



CAUTION
2013
JUST AHEAD



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT 2 ITS ENGINEER

Well, the Holidays are over and hopefully everyone has survived. You'll know I did if you've received this Newsletter however I can't promise that my brain is in a full functioning mode as of yet. Okay, you've heard it over the past few months but can I just say "holy crap Batman!" December used to be a time for ITS staff to reflect on the accomplishments over the past year. A little file management, office cleaning and prep work for the next calendar year were the major tasks scheduled prior to the Holiday weekend. Not any more folks! Thank god for Caffeine, Chocolate and Vitamins!

Things got pretty hot and heavy right after the Thanksgiving weekend. We'd just wrapped up selecting the Architect for the new Jacksonville RTMC, then "boom," the selection process for the CM@Risk firm began. I can honestly say that the Department of Management Services (DMS) construction division keeps things moving at a pretty rapid pace. I can't wait to put this project in overdrive but need to realize that in order to keep up with the DMS folks I'd better stock up on more Espresso.

This project has become critical to the overall success of the ITS and Incident Management program in the Jacksonville area since two years from now we should be starting operations for the Express Lanes and State Toll Road 23. Likewise, the Transportation System Management and Operations (TSM&O) program should be picking up steam and support for the Gainesville TMC should be at its maturity. Add the completion of all the Interstate ITS deployments in the area and we should have our hands full by December 2014.

Speaking of the Toll Road and Express Lanes projects, can I just say that this has been a very enlightening experience for me? I've had to

change my way of thinking about an ITS deployment because I am dealing with two systems within one project. The ITS portion is simple (I can do that in my sleep) however trying to incorporate Turnpike features and concepts puts a little twist into the process. Oftentimes I've been called "frugal" and go out of my way to incorporate cost saving measures into a project. This became difficult when I tried to determine placement of infrastructure and ITS devices since Turnpike has some different criteria. It was like getting my teeth pulled when I had to bite the bullet to get the interconnection of systems done since these decisions increased the cost of the deployment. "All's Good" though and I'm now comfortable with the decisions I've made.

The TSM&O effort is steadily moving forward with the development of several concepts by Central Office. We should have some solid documentation to go over in the coming months with a goal of having something ready for the Executive Committee to review this coming summer. If we can pull this off it will be a tremendous change in the way we do business at the TMC. Along with that will be some performance measures that will need to be tracked and addressed in order to find ways to move more traffic through existing corridors. As I told my staff "Heads Will Roll!" if we do not meet the desired performance two years from now (Just kidding). This type of performance measurement is long overdue and should lead us to optimizing the performance of our existing infrastructure. The bonus will be that once we generate daily measures of the corridors we can hone down on specific roadways that may need some capacity improvements or modifications. Over the past several years I'd been harping to the State's ITS Change Management Board that our SunGuide software needed to incorporate



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT 2 ITS ENGINEER CONTINUED

Traffic Signal software information into the equation. It's always been one thing to alert motorists when incidents impact the movement of traffic on Interstates but we often see that this leads to a severe impact to arterial roadway systems. The main issue is that motorists get the message, jump onto the arterials and the traffic signal system can't handle the unexpected demand. Likewise, local agencies have ITS devices like BlueToad, CCTV cameras and arterial dynamic message signs that go underutilized. By combining this information from both software packages into one we will be able to improve the productivity and performance of the TMC operators. A brief scenario would be that the TMC operator generates an event management plan due to an incident on the Interstate. They then overlay the arterial roadway information onto their map to determine the impacts. From this information the TMC Supervisor can determine if an alternate timing plan is needed on the arterial roadway to handle the increased demand. Sounds simple, huh? NOT!

I am happy to announce that after several years of bringing this issue up we now have a potential solution. The State's SunGuide software developer, Southwest Research Institute (SwRI), wanted to improve the capabilities of our software. That being said they used internal funds to begin the process of trying to incorporate a Traffic Signal software package into SunGuide. Basically, it would be an optional overlay map that allowed the operator to incorporate Traffic Signal software information into the SunGuide software when needed.

