

Pasco CTST – April 24, 2024

Meeting started at 1:34 pm

I. Welcome and Introductions were made.

II. Meeting Dedication

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): Tina dedicated the meeting to a pedestrian who died on October 30th, 2023. The fatal crash was not too far from US 19, a little bit north of SR 54. She was an older lady, around 8:00 pm and dark outside; not far from her home. It was a hit and run crash on a neighborhood street.

III. Minutes Approved

- March minutes were approved.

IV. Old Business

1. **US 19 and Bay Boulevard** – No update.
2. **US 301 and Chancey Road** – The construction is well underway. If there is any engagement going on, it would be a good time with all the focus on work zone safety.
3. **Daughtery Road and US 301** – No update.
4. **Seven Springs Boulevard** – No update.

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): Pasco MPO is hopefully a few months away from signing their safety action plan agreement with the Federal Highway Administration. Once that happens, they will move forward with a two-year safety action plan that lets them dive into a lot of data. Pasco County received a significant amount of information on crash data from their long-range transportation plan that they will be able to use to move forward with some projects.

Tim Russo (Pasco MPO): Pasco MPO did a Road Safety Audit for Geiger Road, and they are in the process of working on some countermeasures and improvements on Geiger Road. There is a meeting tomorrow on this.

V. New Business

Education

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): Kasey Cursey and the Pasco MPO recently did some helmet fitting programs, including one for crossing guards and one for PE teachers for Pasco County. Pasco County Schools did a video on it and they're getting ready to launch a three-minute bike safety video that they are going to use in homeroom. The poster contest that Safe Kids did had a great turnout. Pasco MPO may use some of the posters for public safety announcements and on the Tampa Bay Traffic Safety webpage.

Kasey Cursey (EXP): Kasey and Tina had a chance to get in some communities. They did the Dade City helmet fitting on March 25th and they fitted 47 helmets. They also did fittings at Zephyrhills's Mobility Workshop. They are also starting a conversation to get into Withlacoochee.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): CUTR is running a work zone awareness geofencing campaign. Last week was Work Zone Awareness Week and they were trying to make people aware of the laws and safety behaviors as it pertains to work zones. CUTR is working on the contract for the Enhanced Law Enforcement Engagement (ELEE) program, Phase Three.

Pastor Jen Kerouac (Shady Hills Mission Chapel): Pastor Jen is willing to assist with helmet fittings in Shady Hills. It is a bit of a unique situation with not having sidewalks. Jen met, through the Stand Down, a gentleman who wants to help fix bikes and wheelchairs. He is going back to Vermont, but that could be another layer of it in the future, making sure that bikes are in good working order.

Enforcement

None.

Engineering

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): Tina discussed the Long-Range Transportation Plan. They are on the second round of workshops and are on the needs list, looking at projects and then they want to make sure with this needs list, the transit and bike ped portion gets done with it also. They are also making sure that their roads are complete streets, meaning that every roadway project will have sidewalks, multi-use paths, and bike lanes on it as well. It is not just about bike/ped, but it's about everything being multi-modal as well.

Crash Statistics

Lori Palaio (JMT): She stated from January 1st to February 9th, 2024, there have been 10 fatal crashes which include three left turns, two run off the roads, two head on, one other, one pedestrian, and one right angle fatal crash.

The three left turn fatal crashes occurred at:

1. US 19 and Louis Avenue at the t-intersection in day, clear, and dry conditions. It was a motorcycle fatality.
2. US 301 and US 98 at the t-intersection in dark-lighted, cloudy, and wet conditions.
3. SR 56 and Wiregrass Ranch Boulevard at the four-way intersection in day, clear, and dry conditions. It was a motorcycle fatality.

The two run off the road fatal crashes occurred at:

1. SR 54 and Marathon Road, not at the intersection, in day, clear, and dry conditions. The vehicle hit a tree.
2. US 41 and Twin Oaks Road, not at the intersection in day, clear, and dry conditions. The vehicle hit a fence.

