

McCarran International Airport Response to the 1 October Incident



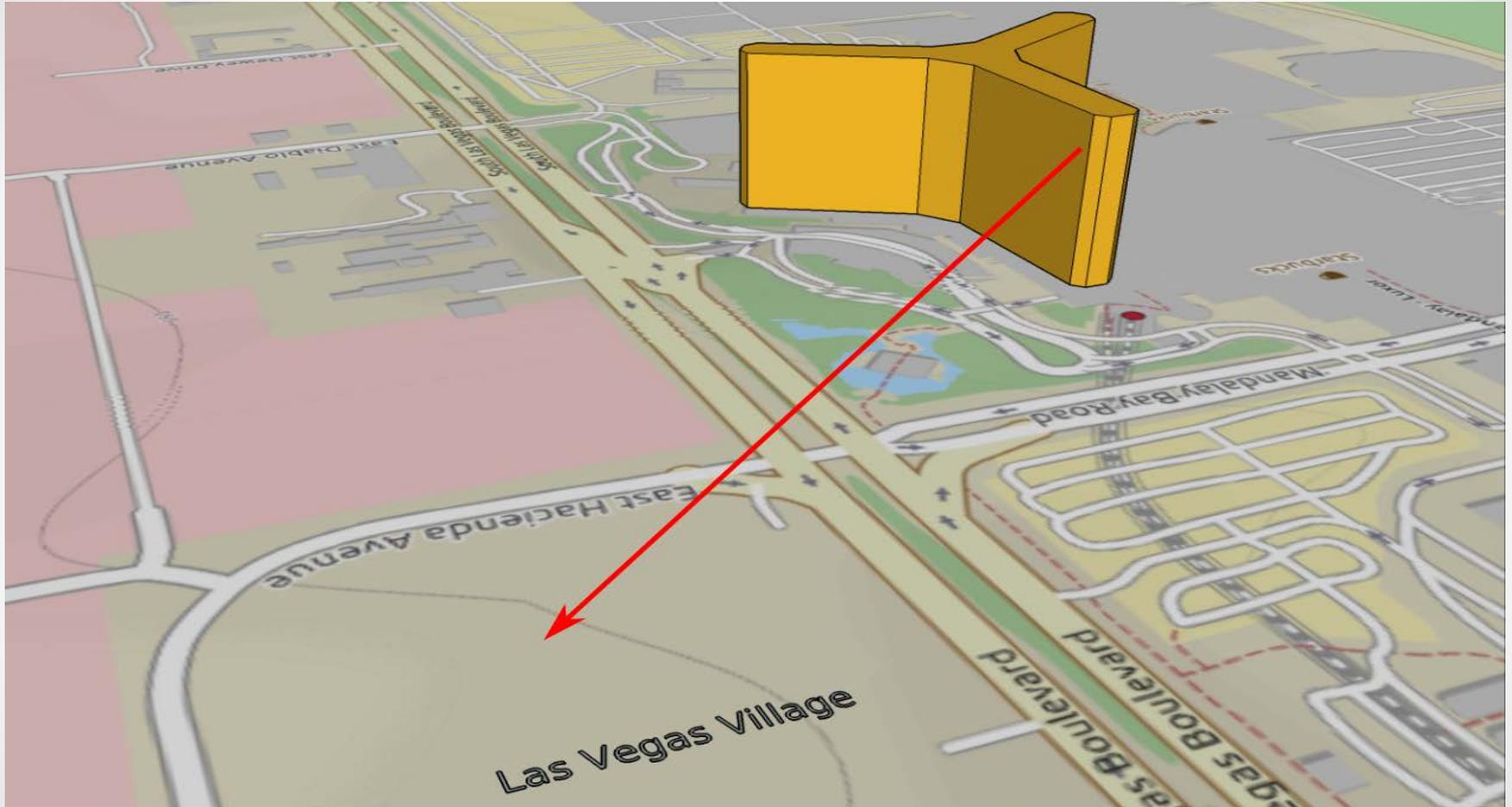
INTRODUCTION

- Introduction
- Situation Summary with Exhibits
- Timeline with Exhibits
 - Initial Notification Time Line
 - Sustained Response
 - Recovery Response
- Opportunities
- Successes
- Conclusion Summary
- Final Thought

SITUATION SUMMARY

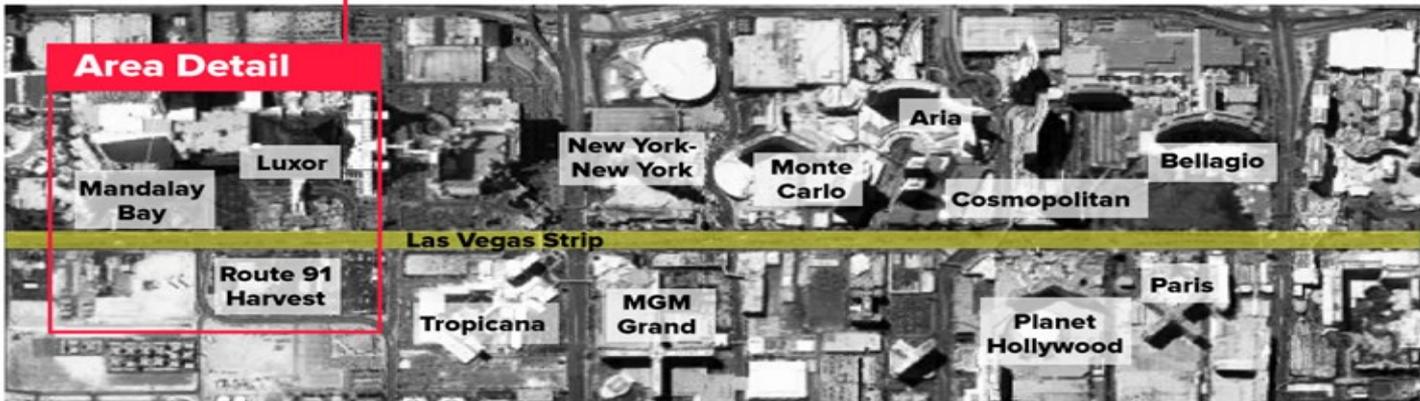
- Incident Location: Mandalay Bay Resort & Las Vegas Village
 - Route 91 Harvest Music Festival
- Timeline: October 1-2, 2017, 2209L – 0600L+
- Total reported injured: 927 victims: 58 deceased; 413 injured by gunfire; 456 sustained other injuries
- Airport Initial Notification: Security issue possible breach, quick transition to a rescue mission
- Sustained Response: Triage – life-saving, property protection, safety & security controls
 - Stopped flight arrivals & departures except for emergencies (i.e. low fuel, medical)
- Recovery Response: Safe & effective removal of evacuees, return to normal flight operations