The biggest hurdle was that the Traffic Signal software vendors did not want to share proprietary information. All that SwRI sought was an interface between systems, however the

vendors felt this may impact future sales. Fortunately, we were able to convince one vendor to participate in this "proof of concept" and hope to roll out the beta version of this upgrade in late spring. The benefits are enormous because it will allow local agencies to adopt SunGuide to manage their ITS devices while also providing the capabilities of a Traffic Signal software package that permits them to monitor their signal performance. The Operators will benefit the most because they will now have one workstation and three monitors to deal with instead of the current two work stations and six monitors.

On a final note I want to wish everyone a safe, prosperous and healthy 2013. I am certain these past few months have presented challenges to all from a personal perspective. It seemed that once the 2012 Elections came winding down it was a daily onslaught of negativity and bad news. The Newtown incident brought this all into perspective that we need to appreciate every moment and person in our life since there are never any real guarantees. The media did not do us any favors by creating a slight panic with the Mayan Calendar "end of days" news reports. Now that you've received this newsletter you know "THE MAYANS WERE WRONG!" (or actually the "experts" were actually not).

Have a HAPPY 2013!!!

Pete Vega
District 2 ITS Engineer



NORTH FLORIDA TPO

No major changes or news from last month's newsletter. We are just clicking along at a steady pace with NFTPO project meetings scheduled throughout the month of January. We will address some needs for the Bridge Wind Sensors, begin integrating the latest arterial deployments and plan out the interconnection of existing fiber networks that will provide a much needed redundancy. We have a few more construction projects to address then the focus will be solely on the RTMC and future operations of the facility in the coming years.

One exciting item to note is that the Nassau County BlueToad deployment is up and running. We will now be able to determine the impacts that their bedroom communities have on the Jacksonville roadway system. We'll be able to determine travel times, traffic speeds and origin/destination information for motorists coming from the Fernandina Beach area. This will be some valuable information to our Planning folks as that area continues to grow and will help us determine what improvements may be necessary along I-95 or US 17. Our next planned deployment is State Road 21. This data will also provide critical information on the impacts that south Clay and Middleburg motorists have on the roadway network.

I want to finish by mentioning something I learned through conversations with Transportation Industry experts throughout the country. Many of you may not realize that north Florida is now the Benchmark for others when determining how to manage transportation in their area. The North Florida TPO has put us on the map in Florida as well as throughout the United States. Of course, this could not have been accomplished without everyone's

participation in the North Florida ITS Coalition; however it was the NFTPO that made it happen! As an example, I recently received a call from the Executive Director of the New Jersey Turnpike. He wanted to know how we partnered to do the things we've done so far. He was impressed with the fact that a local MPO/TPO spearheaded the effort and got consensus from many of its members. At the end of the discussion he made sure to tell me that North Florida was the "boiler plate" for their desired transportation program in the future. He finished by saying his was not the only agency keeping a keen eye on what we are doing and it's often the topic of conversation amongst many of the partners he deals with in the New England area.

I want to extend a sincere thank you to "Jeff, Denise, Marci, Wanda, Elizabeth, Milton, Bettie, Ginny, and Angela." (Staff at the NFTPO).

Pete Vega
District 2 ITS Engineer





CONSTRUCTION

The contractor for the Phase 7 Project on the I-295 East Beltway, starting at Atlantic Boulevard and going North to the I-95 Interchange, has continued installing CCTV and MVDS poles and has started mounting cabinets and devices. The specialty sub-contractor for the project has also been installing bridge mounted conduit on several of the bridges throughout the corridor. The bridge mounted conduit will soon begin being installed on the Dames Point Bridge on the northbound side of I-295. The installation of the conduit on the Dames Point Bridge is expected to take more than a month due to the length of the bridge and the fact that the Contractor is limited to nighttime work due to lane closure restrictions. Completion of this project is anticipated in the Summer of 2013.

