

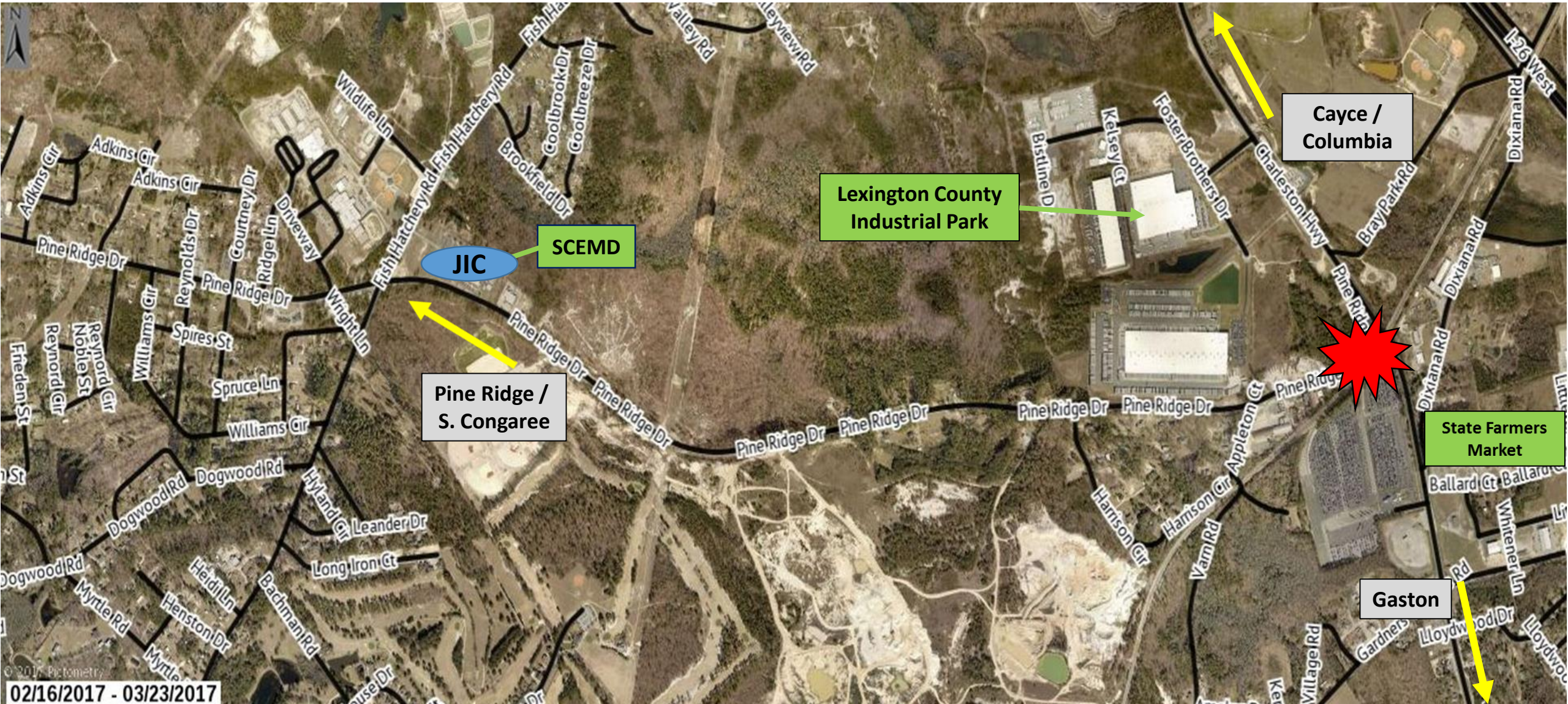
# **Amtrak/CSX Train Crash**

## **February 4, 2018**

Presented by:  
David Kerr, Director of Public Safety  
County of Lexington



# Area Overview



# Incident Location





Estimated Speed: Over 50 MPH





UNION  
PACIFIC



40117

RAM  
4500

# Timeline

## **Amtrak/CSX Train Collision - February 4<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**Estimated time of collision: 02:30**

