

THE 2019 HURRICANE SEASON BEGINS JUNE 1ST.

Forecast Parameter	CSU Forecast	1981-2010 Average
Named Storms (NS)	13	12.1
Named Storm Days (NSD)	50	59.4
Hurricanes (H)	5	6.4
Hurricane Days (HD)	16	24.2
Major Hurricanes (MH)	2	2.7
Major Hurricane Days (MHD)	4	6.2
Accumulated Cyclone Energy (ACE)	80	106
Net Tropical Cyclone Activity (NTC)	90	116

(CSU-Colorado State University)

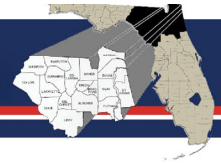


2019 ATLANTIC STORM NAMES

ANDREA
BARRY
CHANTAL
DORIAN
ERIN
FERNAND
GABRIELLE

HUMBERTO
IMELDA
JERRY
KAREN
LORENZO
MELISSA
NESTOR

OLGA
PABLO
REBEKAH
SEBASTIEN
TANYA
VAN
WENDY



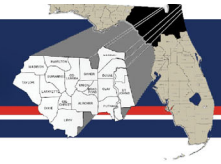
**NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS (TSM&O)
PROGRAM MANAGER**

I'd be remiss if I did not begin by giving a "shout out" to my esteemed colleague, Dr. Charles "Charlie" Wallace. His knowledge and expertise is of great value to the ITS community and fortunately for me, he lives nearby in Gainesville. Our beloved Charlie is one of the main reasons the Department's ITS program is such a huge success. He was one of the founding members of ITS Florida, an organization that the Department heavily leaned upon during the early years of the ITS program. Charlie participated in all aspects of the effort; from Traffic Incident Management teams, to device specifications, to operational strategies. If there was a question that needed answering, we could always count on Charlie to lend an ear and advice to the young bucks in the program.

Earlier this calendar year, District Two construction gave final acceptance to the ITS contractor for the I-75 deployment, from Gainesville to the Georgia State Line. Once "the keys were handed over" it was time to play with a new set of toys. The Dynamic Message Signs (DMS) along this corridor were full matrix and color, so there were many more tools in our toolbox. Once the travel time data was calibrated, we began posting this information 24/7 on these DMS. Fortunately, since it was in his territory Dr. Wallace noticed that some improvements could be made, so he gave me some much needed advice. His concern was that the DMS seemed too wordy and there could be a better way to convey the messages. Our team took his recommendation to heart and reduced all the messages significantly by using the capability of roadway shields that were available with these new color DMS.

Once we switched to using the roadway shields, compliments came pouring in from all directions. Who would have thought that something so simple would mean so much to the motorist? Well, Dr. Charlie Wallace did!!! He has always been one of the biggest supporters of the ITS program and is willing to share some cagey advice when necessary. I am hoping that as the expansion of the Connected Vehicle deployment occurs in Gainesville, Charlie will be willing to lend a helping hand on what is the best use of this technology. I recall about fourteen years ago when we first spoke about Connected Vehicles at an ITS Florida conference and Dr. Wallace shared his wisdom on having patience. We've been patient enough and the time has come to deliver, hopefully with some assistance from my friend.

From April 15th to the 19th, it was Telecommunications Appreciation week at the RTMC. This is the time we show our gratitude to those hard-working Duty Officers, RTMC Operations personnel and all their supervisors. This year, it was somewhat special in that we had a new team join us in celebrating the week. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) now has two dispatchers located on the RTMC floor. I am pretty sure they are amazed by the camaraderie and group effort our team displays during major roadway events. Topping it all off with lasting relationships and food just takes us over the top. I am sure these guys are telling the JSO Dispatchers in their downtown facility just how great it is to work in such a friendly and helpful environment!



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS (TSM&O)
PROGRAM MANAGER continued

I often forget the key role this group plays in making our roadways safer. Whether it's a minor roadway incident or a bridge that's been struck, I always get mesmerized by the communication and cooperation on the floor. At times, I forget "who's who" as the roles are intermeshed to respond to an incident. Case in point was a motorist fleeing the Georgia Highway Patrol along I-10 a few weeks ago. As the Duty Officers coordinated with the Troopers in the field, the Department's RTMC staff kept a close eye on the vehicle using the CCTV cameras along I-10. This teamwork was vital catching the motorist as he drove the wrong way on the Interstate while going eastbound in the westbound lanes.

I give this motorist credit in that he tried to allude the officers that were chasing him by getting off and on the Interstate, using the interchanges as a method to try and lose him. Unbeknownst to him, the RTMC operators tracked him from one CCTV camera to the next. In one last ditch effort, the motorist tried to evade capture by getting off at County Road 228, entering the Walmart parking lot and jumping out of the car for the next phase of the chase, a foot race. Unfortunately, he did not realize we had a well-placed CCTV camera at the interchange that captured his movement through the parking lot.

Due to the group's effort, the pursuing Law Enforcement Officers caught him inside of Walmart, where he was arrested for what my guess would be some serious charges. As the chase ended, I could not hold back the smile in seeing that we have achieved the desired goal in this multi-agency RTMC. It was a true testament to collaboration, coordination and

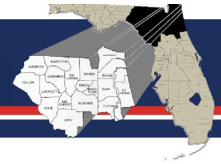
communication as each member of the RTMC team played a key role in the capture of what I consider a true felon. Heck, even the JSO Dispatchers got a rise out of the excitement and now have a story to share with their colleagues downtown!

**Pete Vega, District 2
TSM&O Manager**

NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT 2 ITS
OPERATIONS MANAGER

I was travelling down to Miami this past weekend and noticed the Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) signs on the Interstate. I tuned into the station out of curiosity and got travel information. I know Florida has radio towers but what I was unaware of was that we were still transmitting travel information. Since the advent of the smartphones, it is easy to forget about one of the original forms of disseminating information to motorists. I could not find any data on how many people actually tune in but while I was seeking information I found that many states still transmit data on the radio for travel information.

I think the big push to keep these systems operational is for catastrophic events or Rural locations. Radio towers are incredibly resilient and reliable. Florida spends most of the year in Hurricane Season. These radio towers hold up better than cellular towers. We all rely on our phones for information but when the cellular towers are not operational



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT 2 ITS OPERATIONS MANAGER continued

the government needs to find the most efficient ways to communicate to each other and to the public. The radio towers can provide that critical information. Additionally, in other states with varying terrain, it may be difficult to install a Dynamic Message Board on the road. Cellular Service can also be spotty in locations near mountains and hills.

The HAR system seems to be losing traction in the country with every state's version of 511 growing. Some states have begun to dismantle their systems while others still use it pretty regularly but for now the Florida HAR is still being utilized, so the next time you see a sign, tune in, you may get some useful travel information.

