



Hillsborough CTST – January 24, 2024

Meeting started at 9:30 am

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were given. December 2023 minutes were approved.

II. Business Updates

Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motorcycle Safety Updates

Jim Snell (TPD): January has been busy with crashes, with six fatalities so far. The fatalities were a mixture of different mode types including motorcycles, pedestrians, and vehicle versus vehicle related fatalities. Three of the five crashes (six fatalities) were alcohol or suspected alcohol involved.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): On Friday, March 22nd at 8:00 am is the 10th Annual Bike with the Temple Terrace Mayor at the Recreation Center in Temple Terrace. CUTR will be participating in USF Campus Safety Day on Monday, February 5th at the USF campus. They are doing some other outreach events on campus. Also, the high school driver's education program continues.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): March is Florida Bike Month.

Education

Jim Reiser (Gresham Smith): He is concentrating on motorcycle outreach. Jim is getting some events lined up and will do outreach throughout 2024. If anyone knows anything related to motorcycle safety that they would like assistance with through FDOT, Jim can help facilitate that.

Dawn Lewis (TGH): TGH partnered with the HCSO and did the Battle of the Belts Campaign for 2023. The results are in, and the best overall seat belt compliance was Bloomingdale High School. Second place was Steinbrenner High School, and third place was Newsome High School. The award ceremony will be held this Thursday at 10:30 am at Bloomingdale High School. Discussion followed regarding Battle of the Belts.

Jennifer Hall (Nations Traffic Safety School): The Teen Safe Driving Coalition is going to be making a statewide Battle of the Belts. Hopefully, it will start in April as it is also Distracted Driving Month, prom, etc. She should get more information at the Teen Safe Driving Coalition on February 12th in Orlando. Nations Traffic Safety School has gotten numbers over the last 10 to 15 years between crash numbers from the state, FDOT and Signal Four and compared it to the course completion classes coming out of the DHSMV. The course completions include the Basic Driver Improvement (BDI) course and the 12-hour class. Over the years there has been a complete shift of crashes versus courses. For example, in 2005, the collision number was roughly 268,000 and course completions were roughly 655,000. In 2022, collisions were roughly 709,000 and course completions were roughly 264,000. This year Nations Traffic Safety School is trying to advocate this issue and send information to courts, individuals, clerk of courts, etc. There has been



a decrease in court orders as well as a decrease in elections. Also, for anyone that is interested in a contest for students in the schools, the students are looking to make posters on driver safety, and then the winner of the post competition gets a trip to New York with a producer and the student's idea is made into a big national campaign. Also, there is some scholarship money going out for this competition as well as money going back to the teacher that is associated with the winner.

Enforcement-Crash Statistics

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): The Enhanced Law Enforcement Engagement (ELEE) program has ended. The last day for details was January 6th. They are tallying everything, and final totals will be announced at the next week. The ELEE ceremony, where they will give the officers the equipment that they earned, will be on March 21st.

Engineering

Abigail Flores (Hillsborough County (HC)): HC is working to do some project development on HC roadways for several bicycle projects to improve bicycle safety. HC is currently looking for two locations where they can do a study to determine what kind of facility would be appropriate and how they can increase bicycle safety on the roadways. They are also in the design phase for a lot of projects with the low cost, quick implementable projects, specifically on Boyette Road and Balm Riverview Road intersection area. HC has some green paint planned and they want to put some high visibility crosswalks on Boyette Road as part of Riverview High School. The designs are complete, and they are looking to implement that this year, including improvements for walking and biking that are related to Safe Routes to School and transit. HC is also working on their speed management selection tools to select appropriate speeds for HC roadways. It would support reduction of speeds on HC roadways to improve safety. HC is kicking off a new safety program this year for signalized intersections. They are going to screen all the signalized intersections in HC for risk and crashes and then produce systemic improvements. HC is starting their fiscal year safety reporting from their previous years, so they are starting to gather data and metrics to report. In December, HC learned that they received a \$10 million dollar demonstration grant for quick builds, which will inform the action plan updates such as speed management and Vision Zero plans.