Graphic Site Depiction



<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/User:Phoenix7777>

Strip Visual Depiction



Sources: Google Earth; Route 91 Harvest



3D Aerial View



<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/User:Mliu92>

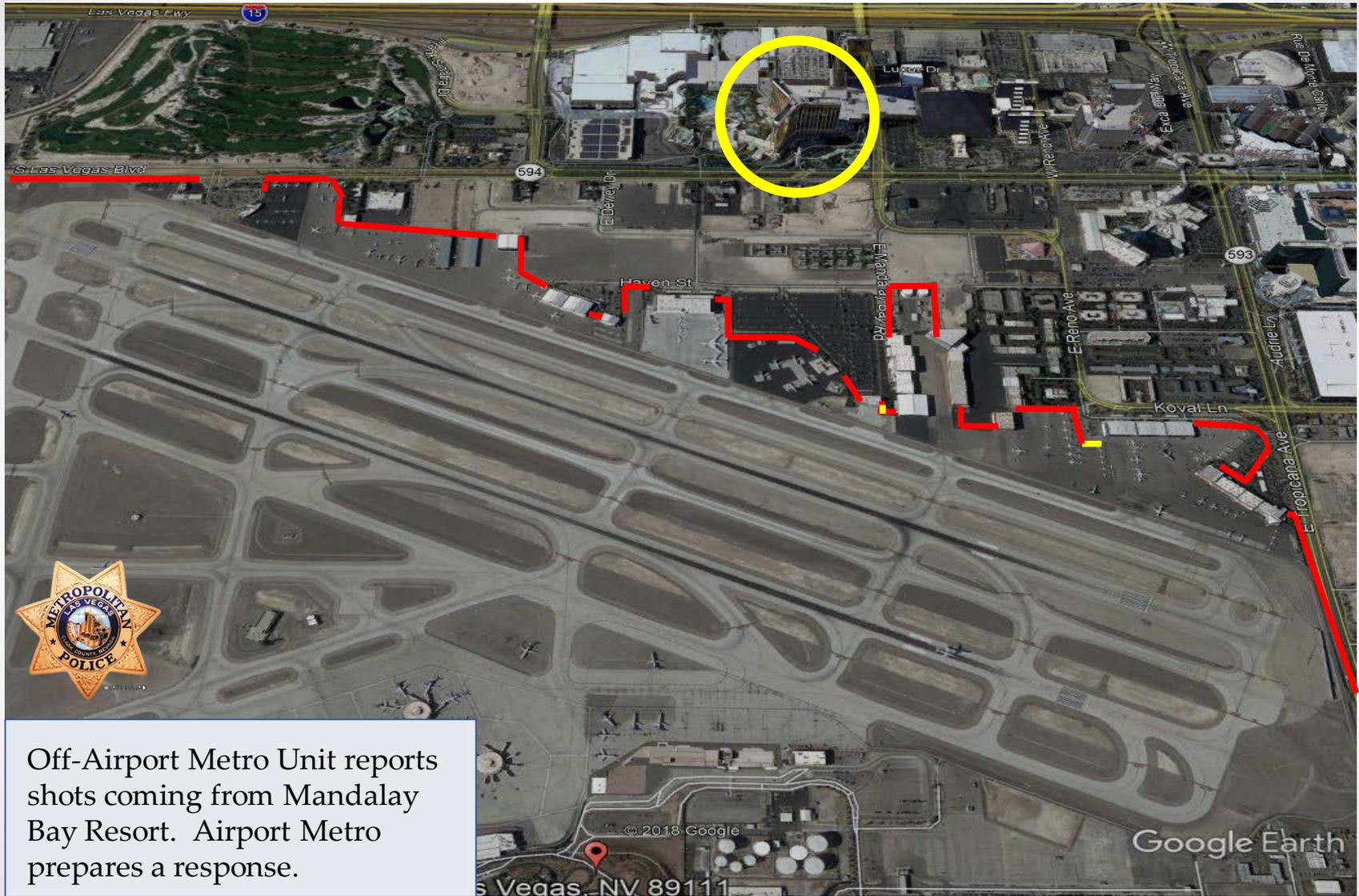
Site of Route 91 Harvest Festival



Perimeter Fence Line



Event Timeline: 2209L



Off-Airport Metro Unit reports shots coming from Mandalay Bay Resort. Airport Metro prepares a response.

Event Timeline: 2211L



Airport Metro advises Airport Control Center of initial information.

Event Timeline: 2217L



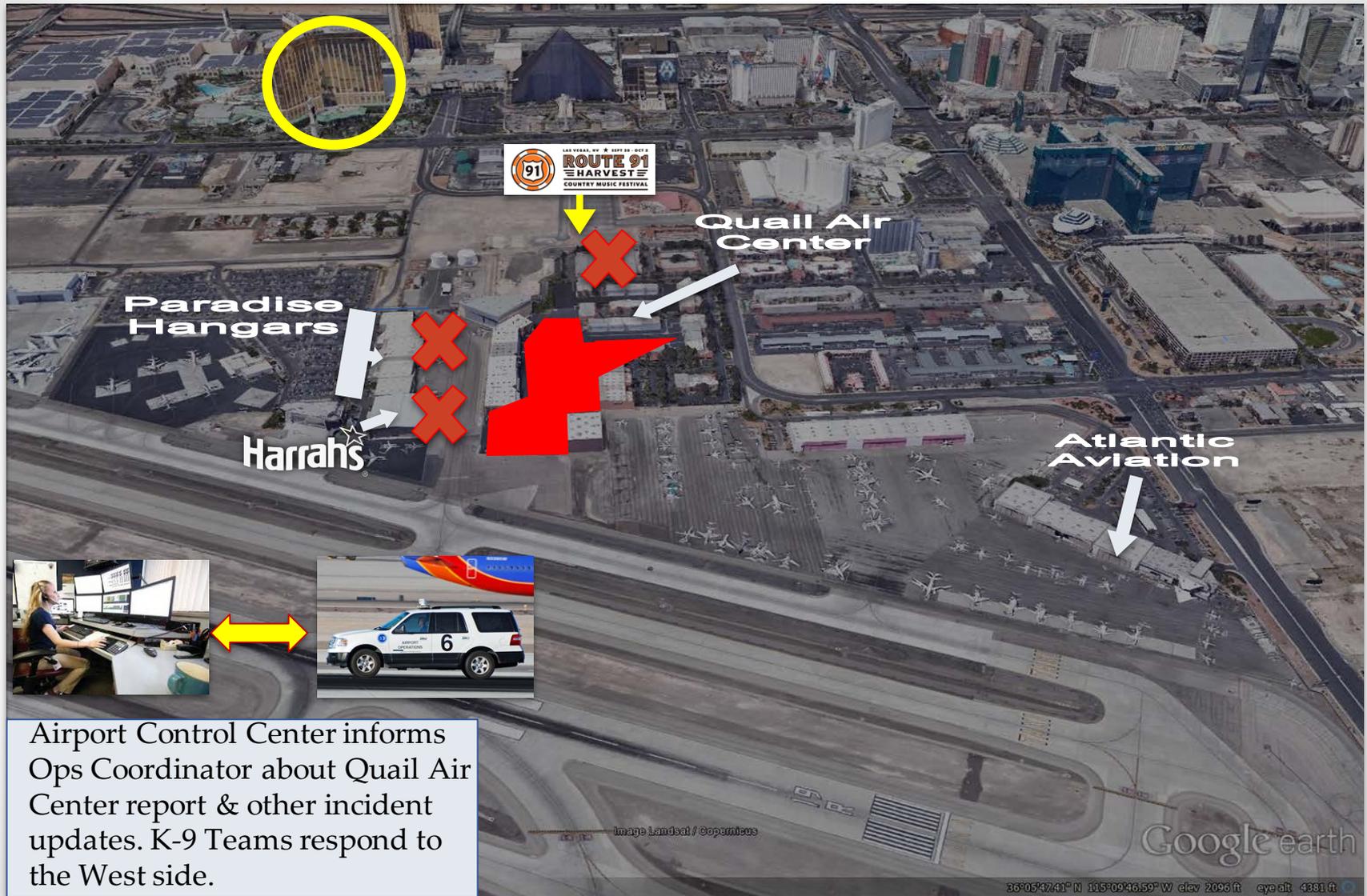
Door alarms begin activation at several West side Airfield tenants: Harrah's Hangar, Quail Air Center & Paradise Hangars.