**Alejandro Varela, P.E.
FDOT D2
ITS Operations Manager**

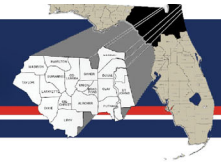
NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT 2 ITS PROJECT MANAGER

This past week, the Department got a thank-you letter from a motorist who received assistance from one of our Road Rangers while stranded on the Buckman Bridge. This motorist and his wife were traveling from their home in West Hempstead, NY, to Sarasota. Unfortunately, their vehicle had the misfortune of getting a flat tire while driving across the bridge. Needless to say, they were very frightened being disabled on the right shoulder of this bridge. As they started to call the AAA auto club for assistance, the motorist stated that almost immediately a Road Ranger arrived to provide assistance, setting out cones to safeguard the area prior to approaching their car.

Once the Road Ranger reached their vehicle he started the conversation by trying to calm them down, telling them "not to worry, a Safe Tow was on the way to get them off the bridge." Once the vehicle was towed off the bridge to a parking lot, this Road Ranger proceeded to change the tire with their spare. After learning that their journey was to Sarasota, this Road Ranger provided direction to some tire shops down the road on San Jose Boulevard. Apparently, we can chalk this one up as a success because this motorist took the time to write a four paragraph thank-you note to commend this Road Ranger for his valiant assistance.

This is a feel-good story that provides a partial understanding on the role of the Road Ranger program. Their number one priority is to assist with temporary MOT during lane blockage, with the goal of moving the disabled vehicles to a safe location on the shoulder of the road. Their next most important priority is removing vehicles from unsafe conditions by using the Safe Tow feature in our program. This is a preventive measure taken by our program so that small issues along the roadway do not become a major incident due to unsafe conditions. The steps taken to help this motorist are not an unusual event but a normal daily occurrence along our District's roadway system.

The program expanded over the past year to include roadways outside the Jacksonville area. We now have coverage in St. Johns and Nassau County on I-95, I-10 west of Duval County to the Jefferson County line and the entire length of I-75. There are a total of 16 Road Ranger routes along these corridors as well as future coverage for the



NOTES FROM THE DISTRICT 2 ITS PROJECT MANAGER continued

First Coast Expressway and Express Lanes. The expansion has doubled the size of the program and increased activities for the RTMC Operators coordinating a response. In Alachua County alone, the Road Rangers have participated in over 8,800 activities since last August.

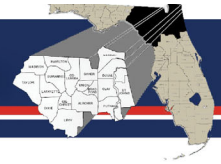
The success of the Road Rangers is inherent to the success of the District Two ITS program. These men and women are what we consider “our boots on the ground” for incident response. They risk their health and well-being each day when they take the wheel for their shift. District Two prides itself on the program’s safety efforts and has been very fortunate not to have any Road Ranger fatalities over the past 18 years. This job is

one of the most dangerous in the transportation industry due to their being exposed to roadway traffic on a continuing basis. Other Districts have had to deal with the loss of a Road Ranger due to an accident and it’s a hard pill to swallow when the news is shared.

The motorist that was assisted on the Buckman Bridge may have considered the effort in terms of heroic proportions, however they do not realize that this is the norm that makes the District Two roadways one of the safest in Florida. Each of these Road Rangers realize the importance of their job and huge responsibility undertaken to assist motorists. Number one is their own well-being, however a close number two is the well-being of disabled motorists. So, if you pass by a Road Ranger along the road providing assistance, say a quiet prayer that their day ends safely. These are the true heroes of the ITS program.

**Dee Dee Crews
Project Manager
District 2 ITS Operations**





NORTH FLORIDA TPO

This past April 11th, the NFTPO hosted a JAXTAB event at the Jacksonville Jaguars TIAA Bank Field auto terrace suite. The intent of these JAXTAB events is to have interaction between multiple disciplines while trying to attract the technical gurus out of the woodwork to help solve our pressing needs. I heard there were over 200 attendees at this event, however from my vantage point it seemed like much more. While walking around the terrace suite, I could only imagine the cumulative IQ of the attendees. Yes, I was intimidated by the wealth of intelligence surrounding me, but I held my own as I tried to absorb this experience.

The entire NFTPO staff did a fantastic job coordinating this event and provided some great speakers from the Jaguars organization to share information on their use of technology. We learned things like their tracking of the number of hotdogs sold, the biometrics taken of players during practice and the statistics taken behind the scenes that determine the value of a player to the organization. The last presentation unveiled Shad Kahn's development plan adjacent to the stadium. The plan is to build a boutique hotel, apartments, shops and a LIVE entertainment facility in one of the parking lots and along the waterway.

The best part of the evening was the opportunity for me to interact with individuals not associated with the Transportation industry. There were some SMART people in attendance that were very welcoming to discuss the type of information desired at these JAXTAB events. Unfortunately, I did not get to speak to a group of "techies" I'd targeted earlier that evening. My goal was to see if I could find another Jason Summerfield among that group who could make our program even stronger. By the time I got the nerve to ridicule myself the presentations had started and the focus needed to be towards the folks on the stage.

My hope is that the success of this event will attract even more attendees to future JAXTAB gatherings. My gut feeling is that we will need these folks in the future to truly utilize all the capabilities that Connected Vehicles can provide.

**Pete Vega, District 2
TSM&O Manager**

ITS MAINTENANCE

This has been another busy quarter for our group. We have had many accomplishments as well as many unforeseen issues to deal with. I will be outlining a few in this article but before I discuss these items, I want to say that these accomplishments would not have been possible without the cooperative effort of the entire team. This includes the RTMC staff, GEC Staff, Network staff and vendors.

The first item is the Paynes Prairie water level sensor. Metric designed the site, the operations staff will be monitoring it, the vendor assisted with configuration and the contractor installed it. This site will be used to monitor the water level of the prairie to notify us of potential flooding of US 441. The site was installed with operability and serviceability in mind, as well as aesthetics. These water level sites are compact, use satellite communications and solar power and are easy to use and maintain.

ITS MAINTENANCE continued



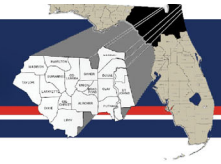
Above: Paynes Prairie Water Level Sensor



Another item that we addressed this quarter was the ability to sync our CyberLock Keys in multiple locations. Previously everyone had to come to the RTMC to sync their keys once a month. Now we have added a site at the I-10 and I-75 Master HUB building for convenience of the contractors and CEI staff as well as our own staff. Having this second site should increase productivity as the need to make the trip to Jacksonville from the western part of the District will no longer be necessary. Our Maintenance Contractor, TCD, has installed it not only in an accessible manner but also with security in mind. No cabling is easily accessible, and the location is easy to get to. See below and at right

There were also several accidents this quarter that damaged our devices and infrastructure. One in particular was disturbing for us as we were not notified but rather Jeff Virtuoso with TCD found it while checking devices from the morning device list. After pulling the report there was no insurance information and little information describing the accident in the report other than a pickup versus pole. The vehicle did approximately \$30,000.00 worth of damage that we have to pay for through our contract budget. Issues like this make it difficult to get other items taken care of throughout the year, because they tie up our funding and our resources. One item of note is that since we were not notified of the incident, the pole remained in the clear zone where another car could have hit it, possibly resulting in injuries and a lawsuit against the department. As you can see from the pictures on the following page, a concrete pole is no match for a pickup truck.





