming Interface (API) will enable a simpler process to integrate devices from different WWD vendors into SunGuide Software.**
- » **Enhancements to the Connected Vehicle Subsystem have been made to comply with national standards in how presentation regions are defined.** New message libraries for Traveler Advisory Messages have also been added. These are among the first enhancements planned for SunGuide Software to support FDOT's growing Connected Vehicle program.

To learn more about SunGuide® Software, visit <http://www.sunguidesoftware.com/>.

For questions, additional information, or suggestions for enhancements to SunGuide® Software, please contact Christine Shafik by e-mail at Christine.Shafik@dot.state.fl.us.



Traffic Engineering and Operations Office Educates FDOT Daughters and Sons

By Shawn Kinney, TSM&O Road Ranger Program Manager, FDOT, and Joshua Beizer, Atkins

*The FDOT Central Office hosted an annual **Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day** at the Hayden Burns Building, giving employees' children an opportunity to spend their day learning about the different offices that make up the Department. This year, over 60 children between third and eighth grade rotated from section to section and learned about Traffic Engineering and Operations (TEO), Construction, Safety, Trac-n-Rides, and Modal Development Transit.*

The TEO office had a large group of volunteers who made time to share their areas of expertise. The Traffic Incident Management office supplied a Road Ranger, the Traffic Engineering and Research Lab displayed a variety of signs and signals, and the Transportation Systems Management & Operations office brought an ITS Trailer and discussed networking components.

Traffic Incident Management (TIM)

Road Ranger Program Manager Shawn Kinney started the section off by introducing Charles Howard (D2 Road Ranger) who was kind enough to volunteer his day to discuss the many services Road Rangers provide to the public around the state. The children got to guess what equipment Road Rangers had on their trucks before getting a cabinet by cabinet tour of all the tools and supplies that the Road Rangers carried with them and how each was used. Mr. Howard finished the tour of his truck with stories of different incidents he has worked on in the past including which incidents were the most common, the most difficult, and how to get in contact with a Road Ranger if the need ever arose.

For more information on Road Rangers, please contact Shawn Kinney by email at Shawn.Kinney@dot.state.fl.us.

Traffic Engineering and Research Lab (TERL)

Traffic Devices Certification Coordinator Will Geitz discussed traffic safety by showing a traffic signal, a wrong way driving sign, and two different types of pedestrian crossing sign systems. Mr. Geitz explained the importance of not only following the signs when crossing the street, but to also ensure traffic has stopped in both directions. The children also learned about the different ways these devices are made to allow disabled pedestrians to travel safely.

Traffic Engineering and Operations Office Educates FDOT Daughters and Sons, continued from page 4

For more information on the TERL, please contact Derek Vollmer by email at Derek.Vollmer@dot.state.fl.us.

Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O)

The session ended with Communications General Consultant Joshua Beizer discussing TSM&O topics including fiber and microwave communications, microwave towers, and the support provided by the ITS Trailer during hurricane season. The children played a game of "Telephone" to demonstrate the differences between microwave communications and fiber. For this game, the children lined up and whispered a secret word from the front of the line to the back of the line to pretend they were fiber and then spaced out to explain microwave. Lots of questions were asked about microwave towers, mostly centered around how big they are and how big the different antennas are. Finally, hurricane preparations and response were discussed, and the children got to learn about the ITS Trailer and what it is used for.

For more information about TSM&O, please contact Fred Heery by email at Fred.Heery@dot.state.fl.us.

Special Thanks

The TEO office would like to thank Savannah Sams for helping coordinate not only the TEO's portion of this year's **Take Your Daughters and Sons to Work Day**, but also for helping the FDOT Central Office plan the entire event.



Volunteers pictured from left to right: Joshua Beizer (Atkins), Ron Meyer (Atkins), William Geitz (FDOT), Savannah Sams (FDOT), Deborah Fiesler (HNTB), Charles Howard (Road Ranger), and Shawn Kinney (FDOT). Not pictured Matthew DeWitt (FDOT), James Landini (FDOT), Marie Tucker (FDOT), and Lisa Wetzel (HNTB).

For more information, please contact Savannah Sams at or by email at Savannah.Sams@dot.state.fl.us.