Event Timeline: 2220L



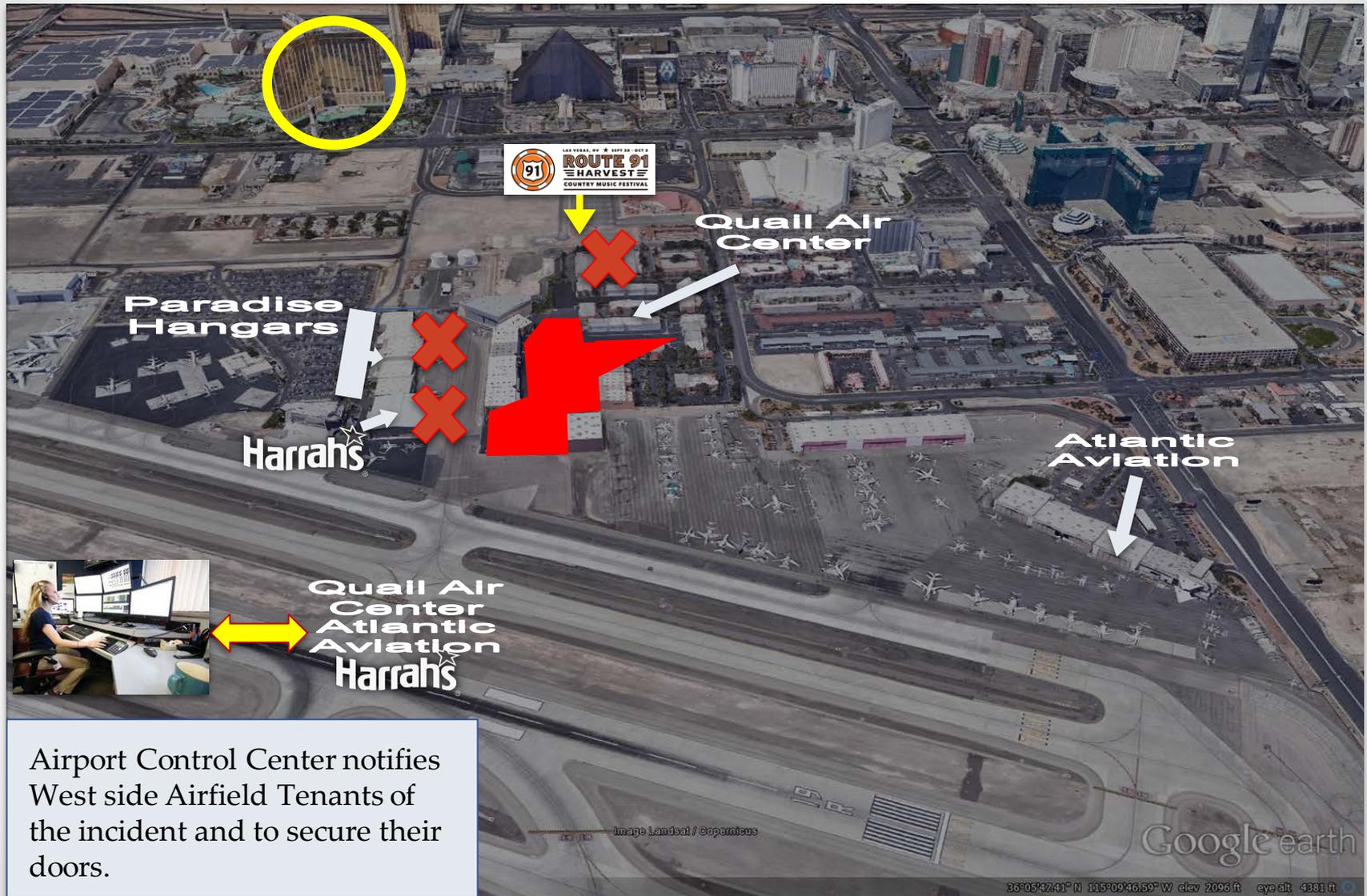
Quail Air Center reports:
"multitudes of people" on the
ramp.

Event Timeline: 2221L



Airport Control Center informs Ops Coordinator about Quail Air Center report & other incident updates. K-9 Teams respond to the West side.

Event Timeline: 2225L



Airport Control Center notifies West side Airfield Tenants of the incident and to secure their doors.

Event Timeline: 2226L



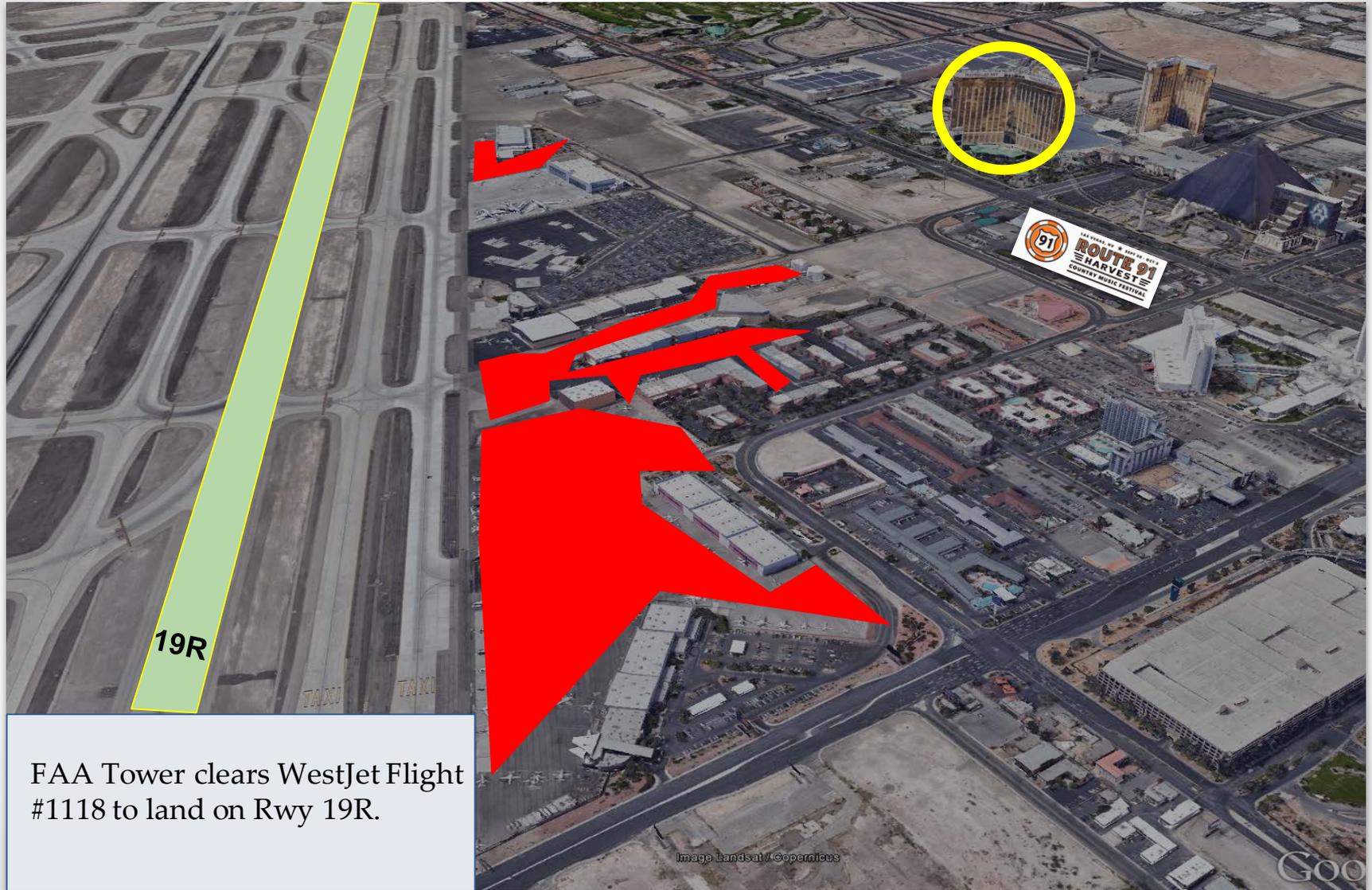
Ops Coordinator & K-9 report multiple people on Atlantic ramp with 4 wounded, requesting Airport Metro & CCFD Medical/ Paramedics.