ITS MAINTENANCE continued



As you can see, our department is as diverse as they come in handling whatever is thrown at us and we hit each issue head on and get them taken care of through a team effort. ITS Maintenance would also like to take a moment to welcome Kathaleen Crisler to ITS/TSM&O and we look forward to working with her.

Matt Harbert
ITS Maintenance Manager

ITS CONSTRUCTION

As Spring settles in some major projects are in close out mode while others are just getting started. Our efforts with ITS are split all over the District as assistance is needed and our team is ready for action. It seems we are making headway with the Projects and Contractors on ensuring the Department gets the end product that was bid on and plans developed for. It can feel like a battle but when all sides are communicating things seem to get done. Now,

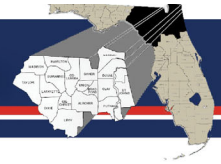
being involved from the very early stages of a Project and a living document of “things to look for” the Projects just getting off the ground are in good shape!

The I-10 ITS Project from Jacksonville into District 3 is in full swing. A crew is working east to west installing, configuring and testing the detectors along the interstate. CCTVs have already been established from Jacksonville to I-75 and west of there should happen around the new year. CCTV images from Jax to I-75 are now being displayed on FL511.com. Coordination has been in the works to assist the District 3 TPAS Project at the Jefferson County Rest Area to get things on line and back to the Chipley RTMC. This Project has time remaining pushing into 2020.

I-95 in Nassau County had their Final Acceptance walk through on everything sans the Pecan Park location and the grounding pull boxes. The Pecan Park location will have a platform installed and has some items still to be worked out. The Contractor is busy installing grounding pull boxes to allow access for maintenance moving forward. Pending changes on the platform, Final Acceptance can occur in May.

SR-23 South had their Final Acceptance walk through in early April and once the Contractor wraps up comments on the drainage system and closes out permits Final Acceptance will be completed. Look for some time in May for that to happen.

SR-23 North looks to have their Final Acceptance walk through in May and close out soon after as well. The Contractor is currently working on punch-list items ranging from grounding to safety rails to swapping out SPDs. Final Acceptance should happen soon



ITS CONSTRUCTION continued

after and the static tolling will commence. Look for updates from the FDOT PIO crew on dates relating to Project Completion and Tolling. Just as those two projects wrap up the next two phases will begin on SR-23 south of Blanding Blvd. We have many months of clearing and grubbing before we have to get worried about roadway items.

The Overland Project was the big winner this period reaching Final Acceptance on April 19th. This \$165M Project started back in 2012 and recently wrapped up their ITS work, the NBCD trench drain, lighting and signalization punch-list items. Driving through that area you will now see travel times on those DMS including some arterial travel times. FDOT TEST MESSAGE no more!



The I-295 west beltway Express Lanes are moving towards an opening of the dynamic tolling Express Lanes. Just like SR-23, keep up with the FDOT PIO Team to know when tolling will begin. On April 25th, we performed a 50+ car test of the Express Lanes to make sure the MVDS are calibrated correctly. The Dynamic Pricing algorithm relies on the MVDS for speed, volume and occupancy to calculate traffic density. Changes in the traffic density will lead to changes in the access price to those

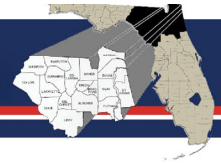
Express Lanes. That part of the Project has to be accurate to ensure proper pricing and congestion management occurs. FDOT had a huge backing of support to complete this task and assist the Contractor.



*Above: Express Lane testing at the RTMC
Below: Vehicles staged to begin roadway testing of the MVDS*



The I-295 East Beltway Express Lanes has really ramped up the ITS work and have Fall 2019 in their sights for Final Acceptance. They performed a critical fiber backbone cutover in March and have fiber drops and



ITS CONSTRUCTION continued

CCTV installation on the horizon for upcoming work. This Project is really starting to take shape as toll gantries are set in place.

The District 2 TPAS Project is underway and working in various areas. Plans are being RFC'd and work has started in numerous locations. The work in Nassau County is on hold while the Nassau Project wraps up but the other counties are in motion. St. Johns County has bore and trench work in progress with access to pull boxes. Alachua County is in the trenching and bore phase as well. Columbia County is wrapping up and Hamilton County will soon begin. Once I-95 and I-75 are complete the Contractor will move onto I-10. TPAS is a truck parking system that will disseminate information related to the availability of truck spaces at rest areas, welcome centers and weight stations on I-95, I-75, I-10 and I-4 around Florida.

The warranty period for the I-75 Project and the US-90/ SR-23 Project has wrapped up. Maintenance has been officially handed over to the Department's ITS Device Maintenance Contractor. There were several items each project was able to assist with on resolving before maintainability shifted hands. The 90-day warranty period is critical to help resolve possible issues that haven't popped up yet at acceptance or ironing out items.

As you can see, ITS Construction is booming and that is not even all of the projects. We have a slab replacement on I-95 at the south end of Jacksonville that started up in April, another rest area project along I-10, two Diverging Diamond Interchange Projects on SR-200 at I-95 and on San Pablo and SR-202. New plans are being reviewed in ERC and more Projects are on their

way. It is an exciting time in ITS and we look forward to what Secretary Thibault has envisioned now that he has had a few months to settle in. Remember to Know Before you Go, Use 511.

**Ryan Crist
Atkins Global**

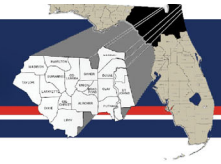
ROAD RANGER UPDATE

Our District 2 Road Ranger trucks are now all fully equipped with the State Farm wrap/logo and I must say that the trucks have been more visible on the roadways, especially at nighttime. We have been getting quite a few compliments on how the trucks stand apart from the rest of the motoring traffic and provide a sense of calm when approaching vehicles in need of assistance.

Our expansion into the Gainesville area has also been garnering positive feedback as we have increased the number of motorists that we are able to assist. Whether it be assisting with a flat tire, providing MOT, providing gas or clearing debris events, our Road Rangers play a critical role in incident management.