The Phase 8 Project, on the I-295 West Beltway from I-10 to the I-95 North Interchange, is progressing well. The Contractor has completed installation of all of the structures, devices and power services and is almost finished installing all of the fiber optic cable drops to the sites. The DMS stand-alone testing has been completed and the CCTV sites will be stand-alone tested within the next few weeks. This project is anticipated to be completed in early 2013 and will complete the installation of ITS along the I-295 Western Beltway.

The contract award for the Phase 9 Project, on SR 9A from Atlantic Blvd going south to the southern SR 9A/I-95 Interchange, is currently awaiting a ruling on a protest. Resolution of the protest is anticipated within the next few months.

The Phillips Highway (US 1) Project, on US1 from Greenland Road going north to Wishart Road, is nearing completion. This project will be the first in Jacksonville to install an ITS System on a corridor parallel to I-95. This project will

allow TMC personnel to monitor traffic on Philips Highway and be able to alert motorists of issues on both US 1 and I-95. TMC personnel will also have the ability to monitor traffic on both corridors during incidents, construction and special events and be able to suggest that motorists use the other corridor when traffic congestion occurs. There are currently some issues with the communications Network, which need to be resolved before final testing can be completed. Completion of the project is anticipated in January 2013.

The Arterial Dynamic Message Sign (ADMS) Project is installing ADMS on several of the major local roadways around the southern portion of Jacksonville along I-95. ADMS are being installed in key locations, where motorists will be able to obtain information for the key arterial roadways as well as traffic conditions on I-95. The contractor is currently installing conduit to run power to the sites and has been installing power service poles and assemblies as well. This project is scheduled to be completed by summer of 2013.

The Airport Road contract, which will install fiber optic cable along Airport Road to connect the FDOT District 2 ITS Network with the Jacksonville International Airport, has been executed and contract time will begin on February 1, 2013. This project will allow Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA) and FDOT District 2 to share data and videos. This will provide the capability to provide travelers with 511 information and videos at the baggage claim, provide motorists with parking information for airport facilities, and many other future projects.

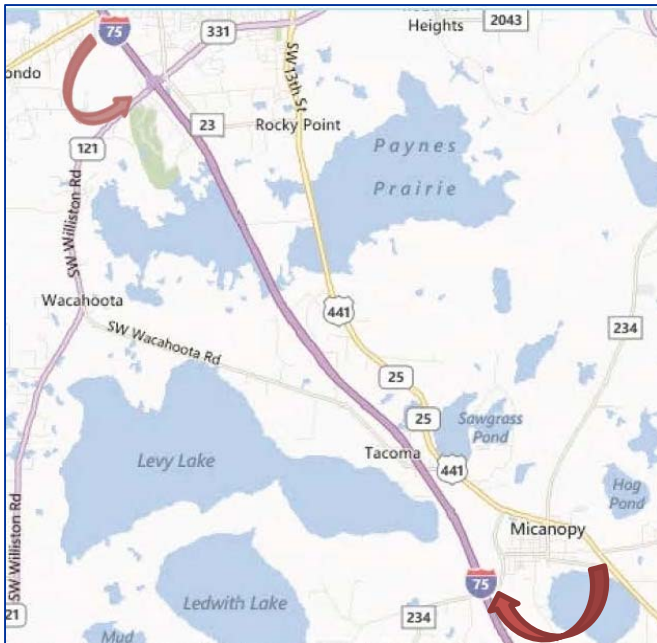
The final Jacksonville area project, which has been awarded, is a project to install additional



CONSTRUCTION continued

ITS devices and upgrade older devices within the I-10/I-95 Interchange. The contract was executed this month and contract time is anticipated to begin in April 2013.