ITS FLORIDA SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARD

DEADLINE AUGUST 22, 2022

By Sandy Beck and Russell Allen, ITS Florida

Now Accepting Applications

The ITS Florida scholarship and award programs are now accepting applications for award in 2022 at our annual meeting.

These cash scholarships are awarded to deserving applicants enabling them to take advantage of the opportunities that can be achieved through education, training, and certification programs.

The **ITS Florida Anne Brewer Academic Scholarships** are available to two groups: full-time undergraduate or Masters' students and graduate (Ph.D.) students (at the time of the Scholarship Awards). Students from any accredited Florida University or College are eligible. Principal course work shall include a major in a field directly related to transportation, ITS systems, transportation engineering, or a related field subject to the Awards Committee's approval. The number of scholarship awards may fluctuate depending on available funding and qualifying students.

For the requirements and documentation needed, visit: https://fs16.formsite.com/ITSFlorida/Scholarship_Academic_com/index.html

The **Erika Birosak Training and Certification Scholarship** is available to public and private sector nominees in which their respective organizations are members of ITS Florida. The scholarship assists those seeking to advance their skill set through additional training and certification courses to better serve their organizations and the ITS industry in Florida. This scholarship amount is up to \$1,000 reimbursement for successfully completing approved coursework within one year.

For the documentation needed, visit: https://fs16.formsite.com/ITSFlorida/Train_Cert_Scholarship/index.html

Front Line of the Year Award

The **Front Line of The Year award** recognizes the top front-line staff in their respective field. These individuals are role models within the industry. They contribute to the transportation network operating in a safe and efficient manner for the traveling public. The three awards categories include:

- Road Ranger of the Year
- ITS Field Technician of the Year
- TMC Operator/Supervisor* of the Year (* Excludes Managers)

Public and private sector candidates are eligible for nomination. The ITSFL Board will select and award a winner in each category.

For the requirements and documentation needed, visit: [Front Line Awards 2 \(formsite.com\)](https://fs16.formsite.com/ITSFlorida/Train_Cert_Scholarship/index.html)

ITS Florida Scholarships/Award, continued
from page 6

ITS Florida Awards

The ITS Florida Awards are presented to leaders in ITS. The Award categories include:

- ITS Florida Member of the Year Award
- ITS Professional of the Year Award
- ITS Florida President's Award
- ITS Champion Award
- Certificate of Outstanding Achievement
- Honor Roll

Recommendations for ITS Florida awards must include sufficient information to enable the Awards Subcommittee to assess the proposal.

For the requirements and documentation needed, visit: https://fs16.formsite.com/ITSFlorida/Awards_complete/index.html

Anyone interested in information about the ITS Florida scholarship or Award program and sponsorship opportunities may contact Sandy Beck at ITSFlorida@ITSFlorida.org. Sponsorships are also available at <http://itsflorida.org/sponsorship/>. ITS Florida members participate in national industry events.

Your membership in ITS Florida provides the unique opportunity for networking and engaging in and around the ITS community on both a statewide and nationwide level. Membership includes access to industry training and conferences, professional development courses, technology forums and other exciting opportunities. Our organization is constantly evolving to address the changing needs of our members.

Become involved in advancing the ITS industry in your region. 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

C I N D U S T R Y E N E O L N O C I
E N T D C E R S G N O K E N A B L E
N S C H O L A R S H I P D I T W V R
A L C N P P S T O E T O I R R D I I
N C U O P E V O F D A D V I S O R Y
T R D T O N E X T G C T M T E A T E
E O V B R I C L W A U C D R S C U S
N S H E T K A S A R D E W T Y R A O
N S O N U C O R R R E T A R T O L F
A I S E N G I N E E R S T A U S C O
P N T F I T R T M C T D G I E S E R
E G R I T N E M E C N A H N E I S U
E U A T Y F O P S N A R T I N N E M
K N E T W O R K T N O I T N R G D E
R W H M L A I R E T R A R G O N S A

SCHOLARSHIP
EDUCATION
OPPORTUNITY
ENGINEERS
SOFTWARE
ENHANCEMENT
ADVISORY
VIDEO
TRAINING
BENEFIT

ENABLE
VIRTUAL
TRANSPO
FORUM
INDUSTRY
NETWORK
CROSSING
ANTENNA
RTMC
ARTERIAL



Val and Les
could see a fork
in the road, but
they weren't
expecting a dip



MANAGING TRAFFIC IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA

The Transportation Systems Management and Operations Program Florida Department of Transportation, District Six

District Six Unveils New TSM&O Video

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

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District Six Office is happy to announce the release of its new video for the Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSM&O) program.