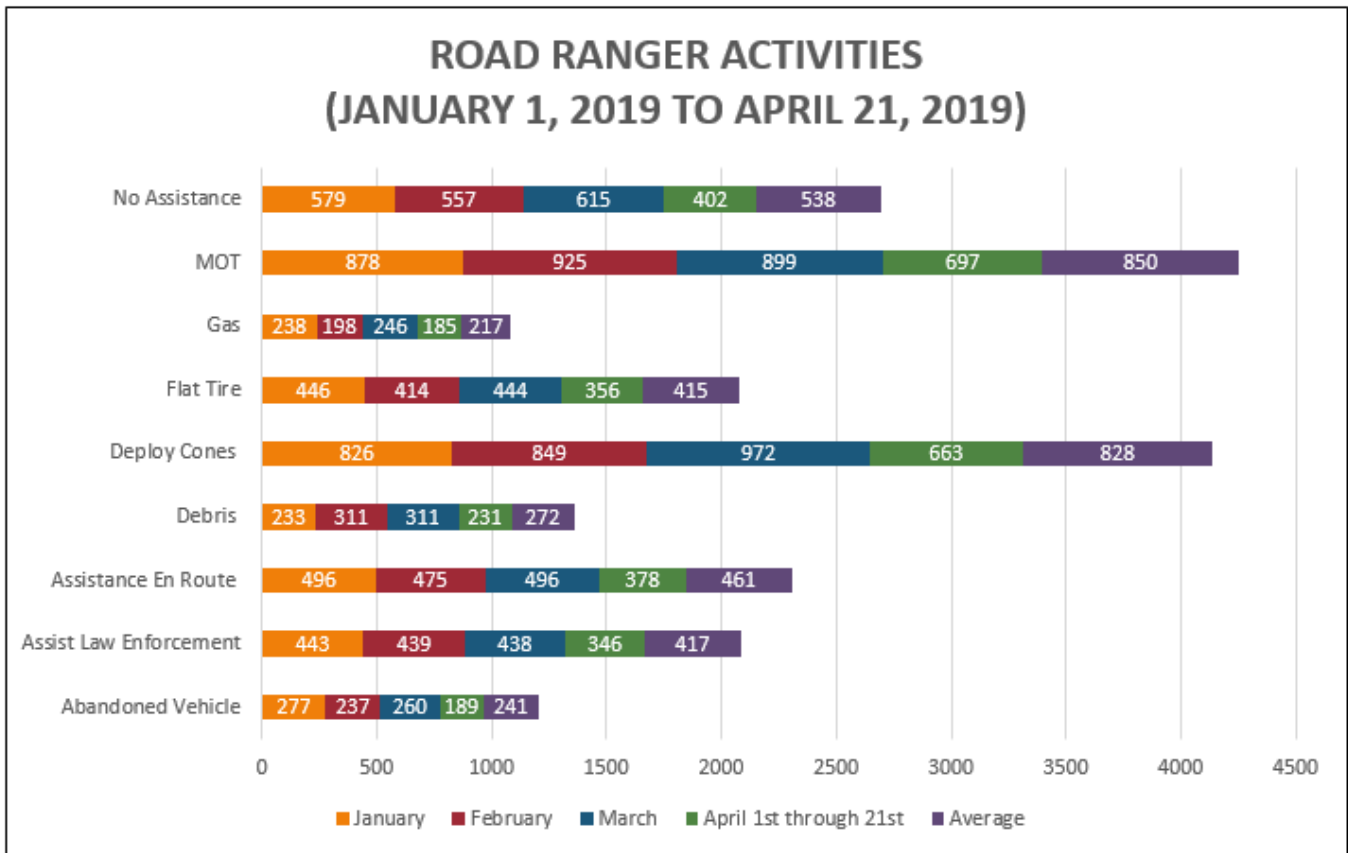
As District 2 is gearing up for the Express Lanes to open, we have added an additional Road Ranger solely to take on the responsibilities that come with the additional lanes and to cover the needs of any stranded motorists. It will be exciting to evaluate that data in the future.

Our Road Ranger Service Patrol has assisted with over 11,184 events and approximately 23,169 services within the past several months.

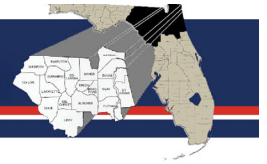


ROAD RANGER UPDATE continued

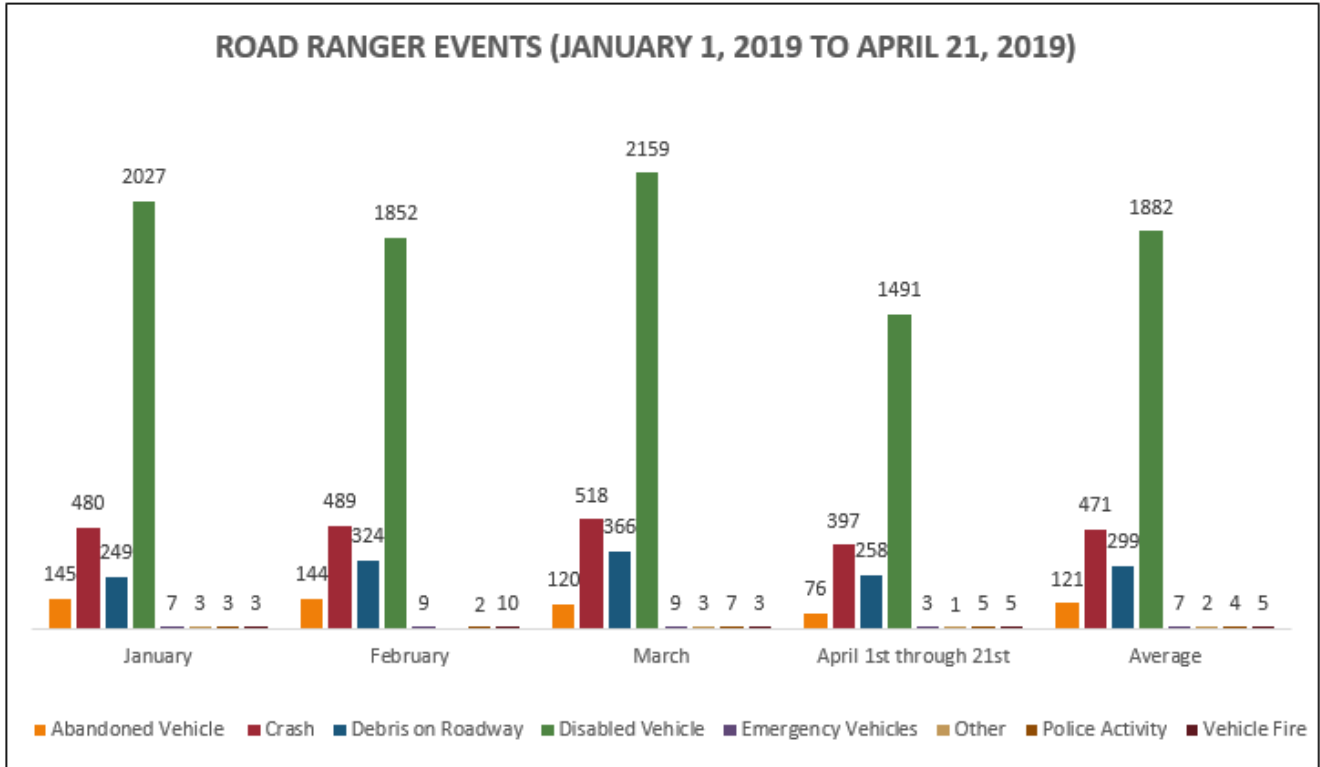
(January 18, 2019 through April 21, 2019). Some of their most important activities include providing MOT and assisting Law Enforcement, removing debris out of the roadways for traveling motorists, assisting with basic maintenance such as changing flat tires, providing air for tires and gas for stranded motorists as shown below.