Last but not least, an update to the I-75 ITS Project in Gainesville. The Engineer of Record has submitted 60% design plans for the installation of ITS devices and fiber optic cable from County Road 234 in Micanopy, going north to SR 121 (Williston Road). This project is anticipated to be completed in 2014.



I-75 ITS Project Boundaries

John Kell
District 2 ITS Construction Project Manager

MAINTENANCE

As a result of the efforts of the ITS Maintenance Group to replace the devices that were more than 5 years old throughout the System and testing and upgrading the grounding system on all of the project phases, all device types on the System were over 99% available at all times last month. This is a major accomplishment, as the System has well over 250 devices, each depending on several communications and electrical devices to function properly. When you think in those terms, 99% availability is outstanding. What this means to the motoring public, is real-time, accurate traffic information.

The ITS Maintenance Contractor continued to do their Preventive Maintenance rounds this month, removing weeds/insects from the cabinets, changing out air filters, cleaning the cabinets, and doing all of the little things that keep big problems from occurring. Along with the Preventive Maintenance duties, they have had to troubleshoot several devices. One of the troubleshooting issues for the month involved intermittent issues with the vehicle detector between Butler Boulevard and Baymeadows Road. Due to the intermittent nature of the issue, crews visited the site several times before being able to deduce that the problem is with the communications cable from the device to the cabinet. The Contractor has ordered a new cable and the repair will be completed once the cable has been received.

The October Newsletter included a summary of the work the ITS Maintenance Contractor had performed during the month to install fiber optic cable along Emerson Street and Philips Highway to make a connection to the Gainesville Public Works facility via a 3rd party vendor. This connection will enable the District Two ITS Network to be connected, via another communications provider, to the City of



MAINTENANCE continued

Gainesville's Traffic/ITS Network. Currently, District Two ITS and City of Gainesville Traffic share information using a Virtual Private Network (VPN) connection, which is low bandwidth and therefore cannot share much data at any given time and the connection is very slow. With the new fiber optic connection, each agency will be able to share data and videos back and forth with high bandwidth capabilities at the speed of light. By creating this link, District Two TMC personnel will be able to monitor the City of Gainesville's signals and devices even when City of Gainesville personnel are not in their Operations Center monitoring the System. This will also allow District Two personnel to have monitoring and control of the existing CCTV cameras on I-75, as well as the ITS devices, which will be installed in the next two years under a project which is currently in the 60% design phase.

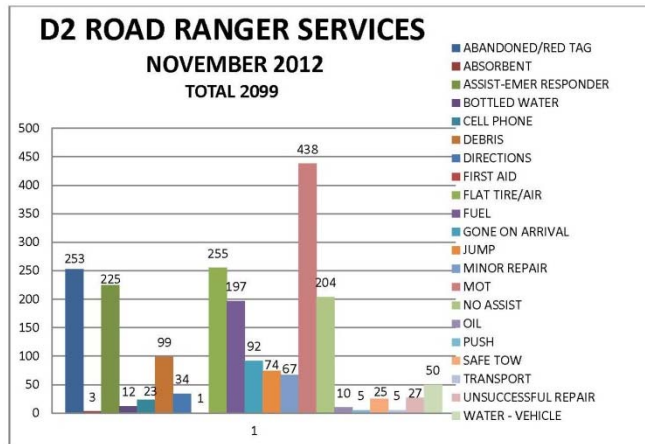
Kevin Jackson
ITS Field Specialist

ROAD RANGER UPDATE

With the holiday traffic, our Road Rangers remain busy assisting stranded motorists and law enforcement at incident scenes and are proving to be a valuable "tool" in our traffic incident management. In the month of November the Road Rangers performed 2099 assists which helped with the management of traffic. Christmas shoppers are especially grateful for the Road Rangers.

In order to keep safety at the forefront with the duties performed, the Road Ranger Operators and staff meet each month to have a safety meeting. At these meetings incidents during the past month are debriefed as a learning tool for the Rangers. Since we had a couple incidents

where the Road Ranger vehicles and a Road Ranger Operator were injured, much time was spent on reviewing scene safety and maintenance of traffic. Safety issues are addressed monthly.