Event Timeline: 2226L



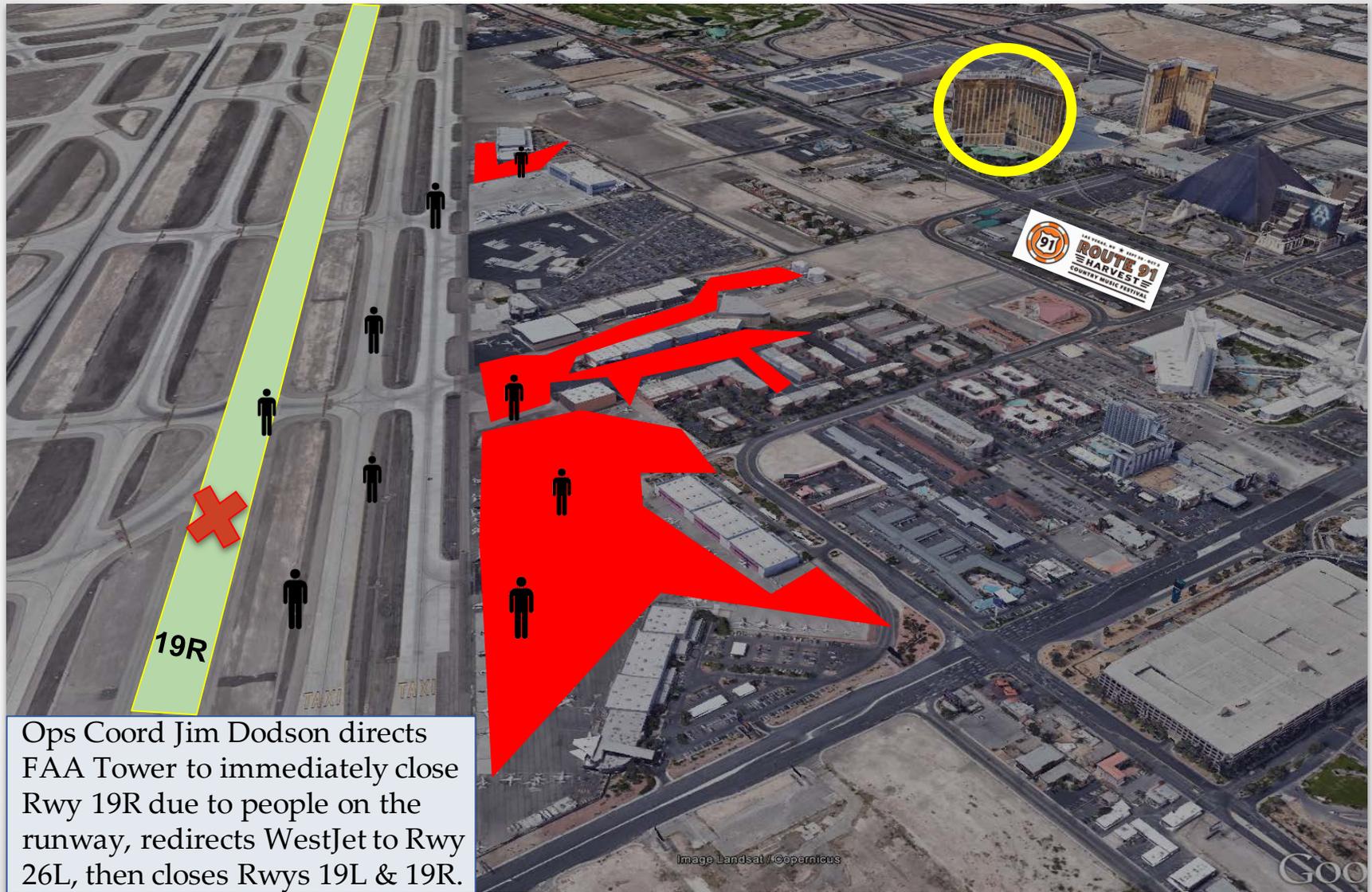
Sundance Helicopter also reports several shooting victims.

Event Timeline: 2227L



FAA Tower clears WestJet Flight #1118 to land on Rwy 19R.

Event Timeline: 2227L



Ops Coord Jim Dodson directs FAA Tower to immediately close Rwy 19R due to people on the runway, redirects WestJet to Rwy 26L, then closes Rws 19L & 19R.

Event Timeline: 2228L



Allegiant reports 30 people in their maintenance area & around aircraft.

Event Timeline: 2228L



Ops Coord Brian Freeburg picks up two critically wounded & transports them to CCFD Paramedics for treatment.