The charts on the following page show all event types that the Road Rangers have responded to from January 18, 2019 through April 21, 2019. As we can see the Road Rangers primarily responded to crashes (17%), disabled vehicles (67%) and debris events (11%).



ROAD RANGER UPDATE continued

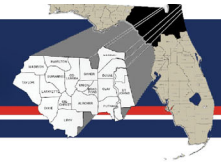


**Dee Dee Crews
District 2 ITS Operations
Project Manager**

RISC – RAPID INCIDENT SCENE CLEARANCE - UPDATE

The Rapid Incident Scene Clearance (RISC) program supports Florida’s Open Roads Policy by establishing a 90-minute goal for the clearance of motor vehicle incidents on Florida’s roadways. RISC is an essential program which helps secure and restore interstates for public use and is a critical component of Florida’s Traffic Incident Management strategy.

Over the past few months, District 2 has utilized RISC six times (1 in Duval County, 1 in Alachua County, 1 in St. Johns County and 3 in Baker County). This program is extremely valuable and essential to roadway clearance times especially during peak travel time periods. On the following page you will find a list of all the RISC events we have had here in District 2 from January 18, 2019 to April 21, 2019.



RISC – RAPID INCIDENT SCENE CLEARANCE - UPDATE continued

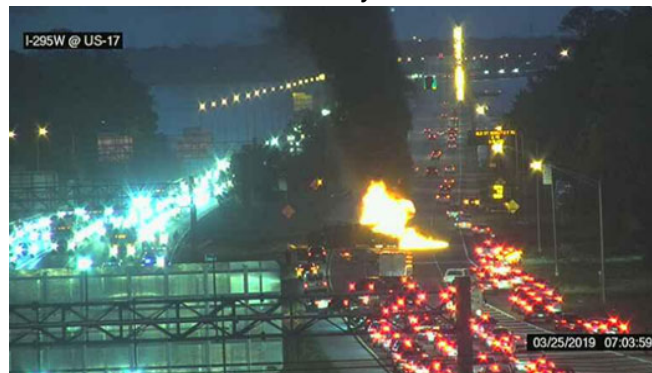
Table 1: RISC Events in District 2 from January 18, 2019 to April 21, 2019

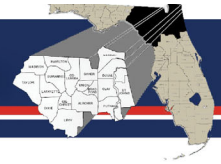
Date	Time	Location	Description
03/01/2019	10:43:00 PM	Alachua on I-75 Northbound, At MM 402	Semi vs Camper that blocked the right lane and shoulder. The semi was filled with produce and overturned. Heavy debris on roadway.
03/25/2019	7:04:00 AM	Duval on I-295 W Southbound, Before US-17/Buckman Bridge	Semi vs 3 cars that blocked all SB lanes and the left NB lane. The semi overturned and caught fire along with one of the passenger vehicles.
04/03/2019	6:53:00 PM	Baker on I-10 Westbound, At CR-125	All WB lanes blocked due to an overturned semi.
04/06/2019	10:21:00 PM	Baker on I-10 Eastbound, Beyond Nassau County	Semi vs Semi. One of the semis was a USPS truck and mail was exposed on the roadway.
04/09/2019	4:53:00 PM	St. Johns on I-95 Northbound, Before MM 304	2 Semis, 2 cars and a truck blocking all NB lanes
04/18/2019	2:39:00 AM	Baker on I-10 Eastbound, At MM 330	Overturned semi on I-10.

Below: Crash- I95 NB at mile marker 304
Photo courtesy of News4Jax



Below: Crash- I295-W SB before Buckman Bridge
Photo courtesy of WOKV





FIRST COAST TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE

The First Coast Traffic Incident Management Team meeting was held on **March 19, 2019**, at the Regional Transportation Management Center (RTMC) – 980 N Jefferson St., Jacksonville, Florida at 10:00 A.M.

Mrs. Dee Dee Crews kicked off the meeting by welcoming everyone and approving the meeting minutes from January 2019. The TEAM then moved on to the Overland Bridge Project and I-10/I-95 Project updates provided by Mr. Bill Kays. Bill mentioned that there was a drainage concern on the Overland Bridge Project which will result in several weeks of work to correct. He also stated that that work is currently being performed on the ramp in the Stockton area. An overhead structure on I-10 before Roosevelt Boulevard which spans both eastbound and westbound needs to be removed due to issues with the structure foundation and will be corrected.

Mr. Hampton Ray relayed some Construction Project Updates to the group since he was not in attendance. See below:

- Express Lanes and the First Coast Expressway are still expected to open in Spring 2019.
- With the upcoming opening of toll facilities in our region, we encourage the public to find toll-related answers by visiting SunPass.com or calling 1-888-TOLL-FLA.

We welcome any questions/comments/concerns to the Public Information Office at: 904-360-5400

Ed Ward then provided the group with the Emergency Operations Update where he stated that the Federal Highway (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) update training is currently being held in three (3) sessions and that he is currently in the process of preparing for any upcoming hurricanes.

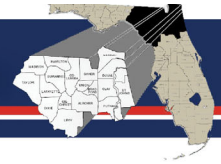
Mr. Craig Carnes and Mr. Jason Evans updated the group on the new FL 511 Interactive Voice Recognition phone service and let the group know that the Traffic Management Center is currently training their staff on the Statewide Express Lanes Software (SELS) to operate the Express Lanes when they go live.

Mrs. Dee Dee Crews mentioned that there is currently a Road Ranger, Tow Truck, and FHP Hire back officer on site 24/7 for the Express Lanes and will continue to be placed there 24/7 for the next 90 days.

We would like to wish Captain Dubois the best as he goes into his retirement! It was a pleasure working with you and we hope the next chapter in your life is a great one!

The next First Coast Traffic Incident Management Team meeting is scheduled for **May 21, 2019** at the Regional Transportation Management Center (RTMC) – 980 N Jefferson St., Jacksonville, Florida at 10:00 A.M. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to send someone else who could represent your agency. We look forward to seeing you there!





ALACHUA BRADFORD TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM UPDATE

The Alachua-Bradford Traffic Incident Management Team meeting was held twice since our last newsletter on **February 13, 2019** and **April 10, 2019** at the FDOT Gainesville Operations Office – 5301 N.E. 39th Ave., Gainesville, Florida at 10:00 A.M. and was led by Mrs. Dee Dee Crews.

The TEAM kicked off the meeting with an update from the Emergency Operations Center by Mr. Ed Ward where he stated that there is very little to report at the moment other than that he has been heavily involved in preparing paperwork and reimbursements from Hurricane Michael. The Emergency Operations Center is currently updating plans and procedures with lessons learned from Hurricanes Michael, Matthew and Irma.