The two head on fatal crashes occurred at:

1. Paul S. Buchman Highway and Pattie Road, not at the intersection, in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. It was a motorcycle fatality.

2. Bellamy Brothers Boulevard and Miller Road, not at the intersection in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions.

The other fatal crash occurred at Bellamy Brothers Boulevard and Paloma Lane, not at the intersection, in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. It was a motorcycle fatality. The pedestrian fatal crash occurred at Old County Road 54 and Wood Trail Boulevard, at the four-way intersection in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The right angle fatal crash occurred at Coats Road and Chancey Road, at the four-way intersection in day, clear, and dry conditions. Forty percent of the fatal crashes have been motorcycle fatal crashes. There were 10 fatal crashes from January 1st to February 9th, 2024. Same period in 2023 there were also 10 fatal crashes, so no change same period.

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): The two fatal crashes on Bellamy Brothers Boulevard were a day apart, they were both at nighttime, and one was motorcycle related. The MPO has elevated Bellamy Brothers Boulevard on their list of priority projects to the top ten in hope to get funding for the safety improvements. The two recent fatal crashes were on the southern portion of Bellamy Brothers Boulevard. Most of the Bellamy Brothers Boulevard fatal crashes are on the northern portion. Discussion followed on if motorcyclists are wearing helmets as well as if vehicle users are wearing seatbelts.

VI. Calendar Updates / Activity Reports

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): Pasco MPO did the Battle of the Belts for Safe Kids where they went to several schools and did some counts on seat belt use with the high school students. They are doing both the pre and post surveys. Many vehicles had tinted windows, so it was hard to see if kids were wearing seatbelts. Discussion followed. The bigger conversation is the vaping situation with the middle school and high school students. Vaping becomes an issue with impaired driving and distracted driving.

Eric Henry (FDOT): Next month is motorcycle safety awareness month. There has been an upward ticking trend in motorcycle fatalities districtwide. FDOT is trying to get a lot of yard signs, tip cards, motorcycle focused events, etc.

VII. Fatality Tracking

None.

VIII. Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) Updates

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): The HSIP portal is up and running for applications. Tomorrow at the Geiger Road meeting, countermeasures for HSIP funding may be discussed. If anyone has any HSIP questions, let Melissa know.

IX. Open Forum/Announcements

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): The Safe Streets 4 All (SS4A) grant is up and running. The first deadline ended in April. There are two deadlines left. May 16th is the second deadline for the planning and demonstration grants and the sole deadline for the implementation grant. August 29th is the last deadline for the planning



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and demonstration grants and the grant cycle closes until 2025. There is plenty of funding still available. If you have questions on how to submit the action plan or need examples, please let her know. There is a great deal of resources on the Safe Streets 4 All (SS4A) grants website.

Tina Russo (Pasco MPO): For Pasco MPO's safety action plan, they are in the last stages of finishing up their agreement with Federal Highway Administration for SS4A. Gulf Safe Street Summit will probably be happening in October in Hillsborough with the Pedestrian Bicycle Coalition group.

Shannon Kennedy-Smith (Alliance for Healthy Communities): The Alliance for Healthy Communities is doing a free event on May 30th at the Main Event in Wesley Chapel from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. It's free for kids, guardians, or parents. They are doing a number of those events throughout Pasco County. They did one last month at Spin Nations. They are going to have one in Wesley Chapel and the next two events are going to be on the east side. Shannon is happy to partner with anybody if they want to do helmet fittings or anything else.

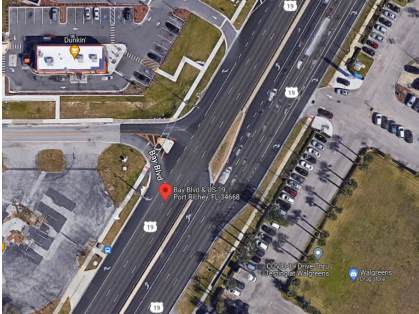
Pastor Jen Kerouac (Shady Hills Mission Chapel): A development is going in on Shady Hills Road. There are issues on SR 52 and Shady Hills Road. The light is running very quickly and there have been some crashes. A lady was recently rear ended by a dump truck and the dump truck left. A lot of the issues could be fixed by the timing of the light on SR 52 and Shady Hills Road. It is backing up past Classical Prep to the north. Venkat Vattikuti said, on Shady Hills Road, the contractor had some issues a couple of days back. He believes it was resolved, but he will investigate Pastor Jen's request to see if there is anything he could assist until the complete widening project is done. Discussion followed.