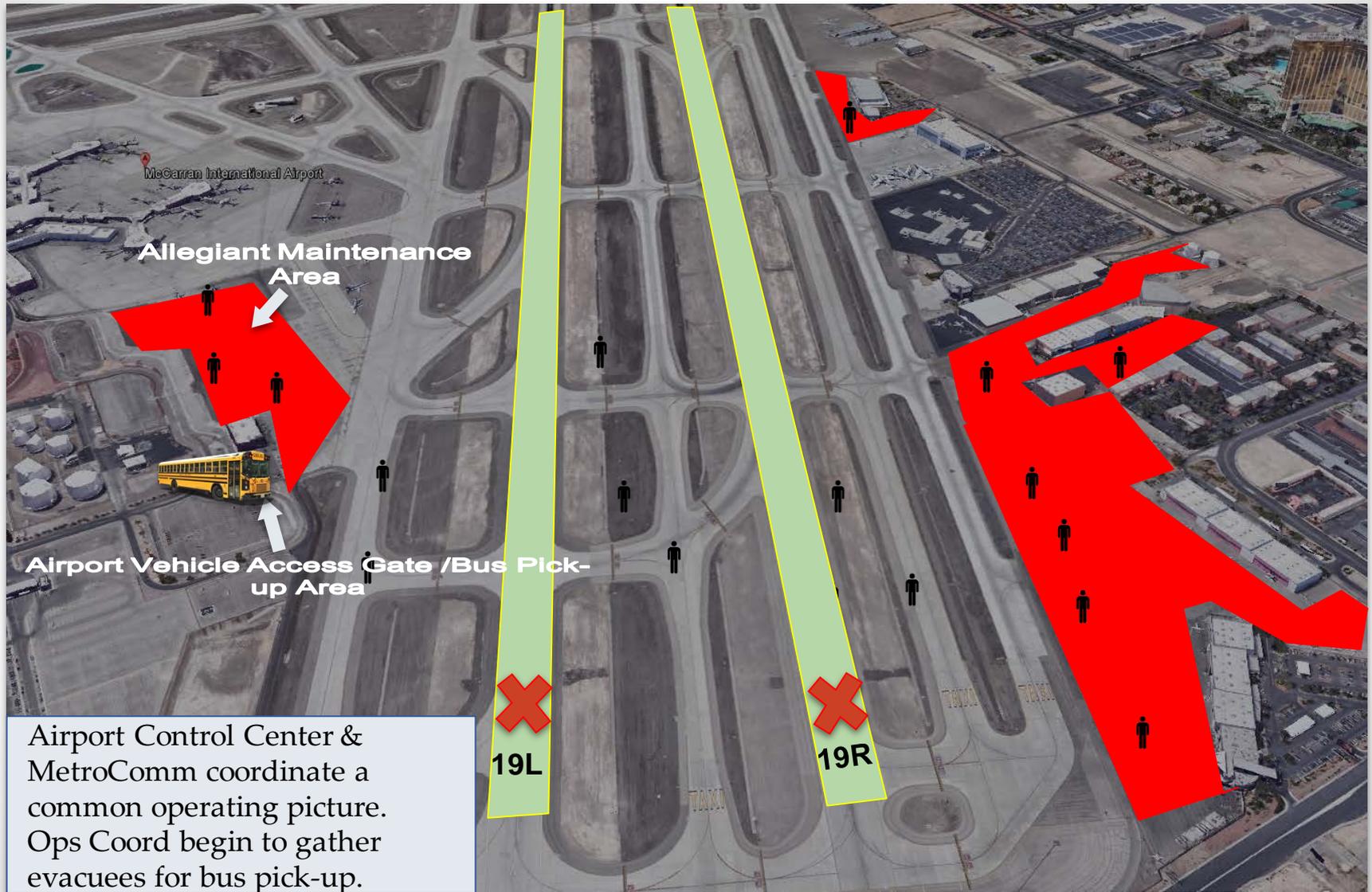
Brian Freeburg

Airport Ops Coordinator



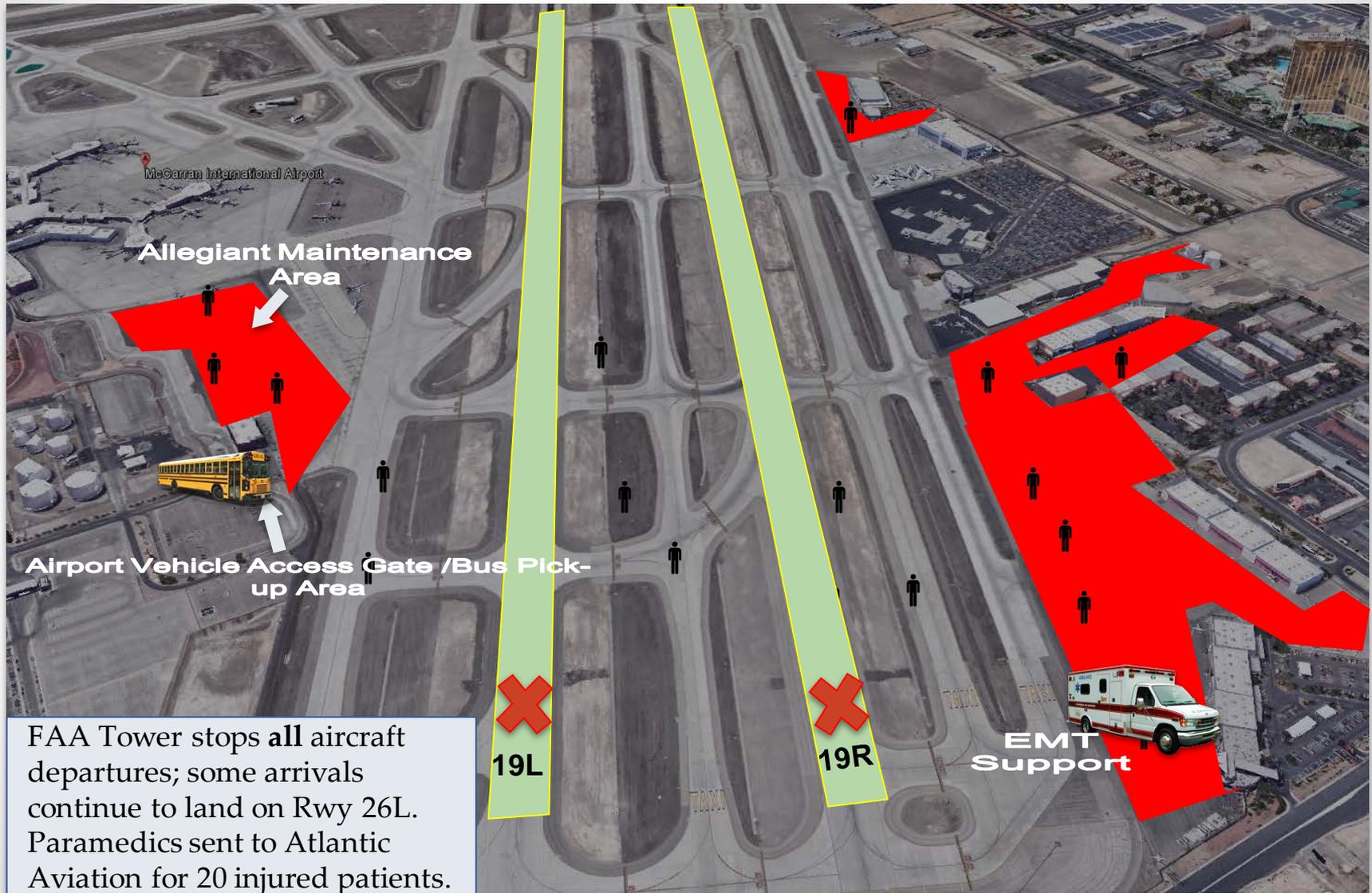
As Brian was travelling on the taxiway to the West side of the Airport to assess the security alarms, he observed two people who appeared to have gunshot wounds and were severely bleeding. He stopped and quickly loaded them into his vehicle, then expeditiously sought medical attention with the CCFD Paramedics. Singularly, his quick thinking and timely response saved both victims' lives that night. Brian was later recognized as the McCarran's Employee of the Month for his actions.