Mr. Jason Evans and Mrs. Sherrell Lall also provided the following ITS, 511 and RTMC Updates:

- I-75 has some final repairs at the Gainesville Regional Utilities to perform at the washout at Newberry. Currently, 1 CCTV and 2 MVDS are down from this. There is a switch going through the RMA process, but a spare was installed to avoid outages.
- The I-10 project is undergoing MVDS testing and will have 5 ESU detectors. MVDS testing is ongoing as the contractor works east to west.
- The District 2 Truck Parking Availability System (TPAS) project is waiting for the plans to be reviewed for construction.
- The telephone portion of FL 511 will be phased out by the end of the year. It will be kept as a backup for emergencies such as hurricanes and other natural disasters. The app is now voice activated.

Mrs. Dee Dee Crews stated that the Road Ranger trucks have been wrapped with the new sponsor, State Farm. They are bright and more reflective, especially at night.

The Alachua-Bradford Traffic Incident Management Team meeting is scheduled for **June 12, 2019** at the FDOT Gainesville Operations Office – 5301 N.E. 39th Ave., Gainesville, Florida at 10:00 A.M. Please mark your calendars to attend this meeting as each agency’s participation is important for the good of the group. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to send someone else who could represent your agency. We thank you for your participation.

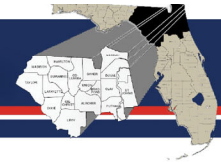


TEAM MISSION:

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.

TEAM VISION:

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



NOTES:

We are currently in the process of updating the TIM Team meeting process and strongly encourage all TIM members to send in suggestions for agency topics to be discussed during the meeting. All ideas are welcomed and can be sent to DeeDee.Crews@dot.state.fl.us.

If anyone is interested in the SHRP2 Incident Management Training Course, please contact Dee Dee Crews at deedee.crews@dot.state.fl.us or Craig Carnes at ccarnes@metriceng.com at 904-260-1567 Craig is available to work with any agency's schedule; including nights and weekends to make sure the course is available for groups of ten or more trainees.

**Dee Dee Crews
District 2 ITS Operations
Project Manager**

OPERATIONS

Operations has been moving faster than the speed limit on Interstates these last several months. I'm going to put on the brakes (just for a minute) to bring you up-to-date

After seven years, the Overland Project on I-95 reached final acceptance, and we are able to fully utilize all of the ITS devices, especially Dynamic Message Signs! It was a long time coming, but well worth the wait.

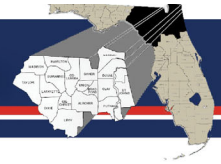
We continue to work with FDOT and their Contractors as work starts to wind down on the First Coast Expressway (SR-23). This is the first time in the State of Florida that there has been a collaborative effort between Florida's Turnpike Enterprise (FTE) and an FDOT District to

operate a tollway. It is anticipated that this roadway will be completed and tolling will begin sometime this Spring. We've been busy for quite some time, working with FTE on the Standard Operating Procedures that will meet the requirements for both agencies.

Now we move on to Express Lanes. Two projects, the west beltway and the east beltway. Each project will utilize dynamic tolling which is based on speed and very complex algorithms. As such, it is critical that our speed detection devices are calibrated and working properly. We recently did an initial small test of the devices, where ironically, a grandmother decided to join up with the drivers. Then came the large test of the west beltway Express Lanes, over 50 drivers, in teams, driving while a team here at the RTMC evaluated, and then evaluated some more for the good part of a day. By and large it was a success. It is expected that the West Beltway Express Lanes will open to drivers, who choose to pay the toll, later this Spring.

Speaking of, don't forget to get your SunPass if you want to drive the FCE or the Express Lanes, or you'll get a fine in the mail. They are available at many locations around town, including Publix, Walgreens, CVS and AAA. You can also purchase on line. Here is a link for anything you need to know about SunPass <https://www.sunpass.com/en/home/index.shtml>

We've been ramping up our staffing in preparation for these new projects. We've developed new training modules for Express Lanes and have been steadily training our Operators in these new modules in keeping with our cross-training goal. We're happy to say that all of our Staff who have been with us for more than six months are now SHRP2 certified to aid us in accessing incidents on camera, and to raise a flag should there be an incident that does not meet the necessary safety criteria.



OPERATIONS continued

In addition to the items mentioned previously, we've had a very busy time with our regular (I always hesitate to say regular, as rarely is a 'day-in-the-life of' at the RTMC regular) responsibilities. We had six RISC (Rapid Incident Scene Clearance) events during the first quarter. Overall, January through March, the RTMC Staff worked a total of 16,110 events with 8,916 utilizing DMS. Of those events, 3868 were crashes (1,067 on I-95). There were 8,948 events that Road Rangers responded to.

Okay, that's it for now, it's pedal to the metal at the RTMC.

**Jason Evans,
RTMC Manager**

MARKETING

The FL511 Mobile App recently received an upgrade. The mobile app has been available for both Apple and Android devices since 2012, but it recently underwent changes to keep up with today's ever-changing mobile community as well as rapidly advancing technology. The new app went "live" Friday, March 29th. Current users won't have to do anything if their apps are set to automatically update. Otherwise, users can visit the Apple App Store or Google Play to download the updated version.

Improvements include a completely redesigned user interface, with features such as: voice interaction, the ability to view events within a specific radius, the ability to view camera snapshots for specific incidents, the ability to create and save destinations as well as import destinations from FL511.com, a truck parking availability feature and the ability to display road closures and detour maps.

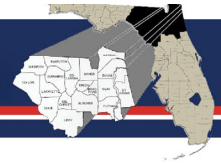
As we seek to educate motorists on the Florida Department of Transportation's Advanced Traveler Information System (ATIS), our goal is to retain as many current users as possible while also introducing the service to motorists who may not be unfamiliar with FL511 and all its features. Some of these features include turn-by-turn navigation and a drive mode feature where motorists can plan their routes and even listen to upcoming incidents. Motorists can also access cameras, travel times and other real-time traffic information including crashes, congestion, construction and closures.

Recently, we had several opportunities to come face-to-face with the motoring public. While attending events at St. Johns River State College, Keiser University, Florida State College at Jacksonville, Bishop Kenny High School, Oakleaf High and the Morocco Shrine's Tri-Base Military Job Fair we spoke to a combined total of 2,810 licensed (or soon-to-be licensed) drivers! Next quarter's outreach opportunities include Tom Nehl Truck Company, Community First Credit Union, the Nassau County Government Annex, Fidelity National Financial and JP Morgan Chase.

With all the recent upgrades, make sure your travel plans include 511. You can dial 5-1-1, log onto www.FL511.com or download one of the free FL 511 Apps available in the Apple App Store or at Google Play. You can also follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter! When it comes to up-to-the-minute traffic information, we've got you covered!

511: Connect. Know. Go!