RISC – Rapid Incident Scene Clearance – Update

We have did not have a RISC event in November but our RISC contractors remain ready for action.

ALACHUA TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE

The Alachua/Bradford Traffic Incident Management Team met on December 12th at the FDOT Operations Office, 5301 NE 39th Avenue, Gainesville, FL. The following agencies were represented: Metric Engineering, FDOT ITS Department, Alachua County Police Department, University Towing, City of Gainesville Traffic Center, FDOT Maintenance, Alachua Forestry Department, FDEP Emergency Response, FDOT Traffic Operations, Gainesville Police Department, Atkins Engineering, and FHP.



ALACHUA TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE cont.

Incident debriefing was done by team members and ideas for growth were shared. Business card size “HazMat - When in Doubt” cards were given to team members to share with their agencies. The next Alachua/Bradford Traffic Incident Management Team Meeting will be on February 13, 2013, at the Gainesville Traffic Center at 10:00 AM.



FIRST COAST TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE

The First Coast Traffic Incident Management Team held its bi-monthly meeting (originally scheduled on November 20th), on December 10, 2012. Due to conflicts with the holidays, we rescheduled the meeting to a time more convenient for most members.

A report was given by Timothy Heath of KCCS, working with Eisman and Russo explaining the Overland Bridge Project, explaining the work schedule. Diana Rivas presented the Performance Measures report tracking incident during the previous 2 months and the team members discussed the issues.

Greg Gaylord with Southern Wrecker Service gave a presentation on the “Wall of the Fallen” which recognizes and remembers towers that are killed while working an incident scene. Special mention was given to Southern Wrecker Service’s tow truck driver, Terry McCart.



District 2 TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM MISSION:

The Florida Department of Transportation District Two’s Traffic Incident Management Teams through partnering efforts strive to continuously reduce incident scene clearance times to deter congestion and improve safety. The Teams’ objective is to exceed the Open Roads Policy thus ensuring mobility, economic prosperity, and quality of life.

District 2 TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM VISION:

Through cooperation, communication and training the Teams intend to reduce incident scene clearance times by 10% each year through 2015.

Donna Danson
District 2 ITS Program Manager

NOW AVAILABLE –
TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM
WEBSITE: <http://jax511.com/D2TIMwp/>



PERFORMANCE MEASURES

With Thanksgiving week passing by and the holiday shopping season upon us, the excitement of children and adults fills the air with joy and enthusiasm. The week of Thanksgiving reported only 532 events in SunGuide, which is much lower than the average of 782 weekly events. Coinciding with the decrease in events, there were 30 percent fewer crashes and 40 percent less congestion events than the usual average for the year. This is likely attributed to people wanting to spend quality time with their families and friends, as well as schools and the majority of offices being closed Thursday and Friday of the same week.

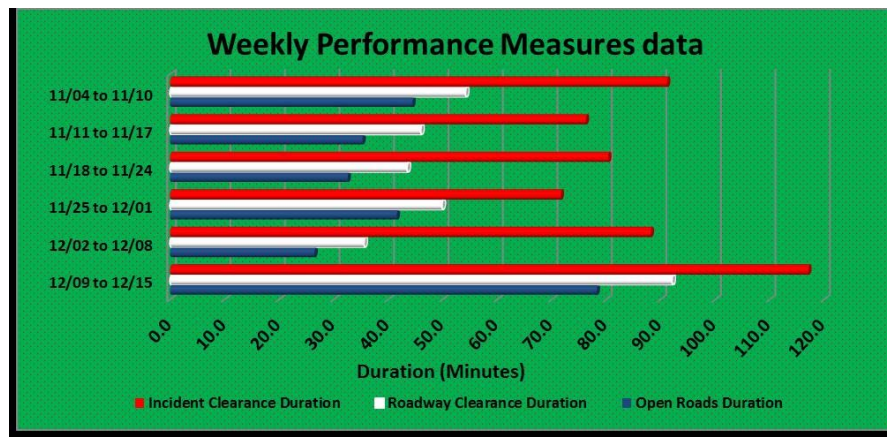
The open roads, incident, and roadway clearance durations according to the performance measures were also lower than the average for the year, and when compared to 2011 Thanksgiving week durations it shows quite an improvement. It could be that as time goes by people are becoming more familiar with the "Move Over Law" by quickly clearing the roads when incidents occur to alleviate traffic congestion.