Event Timeline: 2232L

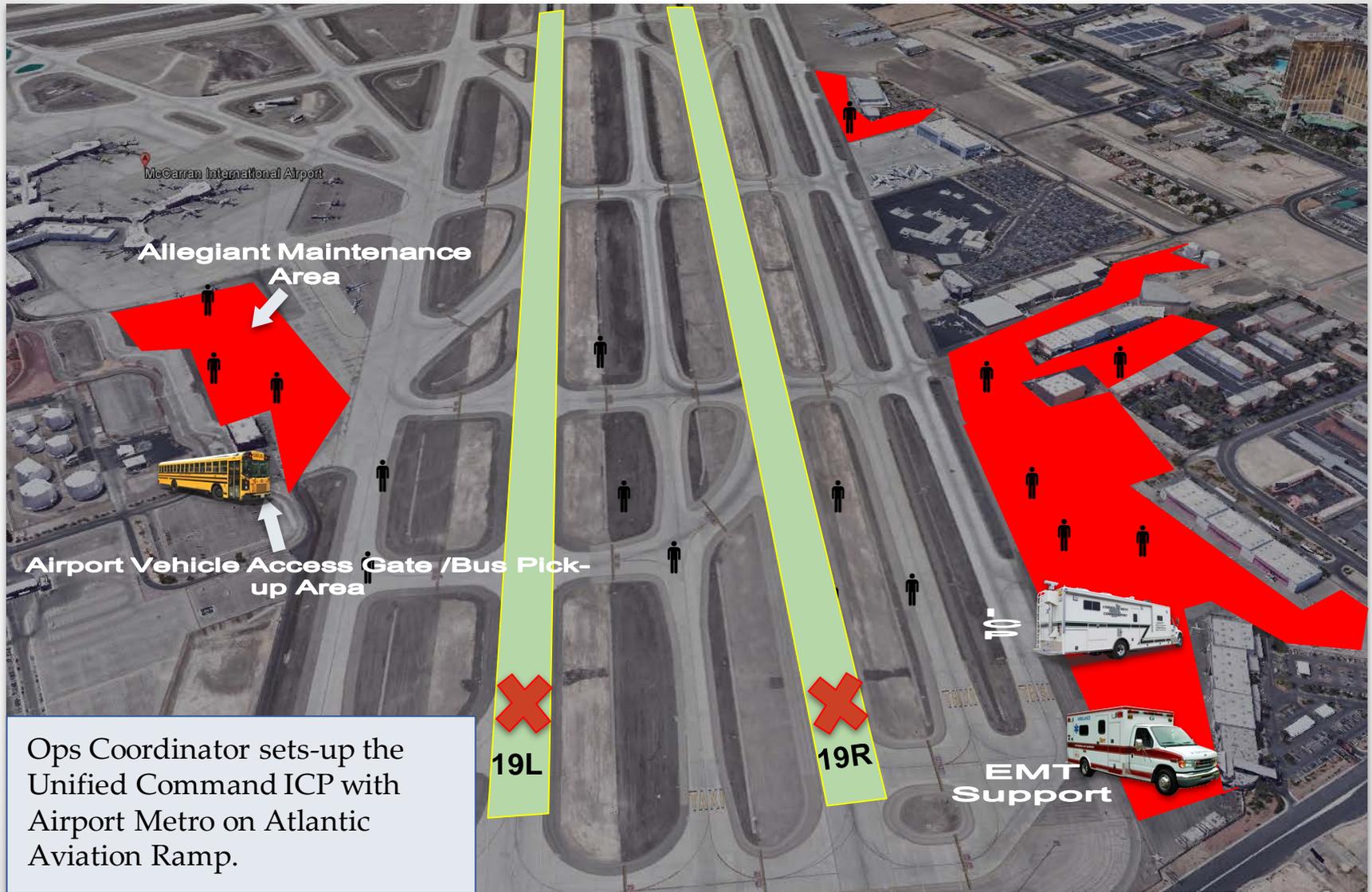


Airport Control Center & MetroComm coordinate a common operating picture. Ops Coord begin to gather evacuees for bus pick-up.

