# Algo Traffic and the Tuscaloosa RTMC

Chris Sewell, P.E.

**ITS** Operations Manager

ALDOT West Central Region

### Outline

- Partnerships with the University of Alabama
  - Tuscaloosa Traffic Management Center
  - Algo Traffic
- Alabama Service and Assistance Patrol
  - Incident Management
- Smart Work Zone
  - I-20/59 Widening Project
- Future of Transportation and ITS

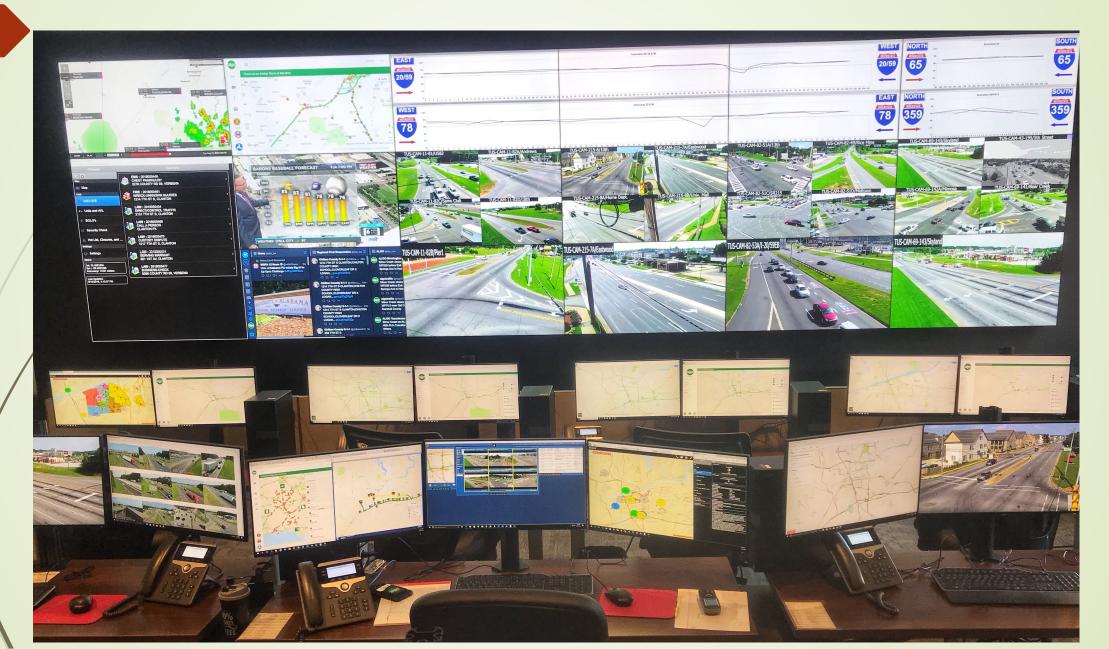
## Tuscaloosa Traffic Management Center

- Operations started June 2017
  - Monday thru Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm
  - After-hours calls and issues were forwarded to the Birmingham TMC
- 24/7 Operations began January 2018
- Cover the West Central Region
  - Marion, Winston, Fayette, Lamar, Walker, Pickens, Tuscaloosa, Greene, Hale, Sumter, Perry, Bibb, and Chilton
  - I-20/59, I-65, and I-22
    - Average Daily Truck Traffic pushes 45%
    - Upwards of 18,000 Trucks per day on I-20/59