Megan Tetro (HC): HC will be implementing a new lighting program for this fiscal year. They will be looking at methodology, ranking and screening to identify where they have some lighting needs, where the risk is higher and looking at prioritizing some of those projects in the upcoming years. Discussion followed.

Lama Alfaseeh (HC): HC is working on a project that analyzes crash data in unincorporated HC at three levels of resolution. The three levels include county level, a group of intersection level, and an intersection level, which is highly disaggregated, and the analysis is spatial and has different levels of resolution. HC is also working on linking law enforcement data to fire rescue data for a comprehensive and thorough analysis. When it is done, it will help achieve the objectives of the Safe Systems Approach which is adopted by the US Department of Transportation.

Lori Palaio (JMT): Lori discussed the fatal crash maps. From January 1 to November 11, 2023, there have been 178 fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1 to October 2, 2023, there were 145 fatal crashes.



The 33 new fatal crashes include one roll over, two unknown, three bicycles, five right angles, two head on, one rear end, one other, seven left turns, seven run off the road, and four pedestrian fatal crashes. Of all the fatal crashes in HC this year approximately 59 percent occurred at night, 34 percent were intersection related, and 40 percent were lane departure related. Seventy-nine percent of the pedestrian fatal crashes occurred at night. Fifty percent of the bicycle fatal crashes occurred at night. Vehicle operators and pedestrians have the highest number of fatal crashes. State roads and county roads make up 88 percent of fatal crashes in HC. There are currently 178 fatal crashes through November 11, 2023. During the same period in 2022 there were 189 fatal crashes, so HC is down by 11 fatal crashes.

School Transportation Items

Abigail Flores (HC): HC has identified the schools that they are going to study this year for Safe Routes to School safety improvements for walking and biking to school. The schools are Lennard High School, Thompson and Seffner Elementary Schools, and Mann and Guinta Middle Schools. The County will be starting project development this month including observing where the students are working, observing needed infrastructure to enhance safety, etc. They also completed the quick, low cost, quickly implementable improvements for last year's Safe Routes to School projects which were Riverview High School, Webb Middle School, and Town and Country, Morgan Woods, and Woodbridge Elementary Schools. They are ready to improve those with some low-cost high visibility crosswalks, improving the intersection at Woodbridge Boulevard and Northbridge Boulevard intersections. They are also continuing the more robust designs for Gaither High School, Claywell and Limona Elementary Schools, Brandon High School.

Fred Baxter (City of Plant City): The City of Plant City is continuing to work on their all-way stop locations and improvements. They are going throughout the City looking at different locations and residential areas where they can enhance all-way stops to provide better safety for pedestrians around school areas and lower volume in residential areas. They also completed a retiming project of traffic signals on Park Road extending from Alexander Street all the way north of I-4 on Park Road. They are currently working on a retiming project that is supposed to kick off in February. That will include the intersections from Walden Woods Drive and Alexander Street all the way north of I-4 on Alexander Street as well. This will also include a segment of SR 39 from Park Road all the way to Charlie Griffin Road. The City also applied for local agency grant funding. They have been formally awarded \$561,000 dollars to go towards technology projects, enhancing connected vehicle technology. This funding will complete the emergency vehicle preemption program as well as install new traffic cabinets along some of the segment locations. This will also put complete RSU's at all locations within the City. They applied for an HSIP grant for 200 bright sticks.

HSIP Updates

Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants): The HSIP portal is going well. She has reviewed applications from the City of Plant City and City of Tampa. She is expecting some applications from Hillsborough County as well. The funds are on a first come, first serve basis. When you submit applications



please include as much detail as you can. There is a requirement to attend the CTST meetings and make a quick presentation.

Kevin Amig (City of Plant City): The City of Plant City applied for 200 bright sticks, and they have been implementing them throughout the City for years now. They have had a great positive response from the residents and great feedback after the install.