Event Timeline: 2233L

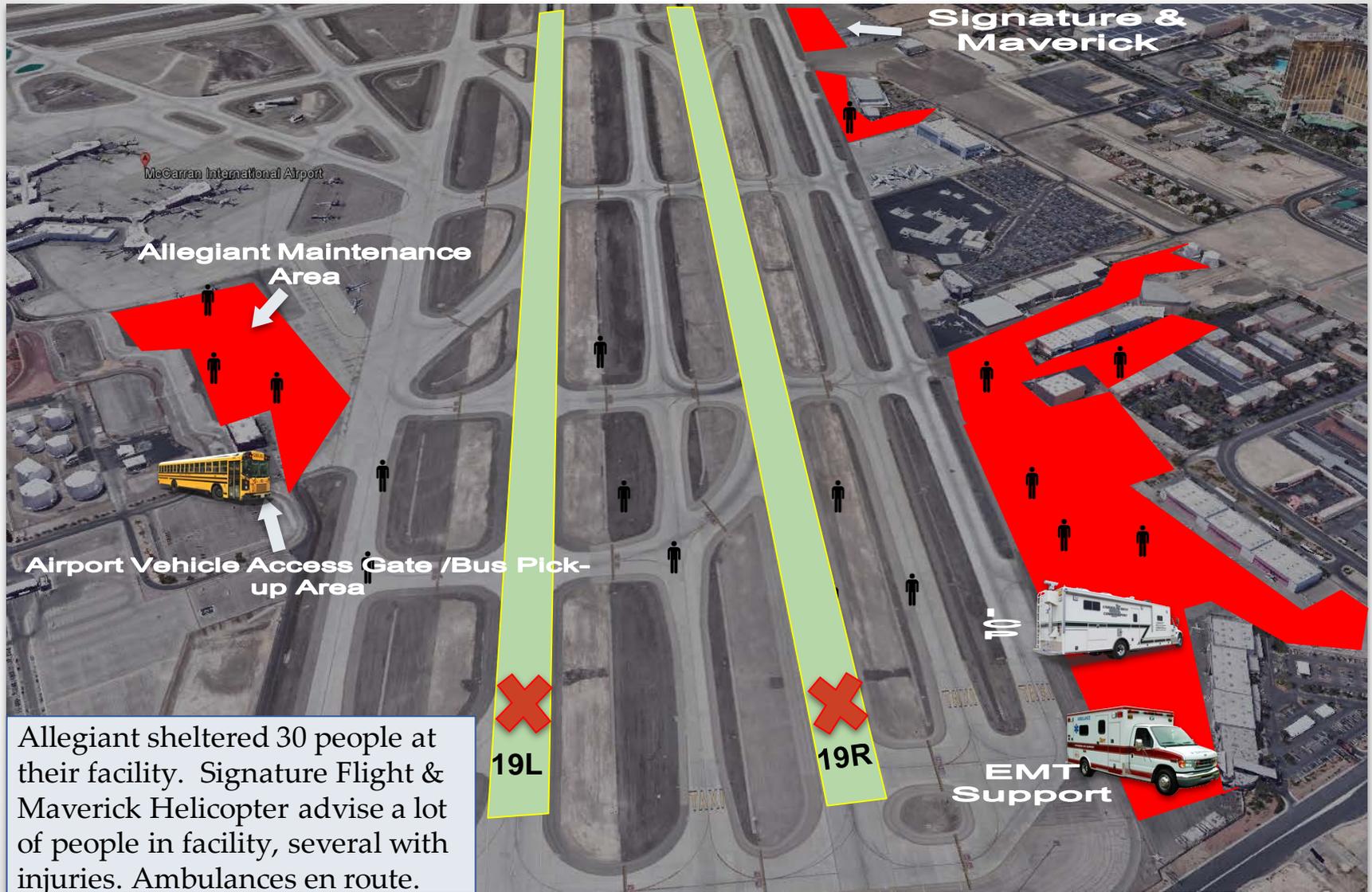


Event Timeline: 2234L



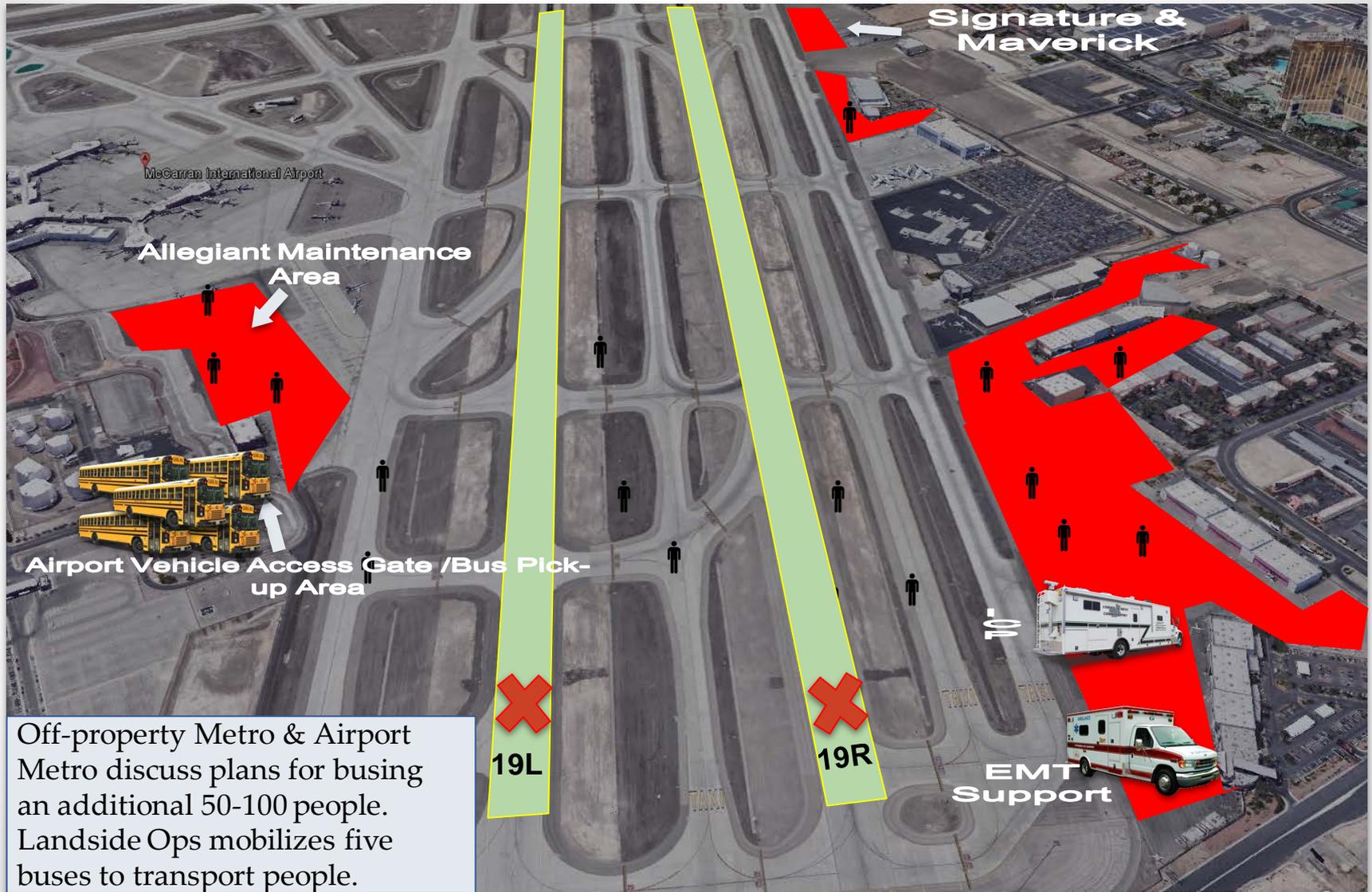
Ops Coordinator sets-up the Unified Command ICP with Airport Metro on Atlantic Aviation Ramp.

Event Timeline: 2235L



Allegiant sheltered 30 people at their facility. Signature Flight & Maverick Helicopter advise a lot of people in facility, several with injuries. Ambulances en route.

Event Timeline: 2237L



Off-property Metro & Airport Metro discuss plans for busing an additional 50-100 people. Landside Ops mobilizes five buses to transport people.

Event Timeline: 2237L

28 Minutes have passed since initial notification...

SUSTAINED RESPONSE

2240L- 2252L

- Many more reports of uncontrolled people on the airfield from Atlantic Aviation to Maverick Helicopter.
- Buses & ambulances are arriving.
- More shooting victims at Sundance Helicopter and Quail Air Center; security fence breaches at Sundance Helicopter and Video Poker perimeter fences.
- Atlantic Aviation & Harrah's Hangar more victims appear from inside.

SUSTAINED RESPONSE

2252L- 2310L

- Concert Patrons call the Airport Control Center to report they are hiding at Paradise Hangar #6. Others observed attempting to climb over the fence for safety.
- Ops Coordinator designates Harrah's Hangar (a central point) as a temporary shelter for over 100 people, some with wounded.
- The two victims at CCFD Station 13 receive transport.

SUSTAINED RESPONSE



Paradise Hangar (#2) Landside
Entry Damage, stolen SUV

SUSTAINED RESPONSE

2328L- 2333L

- McCarran implements ground stop, diverting all inbound aircraft unless an emergency.
- Off-Property Metro report the shooter threat is “down” inside the Mandalay Bay Resort.
- Airport buses begin off-loading people at the Airport Cell Phone Lot

SUSTAINED RESPONSE



RECOVERY RESPONSE

2345L-2358L

- Aircraft arrivals only resumed Rwy 26/8 complex
- Perimeter fence repairs begin on the West side
- Airport-wide security sweeps in-progress
- Departures resume Rwy 26/8 complex
- Thomas & Mack/ Airport Cell Phone Lot open for victims

RECOVERY RESPONSE

0003L-0437L

- **Paging message:** Normal airport flight operations resumed
- Investigations and sweeps of SUV, West Tank Farm and perimeter fence
- Last evacuee off the airfield