### Tuscaloosa Traffic Management Center

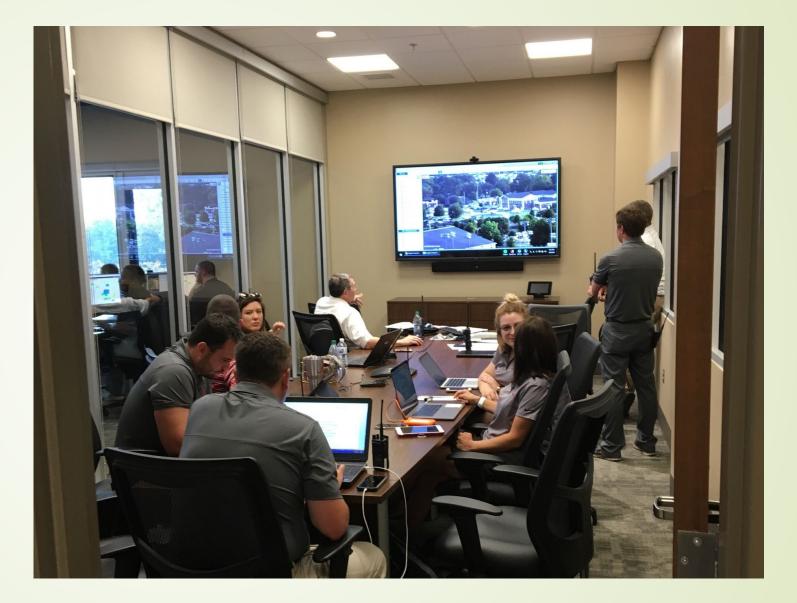
- 3 4 Operators per shift
- Continuously monitor traffic flow data
  - Cameras
    - 60+ cameras currently
  - Traffic Speed via Bluetooth Vehicle Detection & HERE data
    - Allows for Origin/Destination Travel Timing
  - Law Enforcement Dispatch
    - State Trooper Tuscaloosa Post Radio Dispatch

### **Tuscaloosa Traffic Management Center**



# UA Gameday Operations

- Pre & Post Game
  - Additional TMC Operators
  - ASAP Truck
- Post Game
  - Bruno Event Team
  - UA Gameday
  - UAPD
  - UA Transportation Services
  - ALDOT

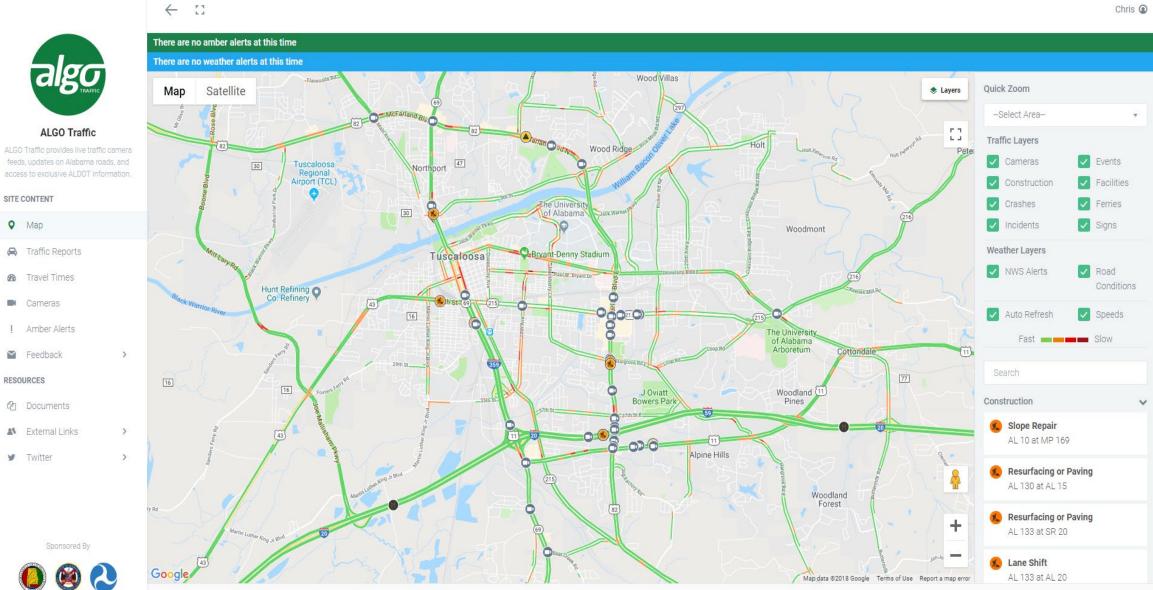


## Algo Traffic

- Desktop and App versions
- Real-time Traffic Data uploaded directly from TMCs
  - Construction Zones
  - Crashes, Incidents, and Disabled Vehicles
  - Traffic Speed
- Access to traffic cameras across the state
- Recently updated to integrate NWS Alerts
- Audible Alerts for upcoming events while driving
- Live message board readouts