Next Meeting: May 22, 2024, 1:30 PM – Virtual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 2:13 pm.

Meeting Attendees: Kasey Cursey (EXP); Stephany Garcia (MPO); Eric Henry (FDOT); Pastor Jen Kerouac (Shady Hills Mission Chapel); John Koors (MPO); Jeffrey Moncalian (Pasco County); Brentin Mosher (CUTR); Lori Palaio (JMT); Tina Russo (MPO); Melissa Shepherd (JMT); Shannon Kennedy-Smith (Alliance for Healthy Communities); Venkat Vattikuti (Pasco County); Matthew Weaver (Element Engineering Group); Isabel Zuluaga (FDOT District 7)


STATE HIGHWAY SYSTEM LOCATIONS

Location	Date	Original Request	Who Initiated Request?	Responsible Staff or Agency
US 19 and Bay Boulevard  https://goo.gl/maps/qqWNcVRBzQ9GmPV3A	Aug 2022	At US 19 and Bay Blvd, there are also a lot of left turn crashes. This location has lighting issues; it is unlit.		Venkat V. / Jeffrey M. (PC)
Comments				
The group mentioned shutting down the left turn lane. Discussion followed about the traffic jam that occurs at this location. The radius of the left turn onto Bay Blvd is the problem. Others brought up possibly changing the configuration of the intersection; they used to have the old type delineators on top of the porkchop and they came in and added the newer ones. The people trying to turn onto Bay Blvd, they are trying to beat the light coming off Ridge Rd. The average age of drivers is in the mid-teens. They are going to see what they can do with the signalization. 26 crashes were aging road users, eight of them were teen drivers, seven lane departures, etc.				
Emphasis Area: Signal Four	Intersection Improvements			
Action Item / Countermeasure	Date	Update	Status	
Mike mentioned adding guide skips at this area.	9/2022	Mike Zinn spoke to Traffic Ops to add guide skips from the pork chop all the way around to the island.		
Venkat said he would do a field visit.		There is nothing that can be done on the County's side since it's a state road. Venkat asked FDOT if someone from FDOT can meet him in the field to see what can be done.	Pending	
Tina stated she will look at the crash reports.		Since 2018, there have been 73 crashes at this intersection. At the intersection itself, there has been zero fatalities and two severe injuries.	Complete	
Tina will update us on what FDOT is planning to do here.		This is on the list for FDOT to make some modifications.	Complete	
Mike Zinn asked Venkat to send an email to see who is available to meet for the field visit.		A field visit will be set up with FDOT and county staff before the next meeting.	Complete	
[name] from FDOT to coordinate field review that will include County Staff.		FDOT still working on it	Pending	
Tina Russo will send Venkat and Joellen an email and ask how best to proceed on this location or not to proceed.	10/25/23	Tina passed this on again to Mike and they are looking at it. She is waiting for FDOT to get back with her on what they can and cannot do.	Pending	
	2/28/24	This is being followed up by FDOT. On US 19, south of Gulf Drive, delineators were put up to eliminate the left turn phase. If you're going northbound, it's the left turn into Wells Fargo and Publix. There were a lot of crashes there and Port Richey PD mentioned that problem location. After several months they were able to get the left turn closed off.	Pending	