Vision Zero Updates

Abigail Flores (HC): For 78th Street, it is one of the first Vision Zero corridors that the County started to study and identify improvements. They have design plans for low cost quickly implementable improvements on that corridor. They are creating traffic islands in the two-way left turn lanes, as well as future marked crosswalks with controls. The quick phase will be to create islands with delineators and paint. When there is grant funding available for the controls at these locations, they will include the pedestrian crossing. This is a community-driven project. The median islands and the two-way left turn lanes, the County has left space for the community to paint and decorate this area. They are also collaborating with HART regarding the location of the bus stops and where it is appropriate to have the marked crosswalk to support Safe Access to Transit as well as improved locations where pedestrians have been crossing in the past and have had crashes with drivers. Community engagement is February 18th. It will be on the County website and there are online and in-person opportunities to participate.

III. Calendar Updates / Activity Reports

None.

Open Forum / Announcements

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): Melissa presented slides on the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program. This is a discretionary program established through Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. It is five billion dollars appropriated over four years. It funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries. The applications for the next round of funding are expected to open in February of 2024. It requires at least 20 percent of the total project funding to come from non-federal sources and may include cash and in-kind contributions. Counties, cities, towns, transit agencies, and other special districts that are political subdivisions of the state are eligible for the grant, as well as MPOs. State level agencies are not eligible, such as FDOT, as well as political subdivisions, non-profit organizations, and private-sector entities. Melissa discussed the different grant types, including action plan, supplemental action plan, demonstration activity, and implementation. District Seven has been awarded many of the action plans and implementation grants from this bipartisan grant. Melissa discussed the different District Seven awards. Lastly, she discussed some successful win themes for crafting the grant application, such as education and outreach, equity, complete streets, lighting, partnerships etc. For those interested in applying for the Safe Streets for All grant applications, we can help you apply with the amount of funding that has been given out and partner with other successful entities to see how they were successful. E-blasts will be sent out soon with more information on these grants.



Lama Alfaseeh (HC): Lama gave a presentation on the Hillsborough County Safety Dashboard. The County also is working on a big portion of the crash data analysis that analyzes data at different levels of resolution, including County level, group of intersection level, and intersection level. They also worked on a research project with CUTR that focuses on identifying noteworthy safety coordination and practices between counties and first emergency responders. The other three projects are more planning efforts including the Complete Streets Guide that promotes safer roadways and networks, they also have the Palm River Community Project and the Wimauma Downtown Revitalization Action Plan. The safety dashboard is a public facing tool that provides access and facilitates access to data about crashes that have occurred on unincorporated HC roadways. HC worked with UF to get access to the data and coordinated with FLHSMV to get approval on the disclaimer and the dashboard. The safety dashboard pulls its data from the Signal Four Analytics platform and Power BI is the data visualization environment of the dashboard. The dashboard is open to the public. The dashboard focuses on fatal and incapacitating crashes at intersections in unincorporated HC. It analyzes the data at different levels of resolution, spatially and temporally. There are limitations to the Signal Four data and ongoing efforts. It does not include information/data from the perspective of fire rescue, especially response time. There is no mutual identifier to link the law enforcement to fire rescue data. HC is working on linking the law enforcement data to fire rescue data because the former dataset is very detailed which will assist with analyzing time variables from the perspective of fire rescue for any given crash specification. Discussion and questions followed.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): Walk Bike Tampa is hosting nationally recognized urban planner Delahanty at an event this Sunday January 28th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

IV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next Meeting: February 28th, 2024, 9:30 am – Virtual Meeting

In attendance: Lama Alfaseeh (Hillsborough County), Basit Ali (Kimley Horn), Kevin Amig (City of Plant City), Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants), Fred Baxter (City of Plant City), Susan Boda (Benesch), Lindsey Champlin (AAA), Abigail Flores (Hillsborough County), Demetrius German (Tampa PD), Jennifer Hall (Nations Traffic Safety School), Michele Harris (AAA), Eric Henry (FDOT District 7), Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers), MD Hossan (WSP), Melissa Kincheloe (Crossing Guards for Hillsborough County), Ameer Khawaja (City of Temple Terrace), Dawn Lewis (TGH), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Vanessa Navarro (HCSO), Lori Palaio (JMT), James Reiser (Gresham Smith), Jessica Rohr (HCSO), Ruby Shannon (HCPS), Melissa Shepherd (JMT), Jim Snell (TPD), Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition), Megan Tetro (Hillsborough County), Matthew Weaver (Element Engineering Group)