**Sherri Byrd
Marketing Manager**

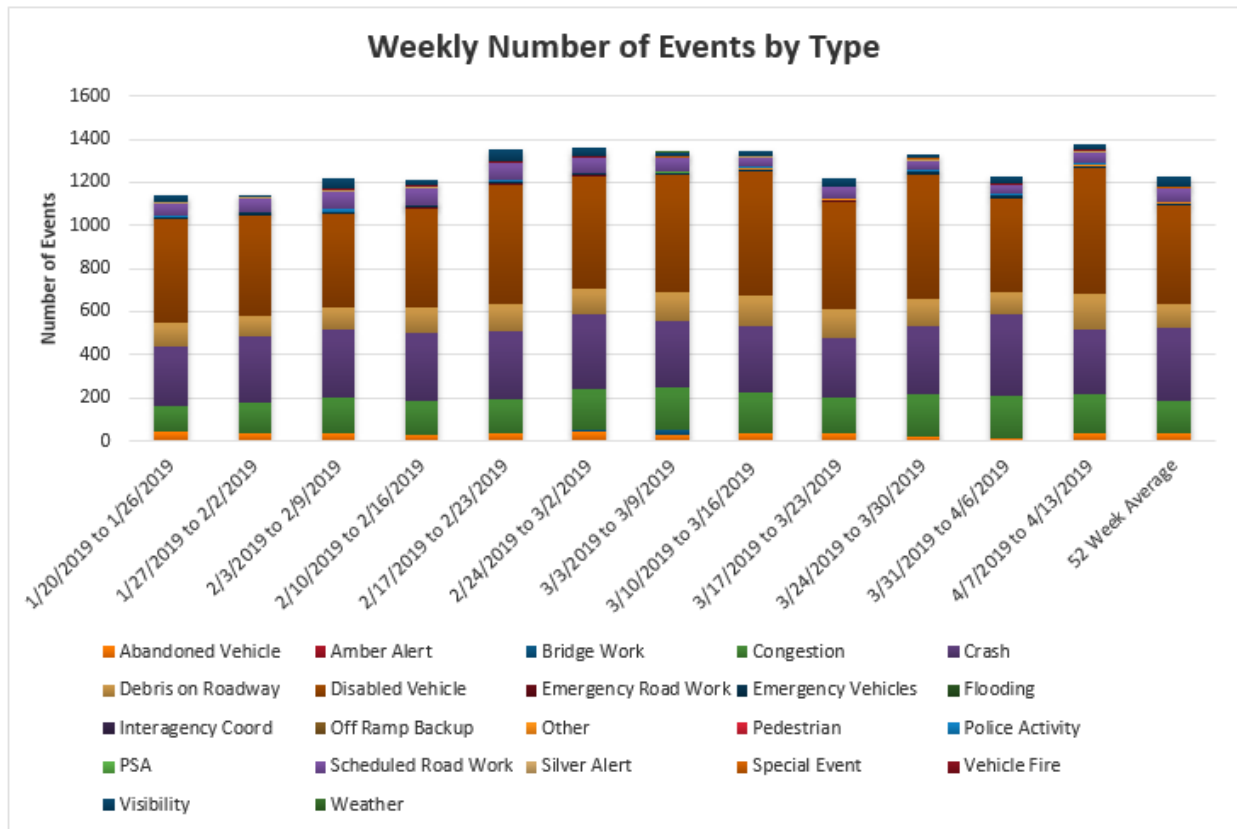


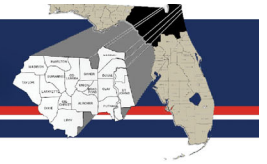
PERFORMANCE MEASURES

It seems the warmer the weather, the more travel we experience here in District 2. Which in turn relates to the increase in motorists that need assistance out on our interstates. Luckily, our Road Rangers and incident responders are more than prepared to assist.

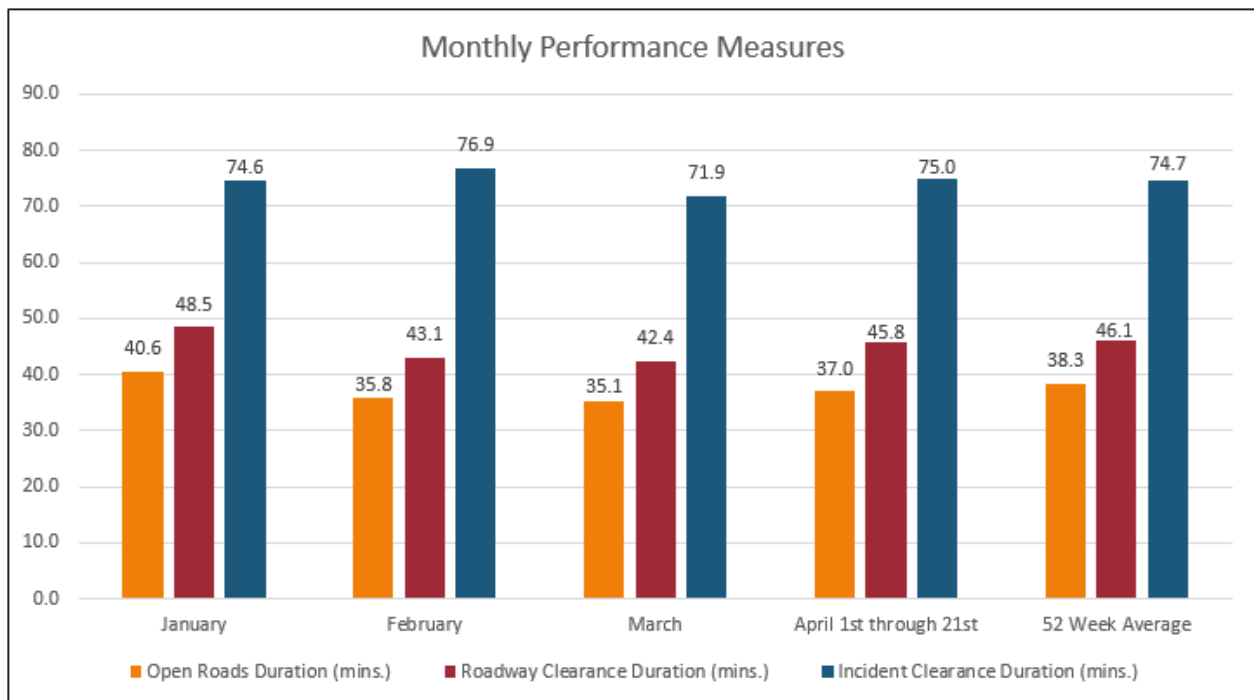
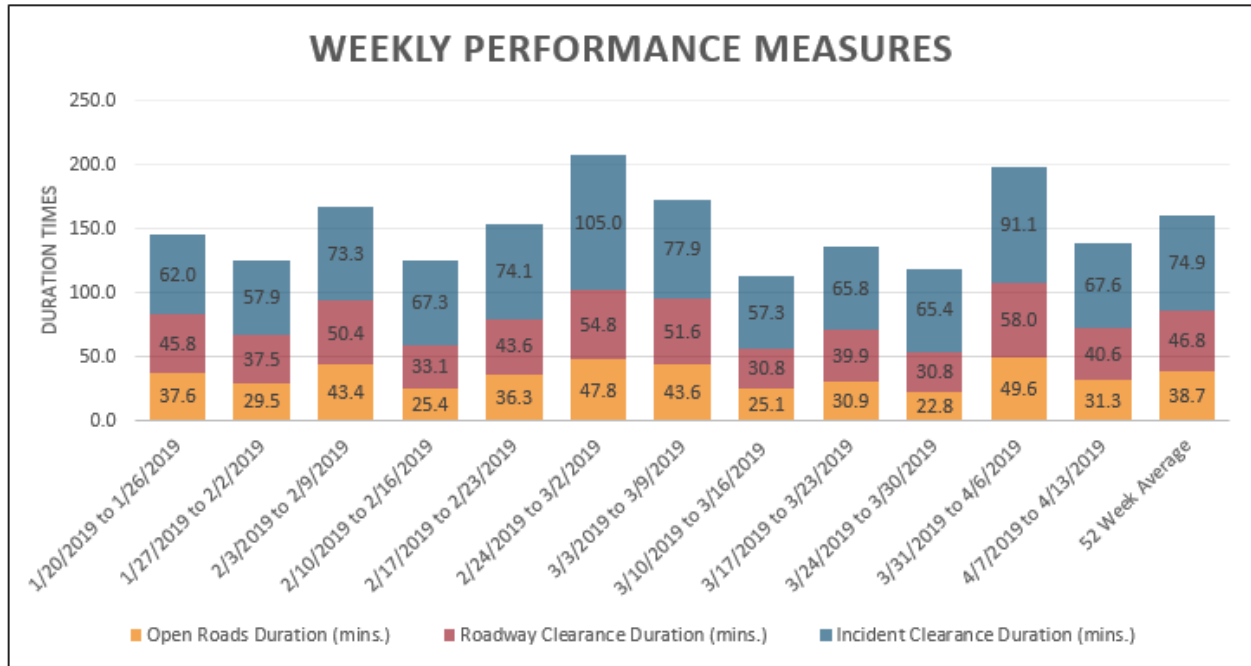
From the charts below, we can see that the Road Rangers have been extremely busy with an increase in crashes (4%) on our roadways when compared to the last 4 months of 2018. There has also been a significant amount of debris events (21%) which have contributed to our clearance duration times. We can also see that our major event categories are accounted for by congestion (12%), crashes (28%), debris on roadway (9%) and disabled vehicles (37%).