### Algo Traffic



EMCSA © 2018 ALGO Traffic | Privacy Policy

ALDOT

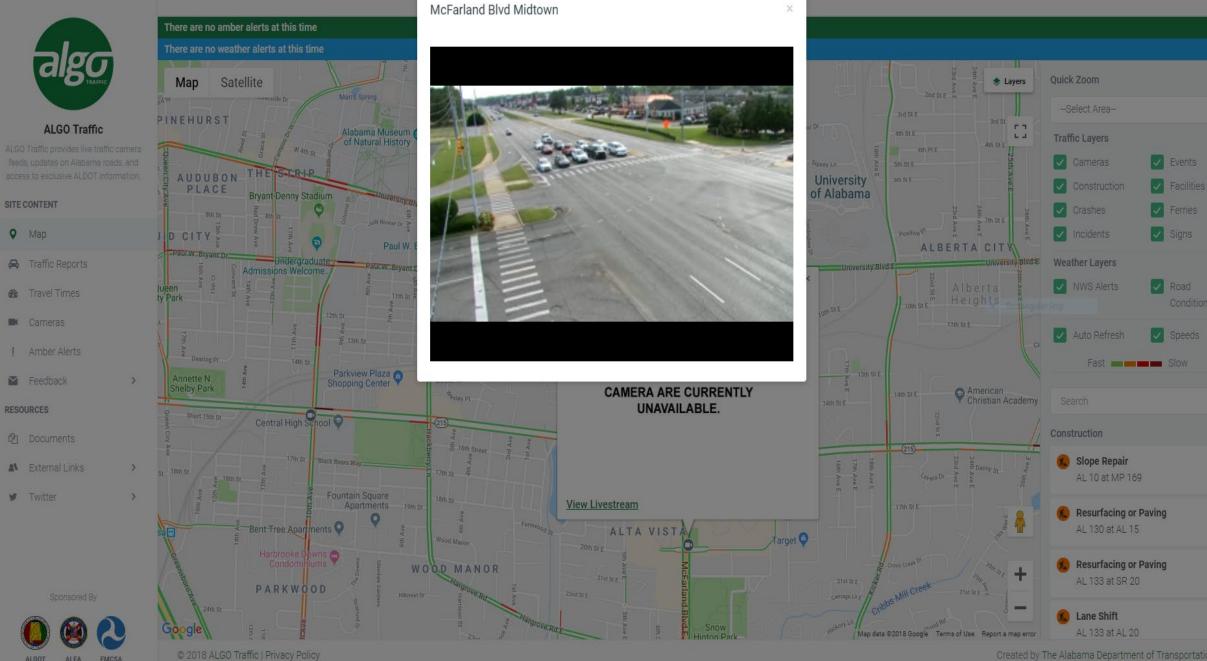
ALEA

Created by The Alabama Department of Transportation

- 23  $\leftarrow$ 

ALDOT

ALEA FMCSA

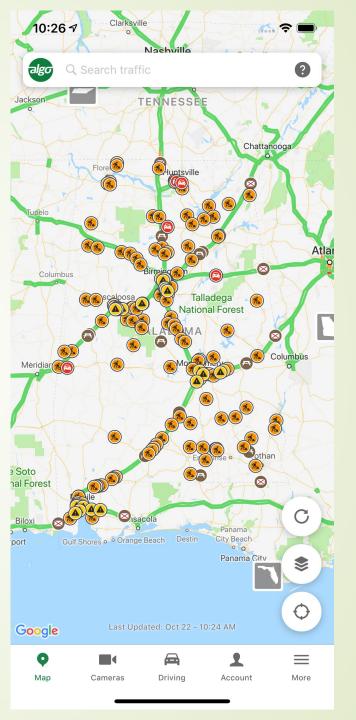


Chris @

Created by The Alabama Department of Transportation

# Algo Traffic Mobile App





Algo Traffic Mobile App





10:37 🔊

All Birmingham

n Montgomery



··· ? 🗖

Mobile

AL 87 N at Oak Park Dr.

