



## Hillsborough CTST – April 24, 2024

Meeting started at 9:30 am

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Introductions were given. March 2024 minutes were approved.

### **II. Business Updates**

#### **Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motorcycle Safety Updates**

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): At the Focus Academy, which is a school for children with special needs in Temple Terrace, CUTR did a bike safety class, with a helmet fitting. April 5<sup>th</sup> was the Bike with the Temple Terrace Mayor ride. The FDOT staff helped fit a bunch of helmets at the ride. Walk like MADD was last Friday on April 19<sup>th</sup> and CUTR did pedestrian and bicycle education at the event. Emmeth Duran, with FDOT, also helped with that event. On Monday, the University of Tampa (UT) celebrated Earth Day. CUTR had a safety table at UT and they were able to talk to students about walking, biking, and driving safety.

Eric Henry (FDOT): Last weekend (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday), FDOT was at the Full Throttle Motorcycle Expo, a large motorcycle event, at the Quaker Steak and Lube in Pinellas Park. FDOT handed out motorcycle focused educational material and made good community contacts there. FDOT was out with Ride Smart as well. The coalition is going on right now in Orlando. May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness month.

Jim Reiser (LEL): Jim Reiser is the new Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL). Jim was working with a consultant, before this job, to do a ride to promote the smart program. He is going to try and connect all the other SMART programs in the state.

#### **Education**

Jennifer Hall (Nations Traffic Safety): Nations Traffic Safety School is part of an association called Providers for Traffic Safety. The association includes all the state providers that provide traffic safety classes. They get together to see what kind of things can be done. They recently sent out letters to the judges, chiefs, and hearing officers regarding the different courses and the options, and who the ideal person would be in those classes to help educate the judges. Normally, there are about 15 court orders a week coming out of Hillsborough County during February. Now there are about 50 court orders a week. Over the years, Nations Traffic Safety School has seen a correlation between higher education and lower crash rates. Jennifer discussed bringing in simulators to the state and offering it for high anxiety, ADHD, and different types of drivers who need a little bit more reinforcement before they get behind the wheel.

Dawn Lewis (TGH): Dawn introduced Helen Barker who will now be attending the CTST meetings on behalf of Tampa General Hospital. She is the Injury Prevention Outreach Coordinator. She will be leading trauma education, both internally and externally in the community. National Stop the Bleed Day will be on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tampa General Hospital partnered this year with Tampa Fire Rescue and TECO and will be



hosting three free public classes in the community. One of them will be in east Tampa on Hanna Avenue at the city center in the morning. In the afternoon, they will be at the TECO Plaza. In the evening, they will be in Ybor at the GTE financial building. Tampa General Hospital received support kits to give out to the participants in the class. She had her first class last week where she was able to distribute the Stop the Bleed kits to the participants in Brandon. Dawn will share the flyer for the upcoming classes.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): CUTR is running a geofencing campaign for work zone awareness in which they are directing users to take a five-question quiz. They have received some good responses, with over 300 responses collected. CUTR has been promoting National Work Zone Awareness Week throughout the month of April.

### **Enforcement-Crash Statistics**

Michael White (TPD): In March, they had 173 DUI arrests. In 2023, there were 123 DUI arrests in same period. TPD is continuing to do DUI education at two to four schools per month. They added MacDill Airforce Base to their education route. MacDill AFB requested education for both March and April and there were around 200 people at each. For fatal crashes in March, there was one. However, in April, there have been three fatal crashes. There have been seven DUI related fatalities for the year as opposed to three last year. DUI arrests and crashes are up. Discussion followed. This is a grant year for TPD, so they are doubling their law enforcement manpower on the weekends. TPD is seeing a lot of crashes happening earlier, whereas the grant guys do not start enforcement until 10:00 pm. People come from the beach and the Courtney Campbell Causeway on the weekend. TPD has put in a request to be able to do longer hours, maybe starting at 7:00 or 8:00 pm to begin DUI enforcement. The State has given verbal authority to extend the hours. Jim Reiser stated there has been a lot more interagency cooperation to take care of the DUI problem that seems to be emerging. We have an increasing population and more special events in all of Tampa Bay. Michael White said, last year, TPD started education at the Academy of Holy Names. This year, the Academy of Holy names reached out to do education again to the juniors and seniors. TPD does not have a normal program with the Academy of Holy Names, but every year they are reaching out because it seems to be making an impact. TPD's education is tied in with driver education. Generally, TPD teaches 150 to 200 students every single month. There are other schools TPD wants to get into, but they are having a hard time getting into some of the schools to present their DUI presentation and traffic safety presentation. Jennifer Hall stated the Teen Safe Driving Coalition has tried to get into Hillsborough County Schools to bring in a speed racing speaker and had a difficult time doing that. Jennifer suggested reaching out to Melissa at the Teen Safe Driving Coalition and working together with her to get contacts to get into the schools. Discussion followed on getting into schools.

