



Hillsborough CTST – May 22, 2024

Meeting started at 9:32 am

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were given. April 2024 minutes were approved.

II. Business Updates

Pedestrian/Bicycle/Motorcycle Safety Updates

Eric Henry (FDOT): This Friday, FDOT will be out in Pinellas along Gulf Boulevard for the Walk to Beach Day in Treasure Island. There are no schools within their district, so they are doing a community outreach focused event. June 2nd, FDOT will be at Al Lopez Park. BAPS Charity is holding an event at the park. FDOT will do a helmet fitting there, handing out safety educational materials, and talking to people in the community. Next month is Safety Month.

Jim Reiser (LEL): IPTM will send out a survey on the pedestrian High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) contract that just wrapped up. LEL is trying to make some changes to the program next year and feedback would be appreciated. There will be a pedestrian HVE cycle for 2025 kickoff meetings coming up in June or July.

Demetrius German (Tampa PD): This month is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. Tampa Police Department, along with several other agencies within the state, did a campaign and a 600-mile ride to bring awareness to the SMART course going on in the state, as well as, motorcycle safety awareness. It was a success and was coordinated by the agencies getting together in Osceola County.

Eric Henry (FDOT): FDOT recently put together a PSA related to the SMART program. Eric sent out an email blast on it.

Education

Helen Barker (TGH): Tomorrow is National Stop the Bleed Day. Tampa General Hospital (TGH) partnered with TECO and Tampa Fire Rescue and they are hosting three Stop the Bleed Courses in the community. One will be in the morning at the City Center, one in the afternoon at TECO Plaza, and one in the evening at Tampa Fire Rescue EOC.

Enforcement-Crash Statistics

Jacob Gonzalez (Tampa PD): For DUI enforcement, in April, there were 163 DUI arrests, up from 148 in 2023. Tampa PD had several educational presentations at Robinson High School and Plant High School with nearly 400 students. In May, there were 134 DUI arrests up until May 20th. In 2023, in May, there were 133 DUI arrests, so we are already up one DUI arrest over the complete month of May. Tampa PD has a Memorial weekend operation plan scheduled from May 24th to May 27th. They have high visibility patrols, and they are working in partnership with Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office. Click it or Ticket began on May 20th. They discussed their participation on social media, and they released an agency wide email



requesting an increased presence and enforcement for their rank-and-file officers. They have multiple high visibility enforcement operations scheduled with six operations during the day and five at night. Tampa PD also has educational events set up for car seat safety for their child passenger safety technicians with the agency. On May 19th, Tampa PD was at West Shore Plaza from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. They will be at the District 2 office on May 26th.

Jim Reiser (LEL): Stated he is the new District 7 Law Enforcement Liaison. For Click it or Ticket, make sure to do the reporting after that opens so that they can receive statistics on the pre- and post-seatbelt surveys. Coming up is Operation Southern Slowdown. If the agency has a speed and aggressive driving grant, it is mandatory participation in the Slowdown. Any activity related to speed and aggressive driving enforcement during that week, from July 15th to July 19th, will be reported separately on the grant forms for the slowdown. There is also a reporting site on the Florida LEL website. There are also the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer related to safety coming up. Labor Day is the Drive Sober/Get Pulled Over national impaired driving campaign from August 16th to September 2nd which is a reportable campaign. There is a training and recognition event coming up on July 25th and July 26th in Orlando for the law enforcement traffic safety challenge. Two agencies from District 7 placed including Treasure Island and Pinellas Park PD, along with FHP Troop C in the Tampa area will get recognition. They are wrapping up May Motorcycle Safety Month. Fatalities have been up everywhere across the Tampa Bay area.