No camera preview available

**I-65 N** at MP160





I-65 N at MP163 I-65 N at EXIT 164 (US31)





**I-65 N** at MP165 (Hyundai)

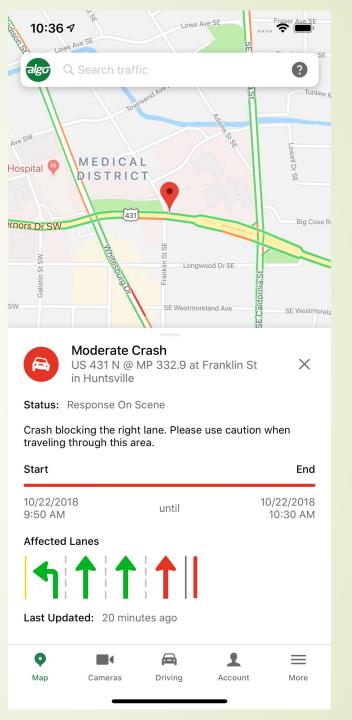
at MP166 (Coca Cola)



I-65 N

# Algo Traffic Mobile App





### Alabama Service and Assistance Patrol



### Alabama Service and Assistance Patrol

- Started in Spring 2018 in Tuscaloosa
  - Has been running in Mobile and Birmingham for several years
- Actively patrols I-20/59 from Exit 71 to Exit 89
  - Will take calls out to Exit 100
- Operating hours
  - Monday thru Friday 11:00AM to 7:00PM



### Alabama Service and Assistance Patrol

- Services offered:
  - Temporary traffic control
    - Wrecks or Disabled
      Vehicle
  - Flat tires
  - Dead Battery
  - Overheating
  - Out of gas
  - Contacting a Towing Company
  - Minor Mechanical Repairs



### I-20/59 Smart Work Zone

### What is a Smart Work Zone?

- Components
- Why spend the money on a Smart Work Zone?
  - Accidents
  - Fatalities

### Bluetooth Vehicle Detection

- Placed every ½-mile throughout the project
- Collects average speed, volume for all lanes, and density

### **Queue** Trailer-Mounted Queue Detection



The Queue Trailer is a portable trailer that provides a versatile and lightweight platform with a small footprint to mount a microwave radar unit to detect speed, volume and occupancy for up to 22 lanes of traffic. When equipped with ASTI's communication package, the Queue Trailer can provide data remotely to a variety of information-gathering components.

#### Features

- · Industrial-grade trailer to give years of dependable service
- Reports speed, volume, density and classification for all traffic
- Adjustable solar array for maximum exposure to sun
- Optional digital cellular communications
- · Accurately detects lane changing vehicles
- Available as a portable unit or permanent mount
- Removable tongue
- Battery bank sized for 30-day autonomy
- Detects up to 22 lanes of traffic or 250'
- Optional Wavetronix HD sensor available
- · Detects multi-direction traffic with a single sensor

- Mobile Camera Trailer
  - Pan, Tilt, Zoom Cohu Camera
  - Placed every mile on I-20/59 and at other locations along the detour routes

### **MVT** Mobile Video Trailer



the second second second

The MVT provides a portable, self-contained all-weather, trailer-mounted equipment platform. Through the use of wireless communication, the MVT provides the end user a rapidly deployable real-time video system viewable from a remote location. The MVT can be used as a stand-alone camera system or tied into a larger existing CCTV system.



#### Features

- · Can use virtually any camera
- · Additional mast heights available
- Day/Night, Adjustable
- Pan/Tilt/Zoom IP addressable cameras
- · 32-ft extendable mast with 360-degree lockable rotation
- Capable of providing streaming or snapshot video
- · Optional electric hoist available for rapid deployment
- · Battery bank sized for 30-day autonomy
- Industrial-grade trailer to give years of dependable service
- Microwave and digital cellular communications available
- 360-degree adjustable solar array for maximum exposure to sun
- Custom options are available and can include a Wavetronix sensor for traffic detection

- Changeable Message Signs
  - Placed at every mile along the interstate and along the detour routes
  - Displays set messages depending on the average speed of traffic