The six-minute video was updated in 2022 to reflect the program's current-day operations. It was designed to explain the complex nature of TSM&O strategies in a way that is easy to understand and follow by the public. It explains the interconnection of our traffic services and how they work together to improve roadway safety and reduce congestion. The video is especially timely as the program is expanding to manage more multimodal projects that impact larger sections of the transportation system such as managed lanes, connected vehicles, traffic signals, and others.

The video showcases the innovative strategies that make up the TSM&O program. It provides the public with a behind-the-scenes look at the District's SunGuide Transportation Management Center (TMC) which serves as the regional traffic information hub for Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties in southeast Florida. It connects the dots between the technology, the program's operations, and the services that are delivered to the motoring public every day. The video shows how roadside devices continuously gather information such as traffic volume and speeds which are transmitted back to the SunGuide TMC over a fiber-optic and wireless communication system covering over 200 miles in both counties. Advanced traffic management system (ATMS) software is used to analyze that data and allows operators to monitor the roadways 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Operators use the ATMS to actively manage the District's roadway system by detecting incidents, posting traveler information on dynamic message signs, and providing other critical traffic services on a daily basis.

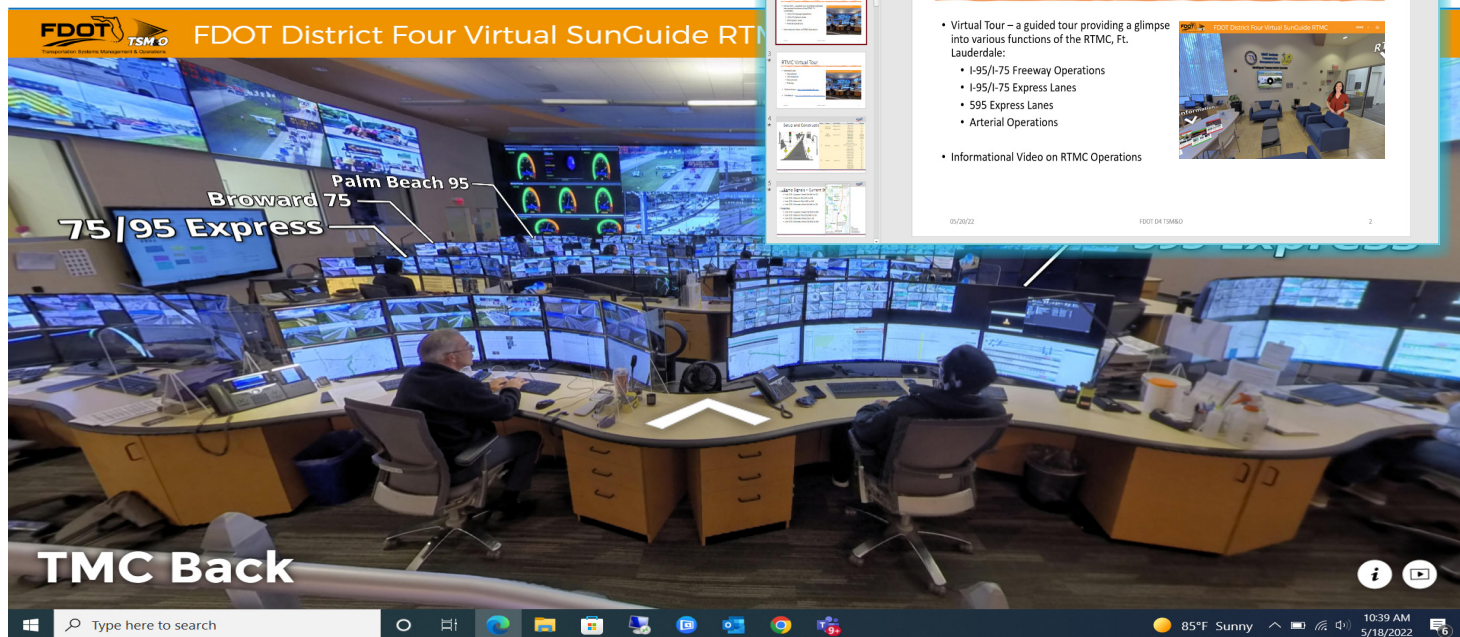
Public education is an important tool in the TSM&O toolbox. It empowers motorists to make decisions about their travel plans and to stay informed about the projects affecting their travel. This video was created to increase the public's understanding about the need for TSM&O strategies and the cost-effective benefits they provide our communities every day. To check out the video, please click [here](#).