Christmas is around the corner, and hopefully all, if not most of us, took advantage of the great sales offered on Black Friday, and if you did not

get a chance to do so there is still some time left, but be careful out there and please wear your seat belt.

Speaking of wearing a seatbelt, on the chart below we can observe that on the second week of December the highest clearance and open road durations for the past few weeks are shown. On the morning of December 10 on I-295 south bound north of the San Jose Blvd exit, an injury accident involving an overturned SUV occurred. According to FHP, two of the four people inside the car were ejected from the vehicle because they were not wearing their seatbelts. Twenty minutes after the incident, a secondary incident occurred, involving an ice cream truck attempting to avoid striking another vehicle flipped on its side. All travel lanes were blocked for about an hour and the total open roads duration was about 244 minutes. This event clearly affected the performance measures for the week and when compared to the annual weekly average, it shows a 77 percent increase in duration times. I can safely state that the severity of the crash and the open roads duration could have been diminished by obeying simple laws, such as wearing a SEATBELT!

Diana Rivas
Metric Engineering





OPERATIONS

The End of Year Holiday Season is upon us! Schools are out on break, temperatures are dropping, people are off from work and spirits are high. Spirits are high unless you try to make your way through Regency Mall on a Friday night looking for some make-up your wife HAS to have for Christmas, then you are just grumpy (I am not too proud to admit I was that grumpy person).

Navigating your way through District 2 during this time period is difficult. Gone (or reduced) are most of the recurring congestion spots you have grown to love (or hate) each morning and afternoon. Arriving with Santa's sleigh are crashes from pre-occupied motorists rushing to find the best deal, back-ups for people trying to take the exit to the forever expanding St John's Town Center, drinking and driving arrests pre-occupying Law Enforcement and young adults having more free time to drive 70mph down Atlantic Blvd. Is it me or does it seem like kids have fewer school days now than when I attended? You know those days, walked to school uphill through snow both ways (yes, I grew up in Connecticut where we have snow and reversible mountains).

So what does all of this mean? For students it means time away from school and more time for family and friends. Adults have to figure out what to do with their kids now at home, do I need to take off of work? Get a sitter? TRUST THEM ALONE!?! Decisions...decisions. For people who work in Traffic Incident Management it is one of our busy seasons. While total events worked by the Traffic Management Center are reduced, the severity and impact on traffic of the events that do occur are more severe.

For comparison sake we will review two periods from last year: The Holiday Season we will

consider as 12/15/11-1/2/12 and the Non-Holiday Season as 1/15/12-2/2/12. The Holiday Season had 1,586 events worked by the TMC. Of these, 162 of them were congestion events, 287 crashes and 237 events with road blockage. The Non-Holiday Season had 1,915 events of which 288 were congestion, 298 crashes and 268 lane blocking events.

During the Holiday Season Crashes made up 18 percent of the TMC's events compared to the Non-Holiday Season where crashes only make up 15 percent. Further supporting evidence shows congestion jumps from 10 percent during the Holiday Season up to 15 percent during the Non-Holiday Season. In short, traffic volumes are down during the Holiday Season while the amount of crashes holds steady increasing the severity due to higher speeds.