### **MESSAGE BOARD TRAILERS**

One of the key components of a portable ITS System is to provide real time messages to the traveling public. The results of having real time traffic conditions posted to a message board fleet are:

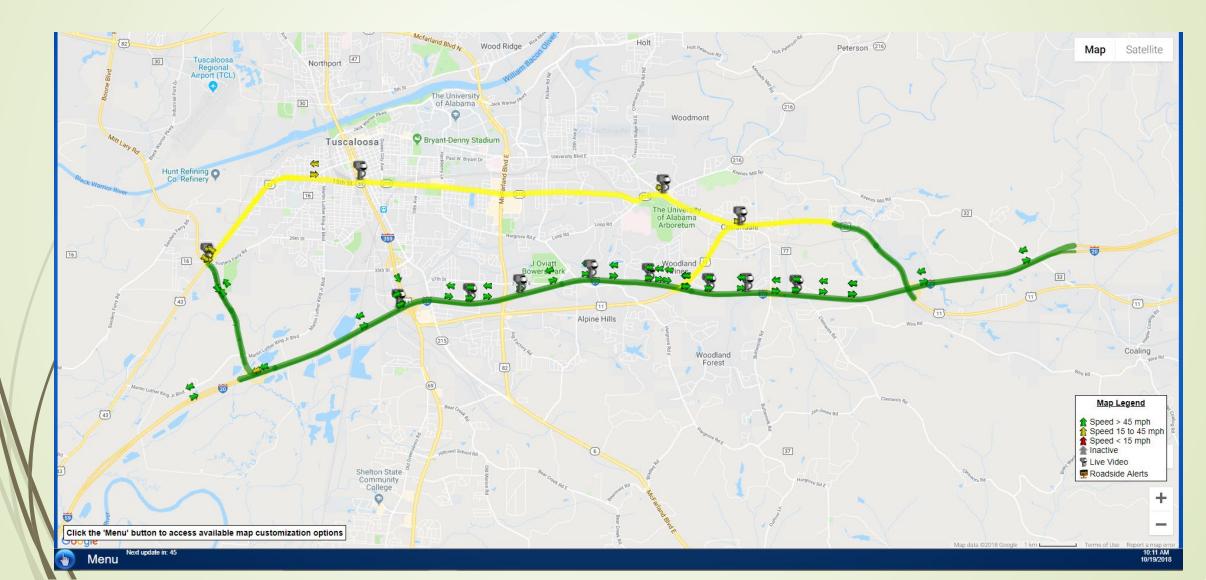
#### Features

- Alternate Routing and Trip Planning
- Reduction in Collisions and Accidents
- Decreased Volume through Work Zone
- Safer Work Zone for Workers
- Safer Experience for Motorists
- Convenient Travel Time Messaging

All SMC Message Board Trailers can be integrated into a portable solution providing the flexibility needed for all roadway conditions.