Lori Palaio (JMT): Lori discussed the fatal crash maps. From January 1<sup>st</sup> to February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, there have been 18 fatal crashes. Seven of the 18 fatal crashes were pedestrian fatal crashes, which represents 38.9 percent of all the fatal crashes. For the seven pedestrian fatal crashes, they occurred at:

1. Busch Boulevard and 50<sup>th</sup> Street, at the four-way intersection in dark-lighted, rainy, wet conditions.



2. James L. Redman Parkway and Holloway Road, not at the intersection, in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions.
3. Knights Griffin Road and Fish Farm Road, not at the intersection, in dark not-lighted, cloudy, and dry conditions.
4. I-75 and Mile Marker 247.5, not at the intersection, in unknown, rainy, wet conditions. The fatal crash was at 5:00 am, so the conditions were most likely dark.
5. US 41 and 12<sup>th</sup> Street, not at the intersection, in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions.
6. Adamo Drive and North 39<sup>th</sup> Street, not at the intersection, in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions.
7. McKinley Drive and E. Bougainvillea Avenue, at the four-way intersection in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions.

There was also an off-road fatal crash, which resulted in a pedestrian fatality at North Dale Mabry Highway and Carrabba's at 700 North Dale Mabry Highway. This occurred in dark-lighted conditions and the pedestrian was homeless.

All the pedestrian fatal crashes from January 1<sup>st</sup> to February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, occurred at night. For all fatal crashes, 61 percent occurred on state roads, 22 percent occurred within the City of Tampa boundary, and 17 percent occurred on Hillsborough County roads. There were 18 fatal crashes from January 1<sup>st</sup> to February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Same period in 2023 there were 26 fatal crashes. Hillsborough County is down by eight fatal crashes. There is a sixty-day lag in the crash data.

## Engineering

Megan Tetro (Hillsborough County): At 78<sup>th</sup> Street, the painting was rescheduled. She believes it will be rescheduled for the end of this month. In terms of their grant projects, Hillsborough County has been doing some research, seeing which projects may have some overlapping improvements with their Pedestrian Corridor Safety Program. They have a good handful of corridors that overlap with the grant project. Hillsborough County has identified six locations for their lane departure program. Those six corridors are Anderson Road, Boyette Road, Palm River Road, Knights Griffin Road, Woodrow Wilson, and Lakewood Drive. They selected a combination of tangent and horizontal curve sections. They have a toolbox and will be working on project development for Tier 1 improvements and Tier 2 recommendations at those locations. With Hillsborough County's Unsignalized Intersection Program, they are working on identifying the top 30 locations to begin project development. Benesch is doing the draft methodology for the Lighting Program and there will be a progress meeting next week. They are trying to see how to prioritize and rank some corridors for lighting safety. The 2023 Safety and Mobility Annual Report is almost complete.

Peter Hsu (FDOT): FDOT is taking a lead in looking at a lot of new safety innovations. For example, FDOT is working with a vendor to bring in a post. Peter brought in quick kurb into Tampa Bay and abandoned it eight years ago. FDOT is looking to bring in brand-new material to Tampa Bay. FDOT is the beta tester to look at how they can use the new material for access management or lane change. Tampa Bay is a leader in safety innovation. FDOT is also facing a big challenge related to motorcycle safety. Motorcycles like to go to Tampa Bay. Motorcycle fatal crashes are more than double compared with any other district. From



the engineering side, FDOT is looking to see if there is any way to increase some of the low-cost efforts. For example, for work zones, if there are pavement changes, FDOT will provide a warning sign to the driver and the motorcycle if there is a pavement elevation change, etc. Pedestrian fatalities are a big safety issue. On state highways in Tampa Bay, FDOT installs more street lighting than any other DOT district on state highways. FDOT realizes that street lighting addresses motor vehicle safety, vulnerable road user safety, and lane departure safety. Discussion followed on intersection and corridor lighting.

### **School Transportation Items**

Corey Norris (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department): Hillsborough County Schools are having some boundary changes to control enrollment and the numbers as far as school enrollment. Some school sites are closing. A couple schools closed this past year, and a few more schools are closing this year. His team has been looking at walk paths for students to make sure that there are control crossings, etc. He said to let him know if anyone sees areas of concern, such as students walking in locations in areas they shouldn't be. The schools that are closing include Adams Middle School, McLane Middle School, Monroe Middle School, Cleveland Elementary School, and Kimbell Elementary School. Some of the Adams Middle School students will be going to Carrollwood which is a K-8 grade school now. Some students will be going to Ben Hill Middle School, Memorial Middle School, Buchanan Middle School, and Woodson K-8 grade school, as well as Sulphur Springs K-8 grade school. McLane Middle School students will be going to Giunta Middle School, Mann Middle School, and Sligh Middle School. Monroe Middle School students will be going to Madison Middle School, and Stuart Middle School. Cleveland Elementary School and Kimbell Elementary School students are going to Woodson and Sheehy Elementary School. Discussion followed. Emily Hinsdale stated with a lot of these school changes, some kids may start walking who maybe aren't familiar with walking already. Some kids who have been walking will now be traveling further distances, including across roads that they are not familiar with crossing and aren't necessarily set up for them to cross. Emily encouraged engineers, city, county, and state agencies to watch out for these changes and identify ways that we can improve crossings for students who have not been walking this way in the past. Megan Tetro said that Hillsborough County is working on the Safe Routes to School Program analysis for Giunta Middle School and Mann Middle School. She will let the consultant know to make note of that closing and if it impacts anything.