The average clearance duration times for the past 12 months have stayed well under the goal duration times as we can see in the charts below. District 2 has averaged approximately 38.3 minutes for our Open Roads Duration time, 46.1 minutes for our Roadway Clearance duration time and 74.7 minutes for our Incident Clearance duration time over the course of the past twelve months.

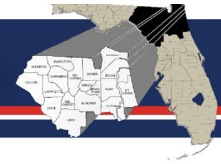




PERFORMANCE MEASURES continued



**Sherrell Lall
Metric Engineering**



**SPOTLIGHT ON...NIGEL ATKINSON,
ATKINS GLOBAL**

Being the new kid on the block, we'd love to hear your story. Where were you born/raised?

My name is Nigel Atkinson. I was born in San Diego, California and raised in Lake City, FL.

Sort of set the stage for us. Where did you go to college? What defining moment(s) steered you toward your current career path?

I attended college at the University of Florida, receiving a bachelor's in electrical engineering. During college my focuses were in electronic components, electrical power equipment and computer communications. So, after talking to a DOT recruiter, doing my own research into Traffic operations and ITS, and seeing where technology and transportation is heading, is what essentially steered me toward the career path I am on now.

What is your job title? And if you would, please describe for us in detail your role inside the Regional Transportation Management Center.

ITS/Traffic Ops Trainee, this position gives me the opportunity to work alongside engineers within the department learning present systems and business practices. This role will allow me to use my background to further assist with the advances of technology in ITS/Traffic Ops department.

What other jobs have you held in the Transportation industry? (prior to coming to work for Atkins Global)

This will be my first job within the transportation industry.

What changes should we look for in the Transportation industry within the next five years?

I believe within the next five years more advances in technology will begin to appear into the transportation industry that will help us mitigate the hassle of everyday commutes. For example, the autonomous and Sensory industry will have a great importance towards the changes we will see within the next 5 years.

Is Jacksonville ahead of the curve or behind the eight ball when compared to other cities? (from a technological standpoint)

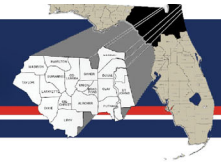
From a technological standpoint, I believe that Jacksonville is on the edge of being ahead of the curve when it comes to introducing new technologies on the road. Jacksonville has done a great job implementing the infrastructure that is needed to support today's technology and planning for future growth. Continuing taking steps forward, I believe that the City of Jacksonville will be the benchmark that other cities will eventually mimic.

Do you have a favorite quote? Something that inspires you?

That fulfilment in life isn't just reaching your end goal someday but it is enjoying the journey on the way there.

When you're not a work, what hobbies might we find you engaged in?

When I'm not at work, you can find me at church jamming out on the guitar or at home thinking of a new electronic project that I can build.



SPOTLIGHT ON...NIGEL ATKINSON,
ATKINS GLOBAL continued



If someone walked up to you today and offered you a free all-expense paid vacation (airfare included), where would you travel to?

I would love to go to Cape Town, South Africa.

Tell us a little about your family.

I have a very close-knit family, every weekend we usually have dinners together. We all love cooking and sharing the meals we have made with everyone. Most of my family members are musically inclined, so we love playing music together and singing. I have two siblings; my younger brother Douglas plays football at Florida Atlantic University and elder sister Japera is a professor at Florida Gateway College. I have been in a beautiful relationship with my high school sweetheart for 9 years and plan on getting married next year.

Anything else you'd like to add?

I would like to say that I'm thankful for this opportunity and I look forward to working with everyone!

511 ON THE ROAD



*Above: Tri-Base Military Job Fair
Below: St. Johns River State College*



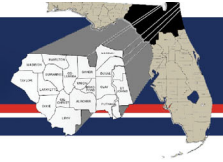


PHOTO GALLERY
National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week

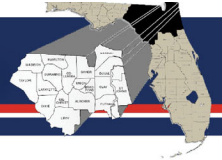


Above: Tourist Day
Below: Camo Day



Above: Decades Day
Below: Atlantic Beach Police/Dispatch





Spring 2019 Quarterly Issue 118

Traffic Incident Management
2019 Meeting Schedule

First Coast TIM Team
 Regional Transportation Management Center
 980 N. Jefferson St., Jacksonville, FL
 904.903.2000
 10:00am-12:00pm

May 21, 2019 July 16, 2019
 September 17, 2019 November 19, 2019

Alachua/Bradford TIM Team
 FDOT Gainesville Operations Office
 5301 NE 39th Avenue, Gainesville, FL
 352.381.4300
 10:00am-11:30am

June 12, 2019 August 14, 2019
 October 9, 2019 December 11, 2019

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