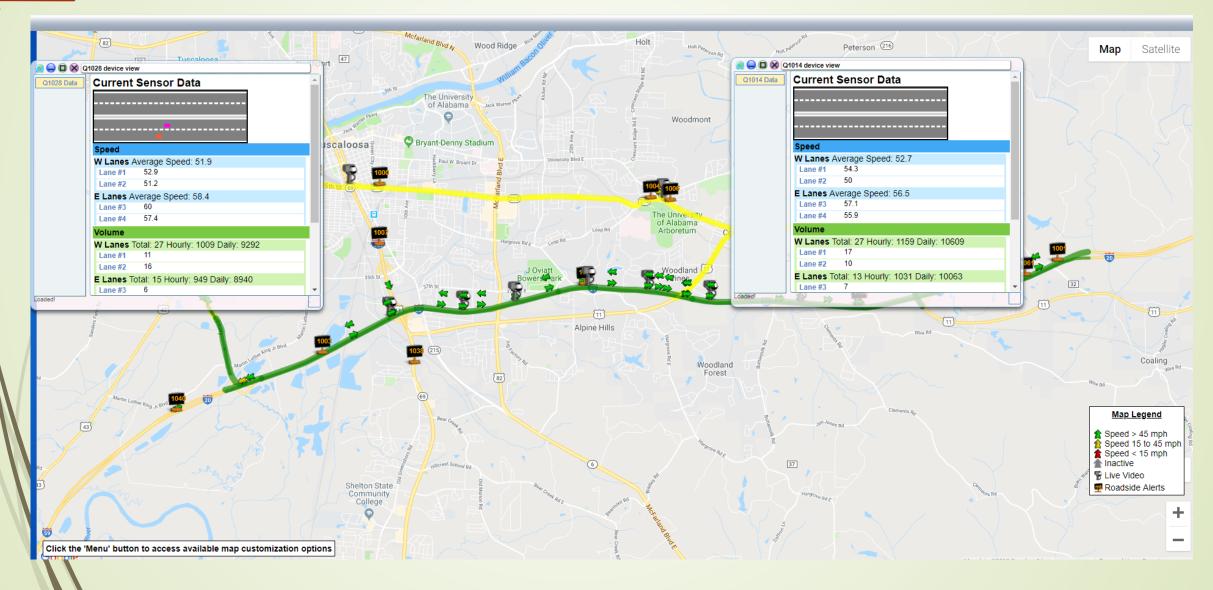
1037 - Alabama Tusca

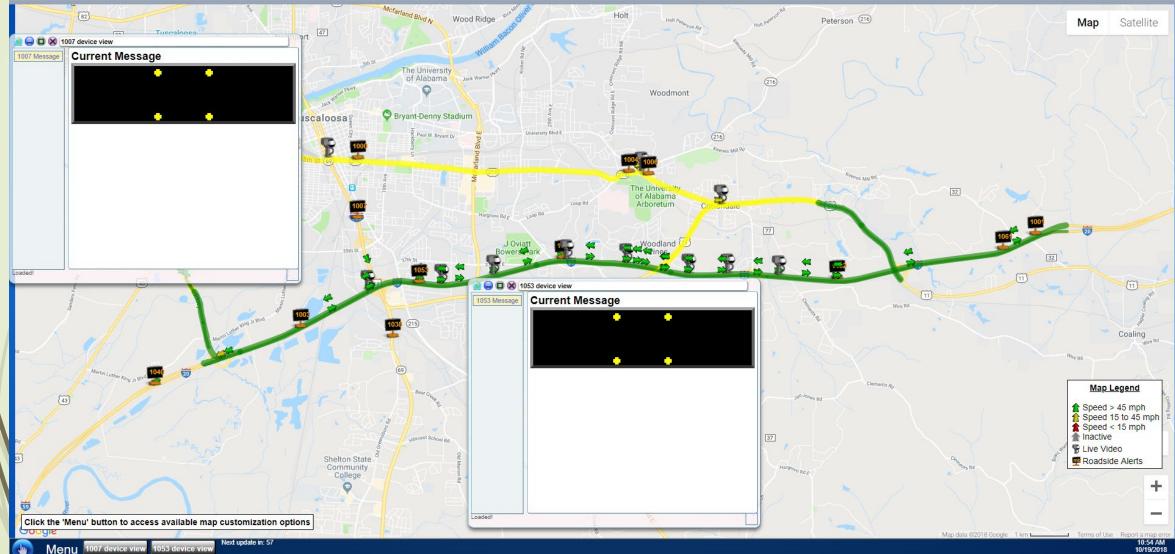
1036 - Alabama Tusca

1020 - Alabama\_Tusca

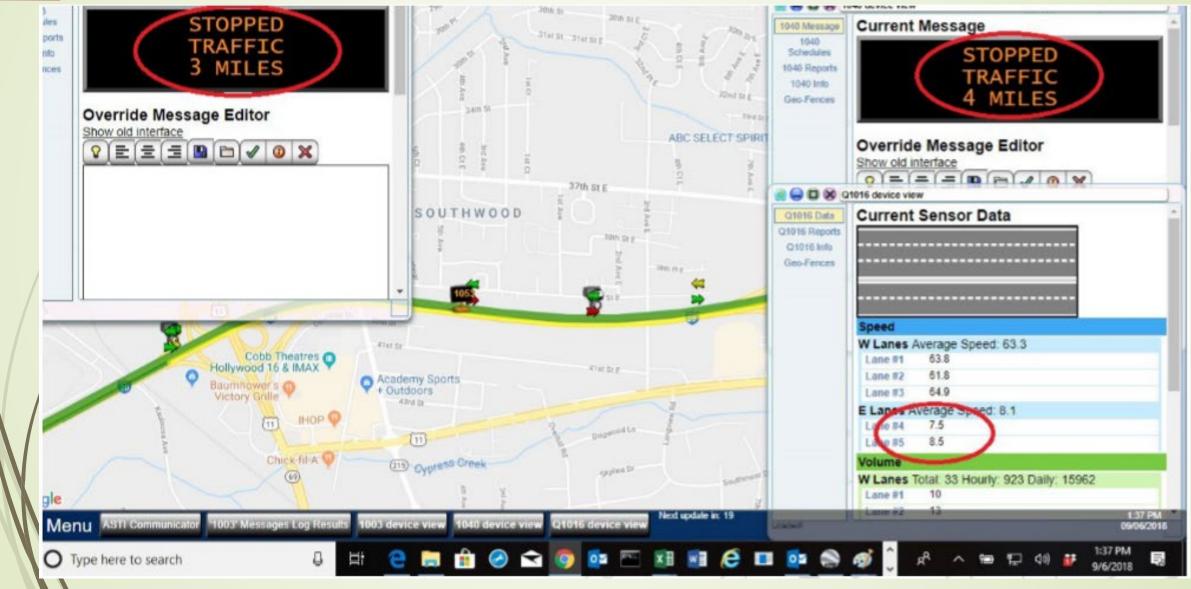


C02 - Alabama\_Tusca C03 - Alabama\_Tusca C01 - Alabama Tusca C04 - Alabama\_Tusca





Menu 07 device view



### Smart Work Zone Total Cost

	Portable RDS	\$	57,917.34	
	Portable CMS	\$	48,264.45	
	Portable CCTV	\$	25,741.04	
/	Portable BDS	\$	475,885.08	
	RDS, Op Month	\$	449,448.38	
	CMS, Op Month	\$	262,558.88	
	BDS, Op Month	\$	229,010.40	
	Monitoring, Op Month	\$	85,000.00	
	Additional CMS and CCTV	\$	58,235.58	
	TOTAL	\$1,	692,061.15	

### Why pay for this?

- Several long duration, 6-10hrs, accidents in the work zone from MP 77 to 81
- Alabama had 13 Work Zone Fatalities in 2016
  - A 15-yr-old girl was killed in December 2015 in a work zone crash on I-20/59 in Tuscaloosa County

	Work Zone		Truck-Involved Work Zone		Pedestrian-Involved Work Zone		Work Zone Worker	
Year	Fatal Crashes	Fatalities	Fatal Crashes	Fatalities	Fatal Crashes	Fatalities	Fatalities	
2007	32	35	9	10	1	1	C	
2008	11	12	1	1	2	2	C	
2009	7	8	0	0	0	0	(	
2010	9	9	2	2	2	2	4	
2011	8	9	1	1	1	1	2	
2012	8	9	1	2	3	3	1	
2013	10	12	4	5	3	3	4	
2014	12	12	4	4	1	1	5	
2015	23	24	3	4	4	4	Ę	
2016	12	13	4	4	5	5	8	

Source: Crash data shown here are from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, and comes from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. Worker fatality data come from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. What is the value of a human life? Stanford economists have demonstrated that the average value of a year of quality human life is around \$129,000.

Average US life expectancy ~79.8 years

\$129,000/year x 79.8 years = \$10,294,200 Work Zone Fatalities in Alabama: 13 in 2016

\$133,824,600 in Loss of Human Life due to Work Zone Fatalities

### Future of Transportation and ITS/TSMO

- Capacity projects are becoming less feasible
  - Costs are going up but Funding is staying level, at best
  - Running out of Right-of-Way
- TSMO is working to make our routes more efficient
  - Signal timings, automated incident detection, etc.
- While all crashes cannot be prevented, secondary crashes in the queue can
  - USDOT statistics show that the probability of a secondary crash increases by 2.8% every minute that the primary incident remains a hazard
  - Every minute a freeway lane is blocked correlates to four minutes of travel delay