



MINUTES OF MEETING
Joint Sussex County TMT Meeting
August 19, 2009



Meeting Date: August 19, 2009
Location: Ellendale Fire Company Fire Hall
Purpose: Joint Sussex County TMT Meeting

List of Meeting Attendees:

| Last Name | First Name | Agency | Email |
|------------|------------|---|--|
| Coverdale | Tim | Ellendale Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. | tcoverdale@aol.com |
| Day | Dwayne | DelDOT/TMC | Dwayne.Day@state.de.us |
| Donaldson | Gene | DelDOT/TMC | Gene.donaldson@state.de.us |
| Duckett | Kisha | Orth-Rodgers & Associates, Inc. | kduckett@orth-rodgers.com |
| Knowles | Warren | Civil Air Patrol | Warren_knowles@hotmail.com |
| Littleton | Bruce | Orth-Rodgers & Associates, Inc. | blittleton@orth-rodgers.com |
| Madara | Ken | Selbyville Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. | |
| Marsh | Chris | DelDOT/TMC | Chrish.marsh@state.de.us |
| Strickland | Jim | DEMA | Jim.strickland@state.de.us |
| Toulson | Richard | DelDOT/South District | rtoulson@ce.net |
| | | Wicomico County Emergency Services | |

Handouts provided during the meeting:

1. Agenda
2. April 15, 2009 Joint Sussex County Meeting Minutes
Sussex County Detour CD – Updates US 13 NB/SB, US 113 NB/SB

I. Opening Remarks

Gene Donaldson (DelDOT) began the meeting with brief introductions followed by a review of the agenda. The April 15, 2009 Sussex County TMT meeting minutes were distributed and there were no comments. A discussion then took place on the TMT program.

II. TMT Program Open Discussion

- The TMT program has been and continues to be a valuable program and forum with which the members can discuss transportation related issues and discuss any concerns related to the transportation infrastructure.
- The Sussex County TMT group opted to continue meeting monthly. The next meeting should be on September 23, 2009 at 7 PM (Location to be determined, hold on the east side). There is a State Fireman’s Conference the week of September 14th that several TMT members will want to attend which is the reason for the change in date. Gene mentioned that the North New Castle County and Kent County groups have chosen to hold meetings every other month, and South New Castle County every three months.



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- Gene mentioned that he would like to see a few meetings throughout the year where the TMTs are combined to discuss topics of mutual interest.
 - DE 1 was requested as the next major detour route to be completed, followed by east/west routes. Gene emphasized that when we do work on Route 1 the eastern part of the county needs to be involved. It was mentioned that eight fire departments could be involved in responding along DE1.
 - At a recent Kent County TMT meeting, the issue of crossovers being eliminated on construction projects came up after a crossover was eliminated without the fire and EMS departments being notified. They only become aware of the issue when the crossover was removed from service. Gene mentioned that there are several DelDOT construction projects in the works that potentially will have these kinds of issues. Gene is trying to create a process so that there is more discussion with the DelDOT designers and the response agencies. It was suggested that a system be built so that designs can go through fire, police, and EMS and be signed off.

III. Status of the All Hazards Statewide Debris Management Plan

Dwayne Day (DelDOT) updated the group on the status of the debris management plan. The Debris Plan has been completed and was sent through the TMTs electronically for comment. The next step will be the completion of the signature page. The plan will be signed by the secretaries and directors of the ten agencies involved that have primary responsibilities related to the plan. The plan will then be available through the DelDOT website. Dwayne mentioned that the plan follows the FEMA guidelines and lists agencies involved along with roles and responsibilities. The plan does not contain debris management site locations at this time (many of the DelDOT access properties are no longer large parcels), however the plan is a living document that will be constantly updated.

IV. Status of the All Hazards Special Transportation Assistance Plan

The Special Transportation Assistance Plan will be the next major plan to be completed. Dwayne mentioned that Phase I which included data collection and establishment of roles and responsibilities is near completion. Phase II will then begin and discuss the plan execution and implementation. The plan is scheduled to be completed this fall.

VI. Detours

Tim Coverdale (Ellendale Fire Co.) asked if any of the detours were going to have trailblazing signs. Bruce answered that he would show how that is being handled when he covers the pilot detour CD in his presentation.



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Bruce Littleton discussed the Sussex County Pilot Detour CD (dated 08/01/09) and contents. The completed pilot area for Sussex County includes the following:

- US Route 13 from Maryland Line to the Kent County Line (Level I's and Level III's)
- US Route 113 from Maryland Line to Sussex County Line (Level I's)
- He showed how detours would be signed with the new "coral" detour signs
- The CD contains information on the detour numbering scheme (done by the roadway, direction, and mile points), as well as directions on how to use the CD. Mile points run west to east and south to north)
- The overall detour map is the only .pdf file that needs to be opened and the subsequent files are the backup material linked to the main map.
- The detours will be updated on the DelDOT website within the next week.
- The goal is to begin to use the pilot detours. Any positive feedback as well as issues/concerns can be brought through the TMT process.
- Rich Toulson pointed out that there were no static signs when closing the major roads, just the use of dynamic message signs. He indicated a concern that if the message boards failed you would have no fallback to advise the driver of the lane closures ahead. It was acknowledged that this needs to be addressed.

VI. Open Discussion

- **The next meeting of the Sussex County TMT group will be held on September 23, 2009 at 7 PM (Location to be determined, hold on the east side).**
- Gene mentioned that he would like the TMTs to revisit the transportation evacuation plans in the coming months.
- Gene mentioned that DelDOT has a mobile TMC and portable cameras and traffic detection. Four trailers have been purchased for the state, and a purchase order has been placed for more.
- Gene indicated that DelDOT is now part of the New World Computer Aided Dispatch System and gets direct reports of incidents such as traffic accidents. This has allowed DelDOT to start planning a response prior to receiving an actual call for aid. Tim Coverdale mentioned that Ellendale has been seeing a quicker DelDOT response to incidents and that it is appreciated.
- It was mentioned that there was an incident on Monday, August 17, 2009 on Route 42 where DelDOT employees assisting with an incident left at 2:45 PM at the end of their shift. The utility companies were still on the scene and were still using the DelDOT equipment for traffic control. Gene and Chris will look into this matter. Chris had been told a similar incident occurred the previous Friday. The utility companies can utilize DelDOT to help at the onset of an incident but they are required to shift to contract help if the incident is prolonged. Gene will



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clarify that DelDOT is not to leave a scene at the end of a shift, but must remain until the incident is cleared or relief has replaced the need for DelDOT resources.

- Rich Toulson mentioned that fire companies were being told that they were going to be charged for using equipment. Gene is not aware that there will be any charges to the fire companies and if any fire companies please let him know so that he can track it down. DelDOT will go after the insurance companies to collect reimbursement. This is the forum to bring up these issues and Gene greatly appreciates this opportunity to dispel any such rumors or have an opportunity to reverse it if that is appropriate. In this case, he supports the fire companies not being charged.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Gene Donaldson at gene.donaldson@state.de.us or (302) 659-4601. Additionally, ORA is providing consulting support and Bruce Littleton can be reached at blittleton@orth-rodgers.com or (215) 735-1932. Revisions to the minutes can be emailed to Kisha Duckett at kduckett@orth-rodgers.com

TMT Website: <http://www.deldot.gov/information/projects/tmt>