THE TAMPA BAY AREA UNIVERSITY CTST

MEETING MINUTES - MARCH 2024

<u>University CTST – March 6, 2024</u>

Meeting started at 3:00 pm

I. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions were given by the group. The February meeting minutes were approved with the following adjustments:

• In the Open Forum area, "Katie Godwin (UT): There will be an **UT** Safety Day on April 22nd from **11:00am – 1:00pm.** Discussion followed."

II. Business Updates – Problem Identification/Follow Up

- Lois Avenue Crossing to get to the HCC Campus: Paige Niehaus, of HCC, (she was unable to attend so Melissa Shepherd, of JMT, read her notes) said that they are continuing to work with the Drew Park CRA CAC. No other updates.
- 2. **Lighting Issue at BBD and Holly Drive:** Kathleen Koviak, of USF, will get in touch with Officer Marchesano to see if she has any updates.
- 3. **Kennedy Boulevard at Willow Avenue and Delaware Avenue:** Martin Sorrentino, of UT, said that he met with the City's Mobility Group. There is an application process that he would have to go through to get it going. Martin will be looking for other possible funding sources as well.

III. Calendar Updates/Activity Reports

Law Enforcement Activity

Matthew Belmonte (Tampa PD): Tampa PD is getting ready for the Walk Like MADD event at USF. Tampa PD is up and running with their enforcement and education grants. The education side is mostly focused on high schools, not universities.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Reports

Katie Godwin (UT): At the University of Tampa, there have been three vehicle bicycle crashes in the last three weeks and all three crashes were on the same road. None of the crashes were fatalities. A lot of drivers are not looking when they are turning for pedestrians and bicyclists. Katie gave a presentation on all the universities' efforts on this issue. UT is trying to figure out how to give better messaging instruction training, as well as safety awareness for the community, including drivers and bicycle riders. One of the three crashes was a community member not associated with UT but was hit by a university student.

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Katie Godwin (UT): Rented scooters are not allowed on the UT campus. The campus structure is very dense, and sidewalks are not big enough for pedestrian traffic, let alone scooters. Katie is writing a policy to allow personally owned scooters on campus. Right now, the written policy states that scooters are not allowed on campus. They are working on modifying that to personally owned and acceptable in designated areas. But the students will not be able to bring or store/charge scooters into a building on campus due to the fire concerns there. Discussion followed.

Eric Henry (FDOT): Last Saturday, FDOT was at the Bike Your City event in St. Petersburg. FDOT was also at the Skyway 10K last weekend as well.

Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition): At the IDEA meeting yesterday, Temple Terrace declared that it is Florida Bicycle Month. On March 22nd, at 8:00am there will be Bike with the Temple Terrace Mayor. The University Area Center at 8:00am will be promoting safety and helping people put on bicycle helmets.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): March 22nd, at 8:00am is Bike with the Temple Terrace Mayor. It is the 10th annual bike with the mayor event and is the fourth mayor that has participated throughout the years. There will be free collectible T-shirts, bike lights and a 3.5-mile ride through Temple Terrace. The University Area Slow Roll will be at the UACDC on March 28th at 8:00am, which is in partnership with the TPO and the UACDC. There will be booths, safety items, and lights, and then there is going to be a ride through the university area. Part of the ride will be down 15th Street, which is one of the TPO's high injury networks that they have been doing a project with the FDOT on analyzing and promoting safety on the high injury network roads. There will be a Walk Like MADD event on Friday, March 22nd, at 5:00pm.

IV. Fatal Crash Maps

Lori Palaio (JMT): From January 1st, 2023, to December 19th, 2023, there have been 15 fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1st to December 1st, 2023, there were 14 fatal crashes. The one new fatal crash was a bicycle fatal crash near the University of South Florida. It was on December 3rd, 2023, at 8:16pm on East Fowler Avenue and North 15th Street. It did not occur at the intersection, in dark-lighted, clear, dry conditions. The bicyclist was traveling eastbound in the westbound bicycle lane on Fowler Avenue just to the east of 158th Street. The bicyclist was struck by the front end of vehicle two and thrown into the travel lanes of Fowler Avenue. The bicyclist was then struck by vehicle one. There are 15 fatal crashes through December 19th, 2023. Same period in 2022 there were 14 fatal crashes, so University CTST is up by one fatal crash.