**First emergency call to LC 911 received: 02:33**

**Cayce PSAP Receives Call From Columbia Dispatch: 02:38**

**First LC Sheriff's Department unit arrives on-scene: 02:39**

**First LC EMS unit arrives on-scene: 02:40**

**First LC Fire unit arrives on-scene: 02:42**

**Unified Command established: 03:03**

**EOC Activated: 03:05**

**Reception Center Activated: 03:44**

**First patient transport unit leaves scene: 04:01**

**Last patient transport unit leaves scene: 05:49**

**Last passenger transported to the Reception Center: 06:00**

# Timeline (Cont.)

## **Amtrak/CSX Train Collision - February 4<sup>th</sup> 2018**

**First Press Conference: 06:30**

**Amtrak Task Force Arrives: 08:04 (Reception Center)**

**Second Press Conference with Governor: 10:45**

**First Bus Departs for Florida (Amtrak Charter): 11:45**

**EOC De-Activated: 15:30**

**Reception Center Closed: 18:00**



# Incident Command (Unified Command)

## Command Structure

- Scope/Size of the Scene
- Multiple Agencies & Multiple Disciplines
- Need for timely communication and allocation of resources

## Incident Command Challenges

- ICP Location Stationary
- Use Staging
- Congestion of site
- Scene Control
- Recognizing the need to split radio channels

# Point of Impact



# Passengers

## Amtrak Manifest (148)

- 140 Passengers
- 8 Crew Members

## Transported (116)

- Lexington (30)
- Richland (60)
- Veterans Administration (12)
- Baptist (7)
- Park Ridge (7)

## Deceased (2)

# First Responders

Discipline	Organization	Vehicles	Personnel	
EMS	Lexington County	6 Amb / 4 Supv	32	On-scene & Reception
EMS	Lexington County	1 Ambus	3	
EMS	Richland County	2 Ambulances	4	
EMS	Richland County	1 Ambus	6	
EMS	Fort Jackson	1 Ambulance	2	
Aviation	Life Net	1 Helicopter	3	Standby
Fire	Lexington County	5 Vehicles	10	L5, S5, E12, T19 and BN2
Fire	Lexington County	6 Vehicles	11	Hazmat 1 & 2, SRT1, BN1, DCO, and E9
Fire	Lexington County	2 Vehicles	4	Rehab 1, E15
Fire	City of Columbia	2 Vehicle	5	Rescue 2 & BN2
Law Enforcement	Lexington County	53 Vehicles	53	On Scene 4 Days
Law Enforcement	Cayce/Pine Ridge	24	26	1 Engine, 1 Ladder & 22 Patrol
Law Enforcement	Highway Patrol	14	14	2 per Day After Initial Response
Coroner	Lexington County	7	7	