With that in mind, this Holiday Season, please remember to put safety first. Use all of your 511 tools to make you an informed motorist which will make you a safer motorist. Check FL511.com before you depart, use personalized services to set up notifications to be pushed to you for your routes via text, email or a system call back, use the 511 Apple App for mobile use (not while you are moving!) and report an incident to expedite responder arrival and increase safety at the event site. Be safe and remember:

Know **Before** You Go! Happy Holidays.

Ryan Crist
TMC Manager



MARKETING

Out with the old calendar, in with the new. But before tossing it to the curb, we flipped back through the pages and fondly recalled a year filled with events and appearances - one that marked new challenges as well as exciting opportunities. But before we look ahead to 2013, we wanted to highlight some of our favorite memories from the past twelve months.

Twenty-seven. That's the number of events our team attended – our hard working, dedicated staff members who powered through the elements, battling extreme heat and humidity one weekend, only to find themselves face to face with gale force winds and cold temps the next. Or in one case, on the SAME weekend – back to back days. On Saturday, March 3rd we attended the Putnam County Azalea Festival. The weather was sunny, pleasant and mild. We watched kids toss around our 511 beach balls like they were prepping for a day at the beach. We packed up our stuff, went home and returned the following day... to FREEZING temperatures! Decked out in jackets and gloves, our crew huddled for warmth inside the 511 tent. There were no beach balls that day, (Sunday, March 4th) but our 511 coffee mugs sure were a big hit!

Then on Saturday, May 19th in Gainesville, Florida, we were treated to “front row seats” as the Shands helicopter dropped in for the City of Gainesville’s annual “Touch a Truck” event. Moments before it landed, we were instructed to remove all items from our table and secure our tents. (even something as small as an ink pen could become a projectile missile in the turbulent wash of those rotor blades) As soon as everyone heard the familiar *whump-whump* in the distance, we dropped what we were doing and braced for impact. And what a sight it was! There’s nothing like standing a few yards away

from such a powerful machine and watching it “drop” expertly into place, not an inch off the mark!

Over the course of the past year we’ve talked to 8,935 people at 27 events, and sent emails to 4,831. And we even had time to squeeze in one more visit to the I-95 Florida Welcome Center where we talked to another 105 motorists before the calendar year came to a close. What an incredible year this has been! We look forward to all that 2013 has to offer.



It is always a pleasure to visit our Friends/Partners at the I-95 Welcome Center

Whatever you do this holiday season (and in the New Year), make sure your trip begins with a call to 511. You can also log onto www.FL511.com or download our free 511 Traffic App. It’s available for use with iPhone, iPad or iPod devices. Simply go to the iTunes store and search “Florida 511.” As always, we welcome your comments, thoughts and suggestions.

Know before you go and keep moving!

Sherri Byrd
Marketing Manager



FEATURE SPOTLIGHT

When Sam Middleton isn't busy carting his four kids around to Boy Scouts and 4H meetings, he's hard at work as the newest Signal Systems Engineer for FDOT's Western District. Currently in his second month on the job, Sam comes to us with a wealth of experience... and a sense of humor to boot!

Talk about your upbringing – where were you born / raised?

Born in Michigan, lived in a town called Romeo for several years, moved to Port Richey, Florida in 1976 (same year the Buccaneers started playing football) I thought they were the comic relief of the NFL.

Early Career and/or brief job history:

First job was a teller with Barnett Bank, then started with WW Gay mechanical contractors in 1994, Eng, Denman & Associates in 1995, Alachua County Public Works in 1999, Earth Tech in 2006 (acquired by AECOM in 2008) and FDOT in 2012.

Do you have any funny stories relating to your career? Such as a foot-in-mouth moment or a bad day at the office story?