RECOVERY RESPONSE

Atlantic Aviation
breach (North),
damage



Pliers

RECOVERY RESPONSE



RECOVERY RESPONSE

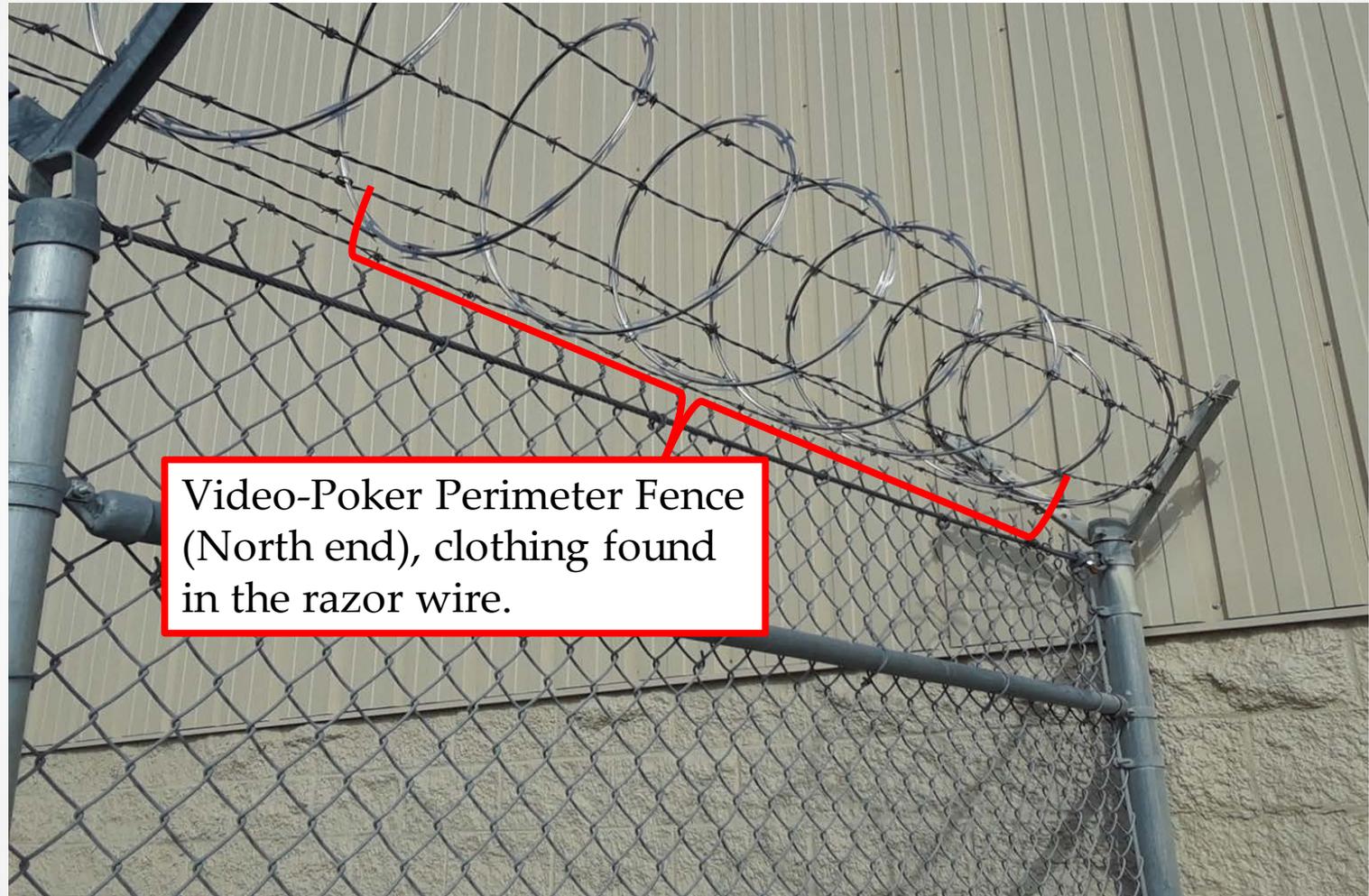


RECOVERY RESPONSE

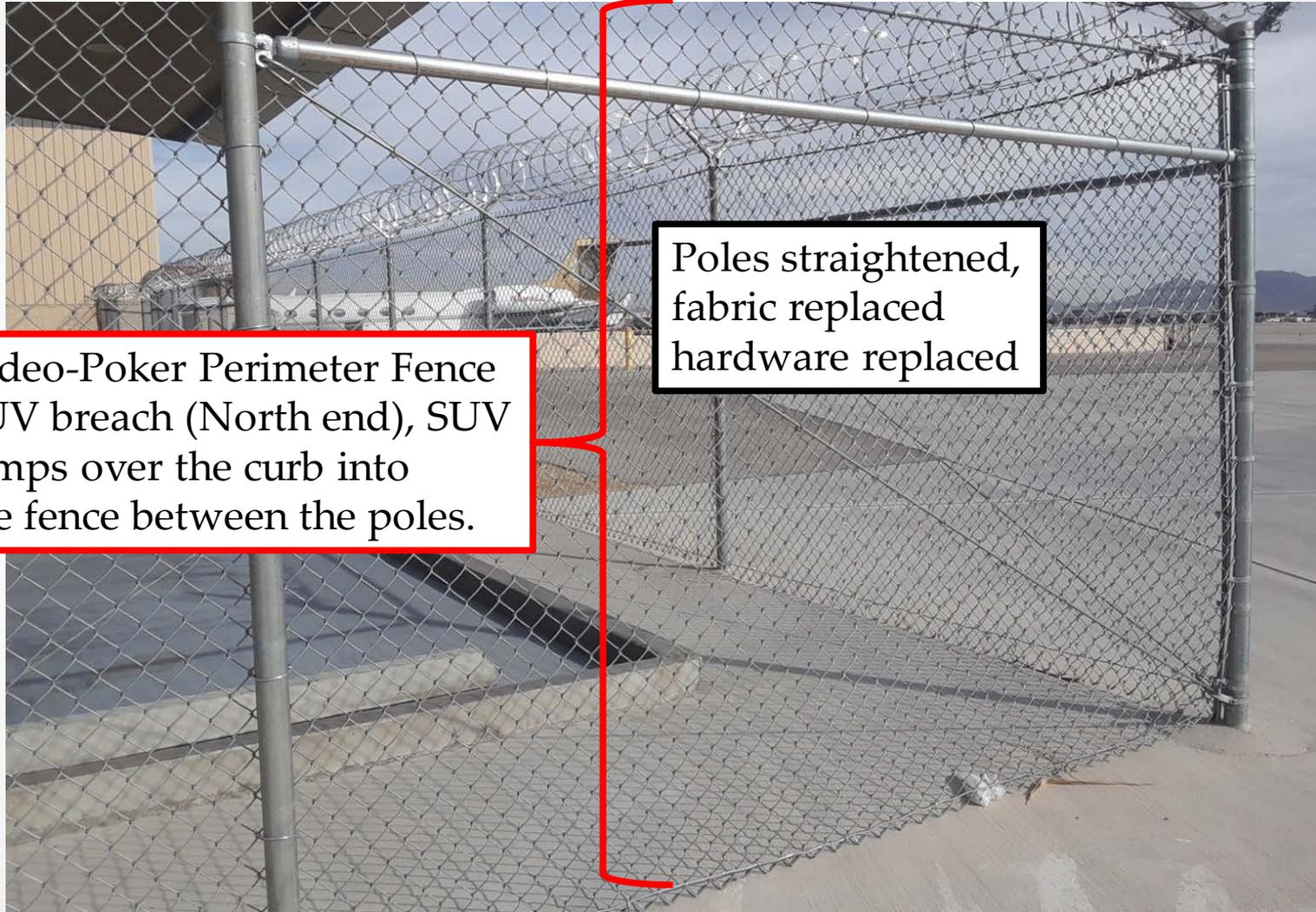


Atlantic Aviation breach
(Constant Aviation, South)
New metal cable, "inside",
The fence was pulled up
from the bottom.

RECOVERY RESPONSE



RECOVERY RESPONSE



Video-Poker Perimeter Fence
SUV breach (North end), SUV
jumps over the curb into
the fence between the poles.

Poles straightened,
fabric replaced
hardware replaced

OPPORTUNITIES

- Perimeter fence line security enhancements
- Improve existing technology to enhance perimeter security
- Implementation of enhanced West side Airfield security surveillance capabilities
- Education for contacting Airport Control Center via telephone during emergencies & radio use
- Equipping Airport radio users in public areas with wired ear buds

SUCSESSES

- Ops Coordinator & FAA Tower immediately identified the threat & closed runways
- ACC coordination of mutual-aid support throughout the Incident with MetroComm
- Life-saving measures by Airport personnel, CCFD & Airport Metro
- Ops Coordinators & Airport Metro timely set-up of the ICS Unified Command ICP
- Security & K-9 providing direct response & support through-out the incident duration

SUCSESSES

- Landside Ops promptness with buses, tow truck & evacuation support
- Terminal Ops & Custodial support in crowd control & fence security
- Facility Maintenance personnel repairs of the perimeter fence line
- Social Media was constantly updated
- Airport Security, K-9 & Law Enforcement effective security sweeps of West side General Aviation Facilities

CONCLUSION SUMMARY

- Initial Response: Six minutes after the situational notification to the Airport Control Center, Oct 1, 2017, 2217L actions were being taken
- Safety & security control responses saved lives & maintained security protocols
- Sustained Response: Lives were saved by the timely closing of runways & timely triage of two critical wounded
- Recovery Response: Safe & effective removal of evacuees, airfield & facility sweeps, thorough runway/taxiway inspections, maintained solid communications returning to safe & normal flight operations

FINAL THOUGHTS

The basis of this event is both tragic and universal in sadness. However, on that ominous night, many who did not know or understand the gravity of the horrific actions perpetrated on innocent concert goers, found themselves called into action. Some would describe this event like an earthquake in the ocean and McCarran was hit by a resulting tsunami wave. The whole McCarran Family of professionals responded to people they did not know, comforted those in unimaginable distress, and still accomplished the job they were trained to perform with precision and grace. Under the stresses of that night, there was no training scenario ever developed that could have prepared them for what they faced on that dark night. What they did have was compassion and understanding of being flexible in any situation. They implemented the Incident Command System they had learned, and relied on the lessons learned from many other trainings and actual events experienced in their past. Don't let the pain and agony of this story weaken your resolve, but instead let that encourage you to plan, conduct, and participate in frequent emergency response training. This is a story of community professionals that rose to the challenge and responded well. I now offer you the opportunity to share these lessons learned or better yet, apply them to your own organizations and lives.

"Vegas Strong"

Thank you for your attention!

Presenter: A.J. Cieplenski
Airport Emergency Administrator
Phone: 702-261-4437
Email: adolphc@mccarran.com