Location	Date	Original Request	Who Initiated Request?	Responsible Staff or Agency
US 301 and Chancey Road https://maps.app.goo.gl/CPJs6mRe1fdyi3Hp9	Dec 2023	On the south side of US 301 near Chancey Road, there are safety issues.		Tina Russo (MPO)
Comments				
Tina discussed doing engagement on Zephyrhills on US 301. On the south side of US 301 near Chancey Road, there are safety issues. There are a lot of homeless people, as well as construction in the area. Matt Weaver, Element Engineering Group, stated there is a resurfacing project being done around US 301 and Chancey Road. They are channelizing the left turn and doing development, along with other safety countermeasures. Discussion followed. Tina said near US 301 and Chancey Road there is a railroad track nearby. The right-of-way preservation program protects right of way issues during widening.				
Emphasis Area: Signal Four		Safety Issues		
Action Item / Countermeasure	Date	Update		Status
Tina discussed doing engagement on Zephyrhills on US 301.	12/13/23			Pending

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<p>Daughterly Road and US 301</p> <p>https://maps.app.goo.gl/zAzDSbTWJofgRkKkN9</p>	Dec 2023	At Daughterly Road and US 301, there are crashes at the signalized intersection. Daughterly Road is between two shopping centers.		Tina Russo (MPO)																
<p>Comments</p> <p>There is a hill and overall poor visibility. The issues are westbound, coming off Daughterly Road. The crashes are typically elderly people.</p>																				
<p>Emphasis Area: Signal Four</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action Item / Countermeasure</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Update</th> <th>Status</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Venkat, of Pasco County, will investigate this area.</td> <td>12/13/23</td> <td></td> <td>Pending</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tina reached out to someone on this and will go back through her emails to see what was discussed. Tina will follow up, but this one got pushed forward to the next step to see what can or cannot be done.</td> <td>1/24/24</td> <td></td> <td>Pending</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tina said she must look at this location with Venkat's help.</td> <td>2/28/24</td> <td></td> <td>Pending</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Action Item / Countermeasure	Date	Update	Status	Venkat, of Pasco County, will investigate this area.	12/13/23		Pending	Tina reached out to someone on this and will go back through her emails to see what was discussed. Tina will follow up, but this one got pushed forward to the next step to see what can or cannot be done.	1/24/24		Pending	Tina said she must look at this location with Venkat's help.	2/28/24		Pending
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LOCAL ROADS PROBLEM LOCATIONS

Location	Date	Original Request	Who Initiated Request?	Responsible Staff or Agency
<p>Seven Springs Boulevard</p>  <p>https://goo.gl/maps/2NcLpPi2pxVoqYpJA</p>	Apr 2023	Seven Springs Boulevard may be an area that comes up around next year, along with a couple other intersections that they are looking at within Pasco County. The sidewalk on Perrine Ranch Road to Grand Boulevard is in disarray. Some of the guardrails are not in good shape as well. A possible road diet may help with a lot of the issues on Seven Springs Boulevard.		Tina Russo (MPO) / Mike Zinn
Comments				
There are a couple of schools on Seven Springs Boulevard that are being looked at.				
Emphasis Area: Signal Four		Speeding and Aggressive Driving Improvements		
Action Item / Countermeasure	Date	Update	Status	
[name] Forward request to maintenance to evaluate and repair sidewalk. forward request to maintenance to evaluate guardrail.				
[name] forward request to traffic ops / safety to evaluate for potential road diet.	10/25/23	Mike mentioned there needs to be a road diet. Tina will look at Seven Springs Boulevard from SR 54 to Perrine Ranch Road and go from there.	Closed	
	12/13/23	Mike Zinn brought up this location. Counts and speeds have been collected and Seven Springs is on the top 12 list. A road diet cannot be done due to existing traffic volumes. There are crashes on the cross streets due to vehicles pulling out and there is poor visibility due to the trees.	Closed	
Tina said that that she is working with Pinellas County on a stakeholder meeting for the long-range transportation plan. Tina will get more information on this location after the meeting.	12/13/23		Pending	
Tina will follow up, but this one got pushed forward to the next step to see what can or cannot be done.	1/24/24		Pending	
Tina Russo, of Pasco MPO, discussed tree issues and possible signal installation.	3/26/24		Pending	



CHALLENGING LOCATIONS - APRIL 2024

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