

Traffic Incident Management — Clearing Lanes Safely

Crashes cause congestion and congestion causes crashes.

In fact, crashes, disabled vehicles, and other roadway incidents cause nearly 25 percent of nonrecurring traffic congestion in the U.S., according to the Federal Highway Administration (https://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/program_areas/reduce-non-cong.htm). And when traffic starts to back up from an incident, it increases the likelihood of a secondary crash.

To help break this cycle of incidents and congestion, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) work together with local law enforcement to clear incidents as quickly and safely as possible through the Traffic Incident Management (TIM) program.

FDOT's Regional Transportation Management Center's (RTMC) role in TIM is incident detection and communication with first responders. TIM is a collaborative and coordinated multi-disciplinary process to detect, respond to, and clear traffic incidents so that traffic flow may be restored as safely and quickly as possible. Effective TIM reduces the duration and impacts of traffic incidents and improves the safety of motorists, crash victims and emergency responders.

To learn more about TIM in Central Florida, visit www.cfltim.com.



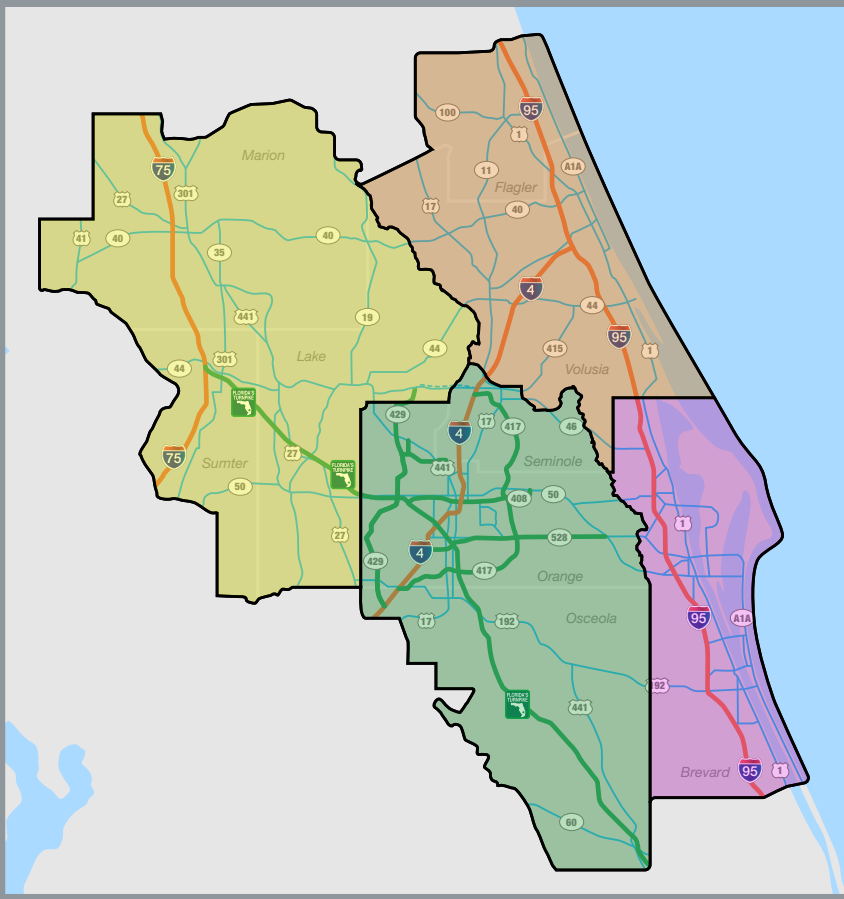
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Florida Department of Transportation District Five Regional Transportation Management Center



TIM Teams

Central Florida has four TIM Teams serving different geographic areas. Team members include FDOT, FHP, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Road Rangers, local law enforcement and fire/rescue agencies, towing and recovery companies, and others. The teams work to improve communication, coordination, and cooperation among incident responders.



How Can I Help?

Motorists can help keep first responders safe and avoid adding to congestion by obeying Florida's two Safe, Quick Clearance laws:

- ▶ **Move Over:** Drivers are required to move over one lane, when able to do so safely, or slow down to 20 mph below the posted speed limit when passing an emergency vehicle stopped by the side of the road with lights flashing.
- ▶ **Move It:** If a vehicle is involved in a crash, there are no injuries, and the vehicle is movable, then the drivers involved are required by law to move their vehicles off the travel lanes to the nearest safe location.



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