

National Traffic Incident Management Coalition Meeting Executive Summary – June 5, 2007

Welcome and Overview of Agenda

The NTIMC will focus on reenergizing National Unified Goal (NUG) related efforts following a break after a significant amount of activity in 2006. The Coalition will address NUG launch and roll-out activities, as well as formation of the NUG implementation working groups as the main theme of the agenda.

PSAG Update

The PSAG is engaged in several administrative activities with the overall goal to examine ways to improve its support to the DOT through its contract with ITSA. Currently the PSAG is working to develop and adopt a set of bylaws. As part of that process the group will re-examine membership and identify potential stakeholder groups. At the upcoming PSAG meeting the group will close out these activities, moving on to more substantive technical work.

NIMS Ontology Working Group Joint Representation

Ontology is the relationship between events, people, and things. The NIMS Ontology Working Group is a tool that is being developed for use by State and local governments that enables data communication between various systems with differing standards. This effort will affect future communications, but does not have a lot of relevance to our activities.

National Unified Goal Implementation

Status of Ratification

Fourteen NTIMC members have fully ratified the NUG. IACP and ATRI are pending, with IACP representatives optimistic about ratification. The Coalition decided that non-members would “endorse” the NUG, while members will “ratify”. Several groups such as the American Trucking Association and local state TIM Task Forces are interested in endorsing the NUG. The Coalition decided that endorsements will be welcomed and useful during the National Launch Event.

NUG Launch and Roll-out National/State Level Activities

The NTIMC is planning a NUG launch event to take place the week of November 12-16, 2007. The Coalition is considering holding the launch event at a traffic management center in the Washington D.C. area. Representatives from each stakeholder group will make brief comments. In addition open interview opportunities will take place after the formal ceremony. The Coalition will sponsor development of press kits and talking points for Coalition members.

NUG Implementation Working Groups

The leadership group is proposing five working groups to refine and implement strategies specified in the NUG. The effort will include a series of teleconferences with work taking place in between. Following review of each implementation working group volunteers and nominations for participation were recorded. The working groups will be convened via teleconference in the next 4-6 weeks. Coalition members emphasized the need launch event pre-marketing to take place at local TIM Conferences, which are now being planned.

Research Task Force

SHRP II - Expert Task Groups (ETG) are now being formed, TIM Policy and Procedures being one. A meeting of the ETG is planned for July 23, 2007. It is envisioned that the NTIMC will review and comment on draft products.

NCHRP 20-7 – This research is closely related to NUG strategies. Currently a proposal is under review for consultant support.

MUTCD 6-1 – FHWA has proposed to make changes to the MUTCD section 6-1. The NCUTCD removed the vehicle placement specifications and replaced them with cross-hatched areas where vehicles are stored. Coalition members expressed concern over endorsement from the fire services community. The group decided to place draft materials on the TIM Community of Practice for discussion.

Quick Clearance Toolkit and Workshops

The I-95 Corridor Coalition has developed a series of quick clearance workshops. Two versions of the workshop are offered an executive forum and a responder workshop. Future locations for the workshop include Philadelphia, PA (June 20) and Baltimore MD (June 22).

A Quick Clearance Workshop was recently held in Savannah, GA. The I-95 CC Coordinated Incident Management (CIM) Program Track has evolved the 2002 Quick Clearance Best Practices Report into a variety of products; an Executive Summary has been published and presented around the country, and a comprehensive Quick Clearance Toolkit, Workshop, and Implementation Plan are in their final stages of development.

A notebook has been developed that includes a series of products related to I-95 Corridor Coalition TIM products. Products have been developed with the NUG in mind. The notebook is available upon request and in DVD format. The Coalition planned to request copies for use during NUG Implementation Working Group efforts.

TRB TIM Workshop

Members of the NTIMC are leading the effort to plan and develop the agenda for the Annual TRB Sunday Traffic Incident Management workshop. The draft agenda includes presentations on the NUG, real-life examples of incident scene management, and NIMS.

Coalition Business Model

The Coalition plans to develop a long-term business model to ensure sustainability. The group briefly discussed options and potential issues related to the business model. The coalition designated a representative to lead the effort, canvassing all members over the summer for potential business model strategies.

Secretaries Congestion Initiative

The FHWA is beginning research effort to examining implementation of full function service patrols for transportation agencies. A key Traffic Incident Management (TIM) element of the Secretary's Congestion Initiative is to have full-function service patrols in each of the top 40 urban areas of the United States. The handbook will describe functions of a service patrol operating in emergency response mode for traffic incidents in addition to assisting motorists, the equipment and training needs for operating these patrols and their approximate costs and documented benefits.

The FHWA will also release the RFP for revisions to the TIM Handbook. The handbook was last published in 2002, and needs updating.

Membership

Two organizations have shown interest and warrant consideration for full membership to the Coalition. The International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA) and the American Association for Motor Vehicle Associations (AAMVA) should be considered for membership by the Membership Task Force. The Coalition decided to convene the membership task force to develop a recommendation for full coalition vote.

IAFC Stand Down

The Third International Fire Fighter and EMS Safety Stand Down is taking place June 17-23, 2007. The theme for this years stand down is “ready to respond.” The stand down focuses on proper training, preparation and equipage before a call. The effort promotes the idea that all members can respond to, work and return home safely from the emergency they are called to mitigate. For more information log onto

<http://www.iafc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=306>.

Major Action Items

National Unified Goal

- ✓ Members will encourage non-members to endorse the NUG.
- ✓ Outreach support will develop products for non-members to reference and understand the benefits of endorsement.
- ✓ Members will contact Karen Haas with nominations for stakeholder group representatives to speak at the press event in November.
- ✓ Coalition support will convene NUG working groups in next 4-6 week timeframe.

Research Task force

- ✓ David Helman will send the latest version of the MUTCD 6-I typical applications to Coalition support for distribution to Steve Austin and/or others that are interested in reviewing.
- ✓ MUTCD 6-I typical applications will be posted on the TIMCOP, with a reference to the TIM Plus project and the Practices and Procedures working group.

Business Model planning

- ✓ Rebecca Brewster will contact coalition members over the summer to understand business model recommendations.

Membership

- ✓ Coalition support will reconvene the membership task force to consider and provide recommendations for suggested new members IMSA and AAMVA.
- ✓ Based on task force recommendations coalition support will caucus the full coalition by email by the end of July.