V. Open Forum | Announcements

Lori Palaio (JMT): Lori from JMT gave a presentation on the University of Florida's Signal Four Analytics (S4) Database. She went over what Signal Four is, what the crash data is used for, where the data comes from, how the public dashboard works, how to create a Signal Four account, features within Signal Four to



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download the data and perform data driven analyses, crash report usage limitations, how to get under sixtyday access to the crash data and crash reports, crash data responsibilities, links to useful webinars, and the CMDS access removal action plan.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): CUTR had a helmet fitting and several people attended, including USF students, local people from the Temple Terrace City Council, the bicycle pedestrian advisory committee, etc. He thanked Sheila for teaching it. Discussion followed.

Katie Godwin (UT): UT is looking for an opportunity this summer to have their campus safety bicycle patrol and recreation staff participate in a helmet fitting.

Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition): The Hemp Bill is limiting the Delta Nine THC concentration and products sold in convenience stores, gas stations, and smoke shops. The bill fully passed the house today and it had an amendment attached where they increased the THC level of Delta Nine that is allowed. It was passed by the house and senate, but since it had an amendment attached, it must go back to the senate for approval. If the bill gets passed, it will not take effect until October 1st, so they still must educate parents about drugs being sold in convenience stores and gas stations. Discussion followed.

Kathleen Koviak (USF): Next week is Spring Break at USF. USF has been doing some education for a safe spring break for the students. They had an event yesterday where they partnered with the Center for Student Involvement. Students made spring break safety kits and some of the other partners were from MADD, etc. also attended. Students signed a pledge to not drink and drive or to not let their friends drive impaired. The National College Health Assessment survey is wrapping up and about 3,000 students completed the survey. The survey is open for only a couple more days. The results will be in over the summer.

Next Meeting: April 3rd, 2024, 3:00PM – Virtual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 3:49 pm

Attendees: Basit Ali (Kimley Horn), Matthew Belmonte (Tampa PD), Susan Boda (Benesch), Anthony Chaumont (JMT), Emmeth Duran (FDOT), Katie Godwin (UT), Eric Henry (FDOT), Peter Hsu (FDOT), Nicholas Inniss (Element Engineering Group), Kathleen Koviak (USF), David Liller (HCC), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Lori Palaio (JMT), James Reiser (Gresham Smith), Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition), Melissa Shepherd (JMT), Marty Sorrentino (UT), Antonio Velez (USF PD)



PROBLEM LOCATIONS - MARCH 2024

Item	Date Reported	Description	Staff	Last Update	Date Resolved/ Withdrawn	Comments
1	May 2022	Lois Avenue Crossing to get to the HCC Campus https://goo.gl/maps/EuYbx cwQRL4EeCn36	Joseph Bentrovato / Mike Zinn / Matthew Belmonte	Apr 2023		Joseph said that their biggest intersection is near Tampa Bay Blvd and Dale Mabry Hwy; there are lights and crosswalks. The problematic location that students have addressed on campus is on Lois Ave. There are student apartments (Hawk's Landing) across the street from the campus on Lois Ave and students must cross Lois Ave with no crosswalk. Just west of there is a traffic circle. Mike Zinn (FDOT) mentioned that in the Drew Park area they are doing Vision Zero. He said he would check to see if complete streets are being studied in the area that Joseph mentioned. Joseph said that there are 400+ students that are crossing the street routinely. Joseph does not know if it is normal to put a crosswalk at a roundabout. Kelly, with the City of Tampa, has been working with the CRA on this location. Mike said that students are crossing at the entrance of the parking lot. They do not go down to the roundabout to cross. Paige Niehaus sits in on the Drew Park CAC. They are in the process of having a contractor look at all the crosswalks and review Drew Park. Hopefully within the next few months, they will get a response from the contractor as to where there are safety issues. Hawks Landing is at capacity, and they currently have a wait list. They will have over 400 students that will be crossing that walkway to and from the campus at multiple times throughout the day. Paige will keep everyone posted. There are no new updates. They are in the process of having the consultants on board to review the Drew Park area and provide recommendations to the CAC for the Drew Park CRA. Paige anticipates that that crosswalk would be a part of their recommendations. They are waiting for the process to move forward. There hasn't been any concerns or issues regarding the endangerment of students, but it is not a safe crossing. Mike will reach out to the City to see if he can get an update on this. Mike has not heard back from the City on this item. This is on the City's radar. Kelly said the Drew Park CRA is studying the whole area, includ