For more information, please contact Javier Rodriguez at Javier.Rodriguez2@dot.state.fl.us.

District Four Adds an Online RTMC Virtual Tour

By Alexandra Lopez, PE, PTOE, TSM&O Program Engineer, FDOT District Four

In continuation of the TSM&O outreach efforts, FDOT District Four recently introduced a first of its kind virtual tour of the Regional Transportation Management Center (RTMC) to its website. The RTMC located in Ft. Lauderdale, used to conduct regular tours of the facility to inform elected officials, transportation professionals, students, and others about various functions of the RTMC and the intended goals of the TSM&O program. Then COVID-19 happened and RTMC tours were put on hold. The TSM&O leadership, therefore decided to develop a Virtual Tour of the RTMC so that the outreach efforts will continue.



The Virtual Tour of the RTMC offers the viewers with the same level of experience as the in-person guided tour of the facility. Online visitors will be welcomed by a virtual host in the lobby of the RTMC, who then will provide a walk-through tour with brief explanation of the various functions of the RTMC, such as I-95, I-75, Express Lanes Operations, 595 Reversible Express Lanes, Arterial Operations, etc. Additionally, a three-minute video on the lobby monitor will offer extra insights into various other services offered by District Four, including Traffic Incident Management (TIM), Road Rangers (RR), Severe Incident Response Vehicle (SIRV), and Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) programs.

District Four intends to use this virtual tour for many purposes including educational, informational, recruitment, training and more. As new functions are incorporated into the RTMC with advanced traffic management strategies, the Virtual Tour will be updated accordingly. Please be sure to check-out the virtual tour by clicking the button "RTMC Virtual Tour" at <https://www.fdotd4traffic.com> and provide your feedback under "Contact Us" section of the website.

For more information, please contact Alexandra Lopez at Alexandra.Lopez@dot.state.fl.us.

Save the Date!

Transpo
2022

WHAT: Transpo 2022

WHEN: Sunday, July 17, 2022, 8:00 AM - Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 5:00 PM

WHERE: Bonita Springs, Florida

REGISTER TODAY!!! <https://cvent.me/KWrrBl>

By Sandy Beck and Russell Allen, ITS Florida

Transpo2022 will be held from July 17th to the 20th at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Coconut Point hotel in Bonita Springs, Florida. This conference will be the largest gathering of transportation professionals in the state this year, and you don't want to miss it.

Transpo2022 will start Sunday afternoon with training being provided by the FDOT. This four-hour session will provide the latest on state-of-the-art intersection design and connected vehicle technologies. Sunday evening will offer a reception where you can mingle with old friends (won't that be fun after two years) and meet new ones.

Monday and Tuesday will provide a mix of plenary and technical sessions that will present the latest ideas on what is happening in the state, and in the nation. Sessions will include representatives from ITS America and ITE International, as well as the Secretary of the FDOT. There will also be a large Exhibit Hall filled with all the newest traffic and ITS technologies.

On the social side of things, Monday night we will take a trip to TopGolf and Tuesday evening will feature a banquet with awards and key speaker, FDOT District One Secretary LK Nandam.

Finally, Wednesday morning will provide training from ITS America on Systems Engineering or you can play golf at Spanish Wells. This is a great course and will be a lot of fun.

Sound like something you'd be interested in? Of course, it does. Go to ITSFlorida.com or <https://cvent.me/KWrrBl> and register now. You'll be sorry if you miss this event.

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