Lori Palaio (JMT): Lori discussed the fatal crash maps. From January 1st to March 5th, 2024, there have been 26 fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1st to February 9th, 2024, there have been 18 fatal crashes. The eight new fatal crashes include one bicycle, one right-angle, one sideswipe, one left turn, and four pedestrian fatal crashes. The bicycle fatal crash occurred on February 23rd at 7:53 pm on US 301 and Ayersworth Glen Boulevard, not at the intersection in dark-lighted, rainy, wet conditions. The right-angle fatal crash occurred on February 25th at 5:59 am on West Waters Avenue and North Himes Avenue, at the four-way intersection in dark-lighted, clear, dry conditions. The sideswipe fatal crash occurred on February 19th at 8:00 pm on North McKinley Drive and East Bougainvillea Avenue, at the four-way intersection in dark-lighted, clear, dry conditions. The left turn fatal crash occurred on February 15th at 7:41 pm on US 41 and 127th Avenue East, at the four-way intersection in dark-lighted, clear, dry conditions. This was a motorcycle fatal crash. There were four pedestrian fatal crashes. The first pedestrian fatal crash was on February 22nd at 7:51 am on 14231 Damselby Drive, not at the intersection in day, cloudy, and dry conditions. The second pedestrian fatal crash was on February 22nd at 8:56 pm on North 42nd Street and East Fletcher Avenue, not at the intersection in dark-lighted, cloudy, dry conditions. This fatal crash was driveway/alley access related. The third pedestrian fatal crash was on March 1st at 9:50 pm on East Fowler Avenue and 56th Street North, not at the intersection in dark-lighted, clear, dry conditions. The fourth pedestrian fatal crash was on March 5th at 12:03 am on East Fowler Avenue and North Drive, not at the intersection in dark-lighted, clear, dry conditions. The mode of travel was a bicyclist but was coded as a pedestrian fatal crash. Pedestrians have the highest number of fatal crashes for mode of travel followed by vehicles and then motorcycles. There are currently 26 fatal crashes through March 5th, 2024. Same period in 2023 there were 46 fatal crashes, so Hillsborough CTST is down by 20 fatal crashes same period.



Jim Reiser (LEL): The numbers Jim discussed earlier were after March 5th. Law enforcement has been busy looking at the press releases. Discussion followed on contacting DHSMV for under sixty-day crash data access.

Engineering

Megan Tetro (Hillsborough County): Hillsborough County has five ongoing project developments on Rhodine Road, Kings Avenue, Riverview Drive, 14th Avenue, and Linebaugh Avenue. They should be finished by this fiscal year and then they will move onto tier-one designs by the end of this calendar year. For the 78th Street project, an artist was slated to do some median artwork to supplement some of the delineators and midblock crossings. That was finished at the beginning of the month. They are looking to do that in other locations as well. The Lane Departure Program has been finalized and they have selected six of the top ranked corridors. They have three horizontal curves and three tangent sections that they are evaluating and doing project development. Those will be finished by the end of September of this year and then they will move into tier-one design to address lane departure crashes. Hillsborough County is going through their safe access to transit, which overlaps with transit access, pedestrian access through different corridors. They have three bike network project developments ongoing right now along Shell Point Road, Causeway Boulevard, and Tarpon Springs Road. They also have their Safe Routes to School Program which JMT is working on. They had their first round of PAC meetings where they received great feedback from five different schools including Lennard High School, Thompson Elementary School, Mann Middle School, Seffner Elementary School, and Giunta Middle School. JMT will be going out and doing field reviews, looking at some of the walking routes, and focusing on what priority improvements could be made for the schools and the children who go to school and/or walk to school there.

Jacob Gonzalez (Tampa PD): In April, there were five traffic related in the City. Three were DUI or alcohol related.