**Total: 132**

**183**

# Reception Center Pine Ridge Elementary School



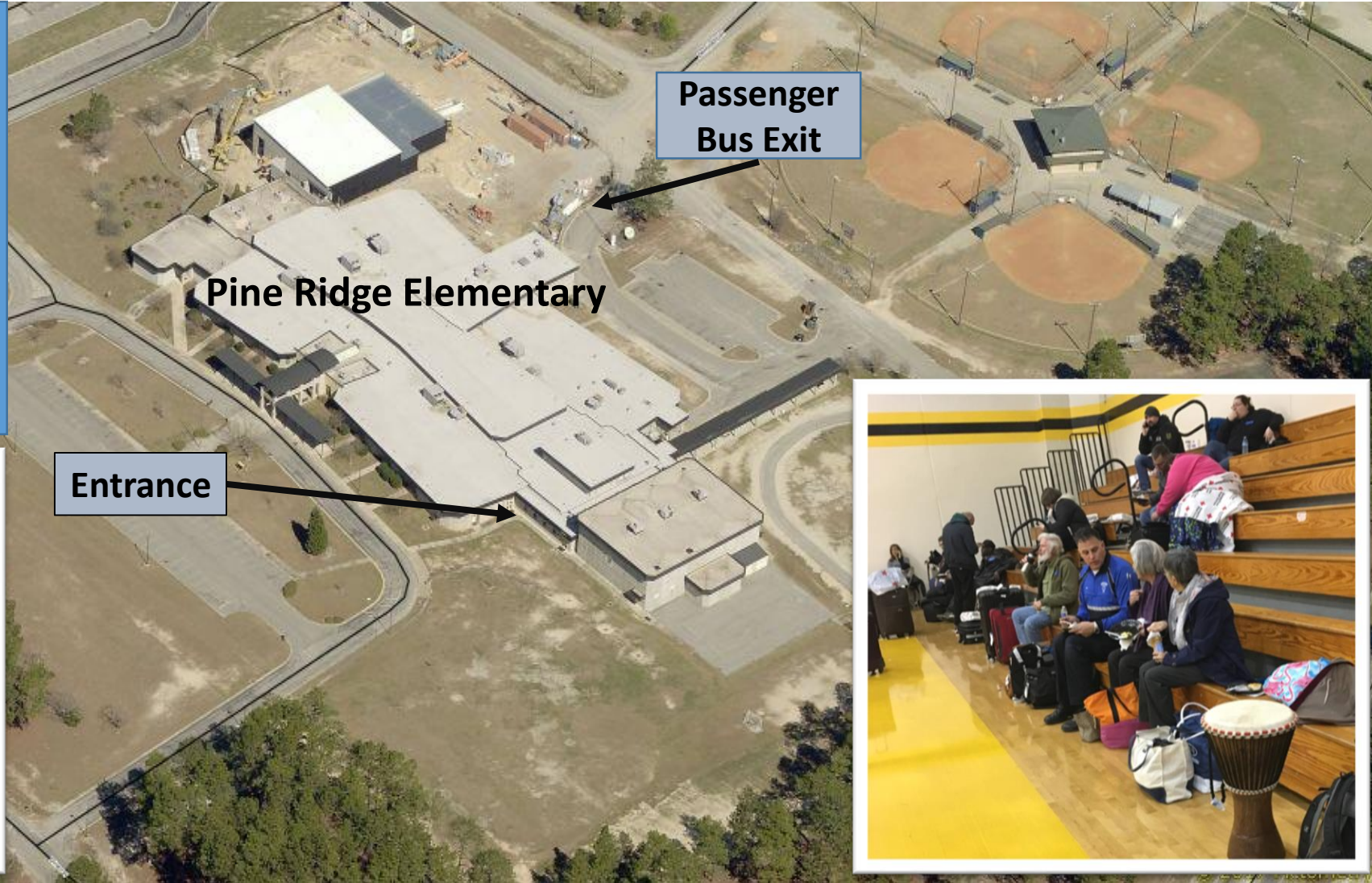
# Reception Center

Lexington School District 2

Contacted from EOC at 03:44

Red Cross/LEX CERT on Site at 05:10

Site Closed at 18:00



# Operational Advantages

## (Within our Control)

- No egos/excellent team work
- Extensive Experience with EOC Activations
- Communications Operations Channels
- Standardized Radio Template (Countywide)
- Public Information Process (County & State EMD)
- Consolidated Dispatch Center
- School District Relationship
- American Red Cross
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

# EOC Key Actions

- Interface with Amtrak (Passenger Manifest, Information, etc.)
- Interface with State EMD (Incident Tracking)
- CERT/Red Cross Coordination
- Coordination of Medical Response & Tracking of Patients
- Coordination of Reception Center
- Acquisition of Non-Emergent Transportation



# Incident Advantages

## (Outside of our Control)

- Day and Time of incident
- Access to the scene
- Occurred in a populated area rather than a rural area
- Most of the patients were ambulatory/low acuity
- Adequate room for Casualty Collection Points
- Multiple hospitals within close proximity to incident
- Reception point and State Emergency Management close to scene
- Weather
- Limited HAZMAT involvement

# Post Incident

- Internal After Action Review – February 14, 2018
- Post Incident Analysis – February 15, 2018
- Consolidation of Response Resources for Billing
- Amtrak AAR (49CFR-239 Requirement) – March 29, 2018
- Follow-up Training (Rail Response / ICS) –
  - Norfolk Southern – Tuesday, May 22, 2018 (Tabletop - 2019)
  - Amtrak – TBD
  - CSX – TBD

# Improvement

- Amtrak establishing passenger information line sooner
- Additional training with rail companies
- Reduce congestion at the scene
- Better communication between the scene and the EOC
- Better accountability tracking of partner responders on-scene
- Better use of Unified Command (ICP Location, Staging, etc.)
- Quicker transportation of non-medical patients from scene
- Tracking of information regarding patients and transport destinations
- Have survivor kits with blankets and food on stand-by within County

# Questions