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2	Oct 2022	Lighting issues at Bruce B Downs and Holly Drive https://goo.gl/maps/7VwS Cs3xRYoEbFidA	Nicole M. (USF PD)	Nov 2023		Nicole mentioned that there were two recent car crashes at Bruce B. Downs and Holly Drive. There have been a lot of night crashes. It is very dark in that area. Crashes are on the border of the campus. Nicole Marchesano, with USF PD said that she put a work order in to update the lighting there, as it is dark. Someone is assigned to it, and they are working on it. Nicole does not have an update right now. Kathleen Koviak from USF said she will make a note to send a message to Officer Marchesano. She was working on a light work order a couple months ago. Kathleen Koviak, USF, spoke to Officer Marchesano and the request is still pending. There has been no further communication, and the status continues to be checked on. Brentin Mosher, of CUTR, said that the buffered bicycle lanes are complete. The traffic signals are not active yet. Officer Marchesano, of the USF Police Department, said this is still pending. She filled out a space impact form. There is also another form online to bring ideas directly to Facilities Management, so Officer Marchesano sent the request there as well. Someone is currently reviewing it, but there are no current updates. Brentin Mosher, of CUTR, said that the traffic signals are on, and they are operable. The second traffic signal southbound is a U-turn with a flashing yellow arrow. Nicole Marchesano, of USF PD, said that the street lighting is bad. This is still ongoing. George Edmiston, of Benesch, suggested a portable light tower. Officer Nicole Marchesano, of USF PD, asked who in the County oversees the area and who she could speak to about the lighting at the intersection. Officer Marchesano will get information from someone in the County at the Hillsborough County CTST. Officer Nicole Marchesano, of USF PD to reach out to Bob Campbell at Hillsborough County. No update.



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3	Jan 2023	Kennedy Boulevard at Willow Avenue and Delaware Avenue https://goo.gl/maps/tVevDzDBaGbTnFz59	Marty Sorrentino	Jan 2024		There is no storm water inlet on the north side of Kennedy between Willow Ave and Delaware Ave, where the Tampa General Hospital was built. Every time it rains, the right westbound lane fills with water. The students from the campus encounter the water near the lacrosse field. They are doing a resurfacing project on both sides of Kennedy Blvd. They would like to get at least one storm water inlet added. He is looking to see if anything is going to be addressed about the stormwater issue out there. He has not gotten an answer back from construction yet. Marty spoke to the SWFWMD; the project will be driven by the potable water drinking project. Marty said that the city council approved the contract amendment with their contractor who is doing the water line work along the Kennedy Blvd area. They will finish up the water line work on North Blvd and then they will start the water line replacement work on Kennedy Blvd. They will reconvene on their weekly call next Monday on a schedule to finish up the project. Katie received a notice from the City's PR team that they have commissioned a project to replace all the water mains underneath Kennedy Blvd. It will impact westward traffic from the eastern edge of Plant Park towards Westshore Blvd. It will start in the middle of October and will extend through the end of 2024. Katie is not sure how it will impact the traffic around the UT campus. She is not sure if it will include storm drains or stormwater inlets. Kennedy Blvd floods when it rains, and it adds some safety complications for students walking on the sidewalk, along with bicyclists and vehicles. The construction is running from University Dr westward to North Blvd, which is essentially the southern border of the UT campus. This construction has only been going on for about a week so far, so Katie is unsure if this project is fixing the concern that Marty initially brought up, which is the stormwater inlets. Marty stated the water lines are finished on Kennedy Blvd. He stated that North Blvd from Kennedy Blvd t