School Transportation Items

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): The National Bike to School Day event around Hillsborough County was terrific. Eight schools participated. Sidewalk Stompers was partnered with seven of those schools. They participated in different ways - several of them had bike helmet fitting events and one of them had a staff member who led a bike bus from the neighborhood community center to the school. One of the schools had a big event with Melissa Kincheloe, from the Crossing Guard Program, joining them as well as some representatives from the Hillsborough County Safety and Mobility team to look at some of the improvements that they've done at the school recently, and they have bike lanes in and crosswalks and lighted crossings. That school has around 500 kids who walk or bike every day. National Bike to School Day is always a little bit less attended event than National Walk to School Day.

Corey Norris (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department): Friday is the last day of school, so there will not be any buses on the road for a couple of weeks. Summer school will start back up on June 10th. There will be a significant decrease in traffic related to the schools. During the summer, they will have about a third of their fleet on the road at about half of the time that they would normally be on the road on a normal school day. Hillsborough County Schools just got the green light for stop arm cameras. The public



awareness campaign will begin in July, and they will go live on the first day of school on August 12th. They hope this will cut down on some of the traffic crashes and other things that these cameras will help prevent.

HSIP Updates

Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants): There are some HSIP applications under review. The application process is on tampabaytrafficsafety.com under the engineering tab under HSIP. There is an application and a tutorial video.

Vision Zero Updates

Gena Torres (TPO): Gena stated that the Gulf Coast Streets Summit will be held in October. The street study/report on Waters Avenue and Sligh Avenue will be going to the TPO for them to accept. Some studies will be coming up in July when the fiscal year starts; they will look at trail projects in Plant City and Temple Terrace, and some other safety studies. There has been a lot of discussion about before and after studies.

Megan Tetro (Hillsborough County): Iteris presented to the County that they have a new software module called Signal Trends where they can set up different intersections and it uses probe data to track feeds, delays, etc. That would be a great mechanism to use for before and after studies. Discussion followed.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidwalk Stompers): Walk Bike Tampa held its National Bike Month celebration last week at Tampa International Airport. It is a great event, rewarding local bike-friendly businesses. Tampa has the largest number of bike friendly businesses in the country.

III. Calendar Updates / Activity Reports

None

IV. Open Forum / Announcements

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): We are nearing the official deadline of all the safety action plans and then the implementation grants. The official deadline is August 29th and then it will close for the grant season. On the website, they have already started doling out grant funds to 99 communities, so they have given out 64 million dollars already. This was the first round of implementing the grant funding. In August and November, grant funding will be awarded to more communities. Benesch does a lot of the grant stuff as well, so there are a bunch of resources if you have any questions.

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): At the June meeting, we will be voting on the interim chair for the CTST.

Eric Henry (FDOT): For the location for the next CTST meeting, Eric will try to book headquarters. For the election, think about who a good nominee will be. The primary election will be in the fall.



V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 am.

Next Meeting: June 26th, 2024, 9:30 am – In-Person Meeting, Location is TBD

In attendance: Lama Alfaseeh (HC), Basit Ali (Kimley Horn), Kevin Amig (City of Plant City), Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants), Helen Barker (TGH), Fred Baxter (City of Plant City), Susan Boda (Benesch), Ashley Cason (FDOT District 7), George Edmiston (Benesch), Swara Farheen (Atkins), Demetrius German (Tampa PD), Jacob Gonzalez (Tampa PD), Michele Harris (AAA), Eric Henry (FDOT District 7), Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers), Paula Jones (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department), Ameer Khawaja (City of Temple Terrace), Melissa Kincheloe (HCSO Crossing Guard), Naresh Kotari (AECOM), Dawn Lewis (TGH), John Merine (HC), Vanessa Navarro (HCSO), Melinda Nelson (HCSO), Alison Noble (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department), Domingo Noriega (AECOM), Corey Norris (Hillsborough County Schools Transportation Department), Lori Palaio (JMT), James Reiser (LEL), Melissa Shepherd (JMT), James Snell (Tampa PD), Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition), Megan Tetro (Hillsborough County), Gena Torres (HC TPO), Matt Weaver (Element Engineering Group), Izabel Zuluaga (FDOT District 7)