At my first job as a teller, I was assigned to one of the "legacy" Barnett Bank branches. About a mile down the road was another branch which had been acquired during their purchase of Home Federal in the late '80s. They were the Bayonet Square branch, and we were Bayonet Point. One Thursday, I had just finished balancing when I saw six Pasco County Sheriff units fly into our parking lot, no lights, and the deputies get out, guns drawn. Looked like a movie script. None of the other tellers or staff had noticed. I looked at my head teller and said

"Carol, did someone hit the panic button by mistake?" She looked puzzled and said "No, why?" I just pointed to the door as the deputies came in telling us to stand still. When they realized there was no reason to be there, the sergeant asked, "Isn't this Bayonet Square Branch?" About that time, our fax machine started buzzing and the robbery sheet came through saying that Bayonet Square was closed due to a robbery. I looked at the Sgt and said, "You need to go to the old Home Fed branch." They took off and nailed the robbery suspects as they were trying to get away heading past our branch. Fairly exciting for an otherwise slow day.

What's the best advice anyone's ever given you?

"Congratulations on being a PE, you can now be sued for anything you say, do or think."

Do you have a favorite quote?

"Failure is not an option" – Gene Krantz, NASA Flight Director Mercury, Gemini and Apollo programs.



Sam Middleton, one of the newest members of the FDOT District 2 Family

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FEATURE SPOTLIGHT

How about something that inspires you?

I wouldn't say it's an inspiration per se, but a primary motivator for me is to see a project to a successful completion, especially when it is a complex project with many non related challenges. Finding ways through, around or over the obstacle is the most fun part of any project.

Any job related awards or special recognition you've received?

No, I like flying just under the radar. Let someone else take the glory, the fun part is knowing you did the job right.

Describe a 'defining moment' in your career or personal life.

Each phase of your life has "defining" moments. I really don't have one which sticks out above the others. If pressed, it would have to be the birth of my first son, Joshua. Denise and I had anticipated his birth, done the classes and everything like that. However, once he was laying in the warmer screaming his head off, it really hit home that life had changed (for the good) forever. Never was so scared in my entire life.

Best job ever / worst job ever... or both?

Hard question to answer, every job has its good points and bad points. I am blessed to say I have enjoyed each job I have had. The toughest job was WW Gay as we were placing all the chiller, waste and supply pipe on a large dormitory project at UF, and that winter was VERY cold. The most fun? They all had fun parts, the most fun, so far, would have to be Alachua County as it was the most diverse. One day you are working on a design project, the

next reviewing site plans, then preparing a presentation for the Board of County Commissioners.

Tell us a little about your family.

I've been married since 1994 to Denise. We have four children; Joshua (13), Caleb (10), Joyce (8), Noah (4). Joshua is a Star rank Boy Scout and Caleb is a Webelos 1. Joyce just joined American Heritage Girls. The three oldest are in 4H and are quite active learning wood working and gardening. Denise and I are area coordinators for Operation Christmas Child in the Alachua, Bradford, Union and Putnam County area.

Do you have any hobbies?

Scouts, working on cars, model rocketry, wood working.

Favorite vacation spot?

Hawaii.



Sam Middleton's recurring nightmare



ITS Calendar of Upcoming Events

**FIRST COAST TIM TEAM 2013
FDOT URBAN OFFICE TRAINING CENTER –
2198 EDISON AVENUE- JACKSONVILLE
904-360-5400**

- JANUARY 15, 2013
- MARCH 19, 2013
- MAY 21, 2013
- JULY 16, 2013
- SEPTEMBER 17, 2013
- NOVEMBER 19, 2013

**ALACHUA/BRADFORD TIM TEAM 2013
FDOT GAINESVILLE OPERATIONS OFFICE –
5301 N.E. 39TH AVE- GAINESVILLE
352-381-4300**

- FEBRUARY 13, 2013
- APRIL 10, 2013
- JUNE 12, 2013
- AUGUST 14, 2013
- OCTOBER 9, 2013
- DECEMBER 11, 2013



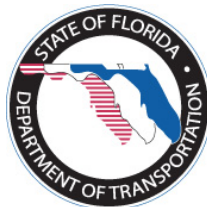
www.fl511.com

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