Corey Norris (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department): Hillsborough County Schools is in the process of the RFP for cameras on school buses. There are some cameras that have already been installed on the buses, about 20 percent of them. They are in the process of selecting the company that will be monitoring those cameras and issuing citations. Shirley Ready stated there are 10 school zones that are going to be monitored by the Sheriff's Office. Not all the monitoring is going to be done by a camera, some of it will be monitored by the motorcade.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): National Bike and Roll to School Day is on May 8<sup>th</sup> and several schools around the county will be celebrating. Sidewalk Stompers will be at Collins PK-8 School. They have around 500 students who walk or bike to school every week and have been partnering with Sidewalk Stompers all year. Hillsborough County will be joining Sidewalk Stompers to show off some of their Safe Routes to School efforts, as well as Melissa Kincheloe with the crossing guard program.



### HSIP Updates

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): Mahshid could not attend the meeting, but she sent an update. The portal is up and running and she has received several applications. Currently she is working on receiving quotes for material requests. As a reminder, all local agencies intending to submit applications for HSIP funding are required to attend at least four CTST meetings per year and must make a presentation on the project in one of the CTST meetings. Also, if there is a request for RRFBs, the local agency must submit a signed and sealed engineering report per Traffic Engineering Manual (TEM) 5.2. Remember HSIP funding comes on a first come first serve basis. Let her know if anyone needs help with the application process.

### Vision Zero Updates

Gena Torres (TPO): Gena asked about inviting Tim Horst to the CTST meetings. He has taken over the vision zero work as a vision zero safety engineer for the City. The TPO has been focusing on their Long-Range Plan update. In terms of corridor studies, there is one underway; they are looking at Sligh Avenue and Waters Avenue and what could be done. They are county roads in the city and the traffic volumes are high. The state Safety Coalition meeting will be on October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. The Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit is having a Safety Summit. It was part of the Vision Zero Action Plan and will be hosted at the end of the Safety Coalition Meeting. It is going to be at Port Tampa Terminal 2 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Discussion followed.

### III. Calendar Updates / Activity Reports

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): Walk Bike Tampa is celebrating National Bike Month on May 16<sup>th</sup> at Tampa Airport at 5:30 pm. There is a bike ride to get to the Tampa airport to kick off the meeting.

Eric Henry (FDOT): Next month is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Week. FDOT will be distributing the "Watch out for motorcycles" yard signs throughout the district. If anybody will like any of those, feel free to reach out.

### IV. Open Forum / Announcements

Eric Henry (FDOT): FDOT received notice from Bob Campbell, the CTST sitting chair, on Monday that he is going to need to step back his involvement with the CTST group. Part of that will involve him needing to give up his position as chair. At the virtual meeting in May, Eric or Emily will run the meeting. At the in-person meeting on June 26<sup>th</sup>, there will be an election to nominate and elect a new chair for this interim period before the normal nomination cycle again, which should be in the fall. Discussion followed.

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 16<sup>th</sup> is the second deadline for the planning and demonstration grants and the sole deadline for the implementation grant. August 29<sup>th</sup> is the last deadline for the planning 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.





#### IV. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:32 am.

**Next Meeting: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, 9:30 am – Virtual Meeting**

**In attendance:** Lama Alfaseeh (HC), Basit Ali (Kimley Horn), Kevin Amig (City of Plant City), Helen Barker (TGH), Susan Boda (Benesch), Swara Farheen (Atkins), Jennifer Hall (Nations Traffic Safety School), Eric Henry (FDOT District 7), Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers), Peter Hsu (FDOT District 7), Ameer Khawaja (City of Temple Terrace), Melissa Kincheloe (HCSO Crossing Guard), Dawn Lewis (TGH), Nicole Marchesano (USF PD), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Vanessa Navarro (HCSO), Melinda Nelson (HCSO), Corey Norris (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department), Lori Palaio (JMT), Shirley Ready (Hillsborough County Public Schools), James Reiser (LEL), Melissa Shepherd (JMT), Megan Tetro (Hillsborough County), Gena Torres (HC TPO), Matt Weaver (Element Engineering Group), Michael White (TPD), Linda Wu (Burgess and Niple), Izabel Zuluaga (FDOT District 7)