THE TAMPA BAY AREA UNIVERSITY CTST

MEETING MINUTES - AUGUST 2024

<u>University CTST – August 7, 2024</u>

Meeting started at 3:02 pm

I. Welcome and Introductions

Welcome and introductions were given by the group. The July meeting minutes were approved.

- II. Business Updates Problem Identification/Follow Up
 - 1. Lois Avenue Crossing to get to the HCC Campus: No update.
 - 2. **Lighting Issue at BBD and Holly Drive:** Nicole Marchesano (USF PD), stated that she will get in contact with Hillsborough County engineers.
 - 3. Kennedy Boulevard at Willow Avenue and Delaware Avenue: Marty Sorrentino (UT), stated that the railroad project has finished, and the project could not get the stormwater inlets incorporated. Marty reached out to the stormwater department at FDOT and spoke to Melissa Mulvaney. He provided her with proposed storm water inlet exhibits. Marty hopes to develop a project for the inlets.
 - 4. **North Boulevard between Cass Street and Kennedy Boulevard:** Marty Sorrentino attended grant training. He believes he could obtain funding for the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant under the political subdivision of a state. The documents do not show that universities are eligible for the grant, but the training Marty attended stated that state colleges or universities created under state law could apply. There is a planning and demonstration grant and the implementation grant. The planning grant is due August 29th, but there is a lot of funding until 2026. Marty hopes to get a high-level buy-in/support. There is approximately three billion dollars left. Marty stated that for federal funding, FDOT will provide 80 percent funding with a 20 percent match requirement.

III. Calendar Updates/Activity Reports

Law Enforcement Activity

Michael White (TPD): In July, Tampa Police Department made 149 DUI arrests, which is higher than July of last year. There have been 1,150 DUI arrests year to date in 2024. In terms of fatal crashes, there have been no new fatal crashes since June 14th. Regular crashes have gone up, but DUI crashes have gone down. Grant season ends late September, so there will be less law enforcement man hours soon.

Nicole Marchesano (USF PD): Students moved out of the dorms recently and now USF is waiting for new students to come in. Discussion followed.



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Jim Reiser (LEL): State grants have been submitted to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). The Drive Sober Get Pulled Over Campaign begins August 20th and ends on Labor Day. Operation Southern Slowdown is wrapping up. The Enhanced Law Enforcement Engagement (ELEE) program is ongoing, and it ends in late March 2025.

Nicole Marchesano (USF PD): USF educated international students on how to use bicycles and scooters and all the laws involved with them. There will also be additional educational efforts at orientation, when school starts, as well as residential assistants discussing to students about traffic and expectations on campus.

Bicycle/Pedestrian Reports

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): CUTR worked with USF World on a safety event on July 25th and CUTR talked to the students about walk, bike and drive safety. CUTR and FDOT will be at HCC for the first week of classes – CUTR will be in attendance for two days and FDOT will be in attendance for one day. October, CUTR will be doing some college of public health events as well as homecoming education. For the ELEE program, USF PD is conducting enforcement on Fowler Avenue. Discussion followed on what the ELEE program entails and how agencies earn points for equipment.

Katie Godwin (UT): The Walk and Roll event will be during HCC's Week of Welcome on August 28th. There was a smaller version of the Walk and Roll event in the Spring, and it was successful. The goal is to capture incoming students and educate them on safety. The University of Tampa is also applying to be a bicycle friendly university. The deadline to submit the application for the bicycle friendly university is tomorrow. University of Tampa will also have a new building in the Fall, which will affect pedestrian and bicycle patterns, as well as traffic patterns

IV. Fatal Crash Maps

Lori Palaio (JMT): From January 1st to May 22nd, 2024, there have been nine fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1st to April 24th, 2024, there were eight fatal crashes. The one new fatal crash was in a one-mile proximity to the HCC Dale Mabry campus. The fatal crash was a right-angle fatal crash and was motorcycle related on North Lois Avenue and West Osborne Avenue at the four-way intersection in day, clear, and dry conditions. The motorcyclist was not wearing a helmet. Vehicle one was traveling east on West Osborne Avenue when driver one attempted to beat the steady red traffic light. Vehicle one struck vehicle two. Vehicle two was traveling north on North Lois Avenue when it was struck by vehicle one. Driver one succumbed to their injuries.

There have been nine fatal crashes through May 22nd, 2024. During the same period in 2023 there were five fatal crashes. University CTST is up by four fatal crashes during the same period.

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V. Open Forum | Announcements

Katie Godwin (UT): Katie discussed that Kathleen Koviak, of USF, is stepping down from the chair of CTST due to other responsibilities. Therefore, a new interim chair needs to be elected. Katie told the CTST group to start brainstorming candidates for a new interim chair and then the CTST team could vote in the October or November meeting.

Lori Palaio (JMT): Lori Palaio discussed the future meeting correspondence for University CTST. University CTST is moving to Mailchimp for the e-blasts/correspondence. There will be no more emails with attachments and calendar invites. If the e-blasts are not received, check your spam folder. The standard Mailchimp e-blasts have a lot of information in the emails, including upcoming events, tips, campaigns, and big announcements. There is also the link to the Tampa Bay Traffic Safety CTST website.

Katie Godwin (UT): Katie Godwin, of UT, discussed that she will be giving a presentation at the CTST Mega Meeting on the accomplishments of University CTST. She asked the group if anyone had ideas of key talking points for her to discuss. She mentioned discussing bicycle engagement at HCC, as well as the UT Annual Walk and Roll. Discussion followed.

Lori Palaio (JMT): On September 12th there will be the CTST Mega Meeting at the AAA facility on Henderson Road. There will be no regular University CTST meeting in September, only the CTST Mega Meeting. Then, October will resume as normal and there will be a virtual meeting in October.

David Liller (HCC): HCC is undergoing a lot of changes. The exits are being relocated, which will affect traffic for vehicles and pedestrians. He discussed that education is important for this change. Discussion followed.

Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition): Ellen discussed that Tampa Alcohol Coalition is conducting education on Amendment Three on marijuana and how it affects traffic safety. She discussed "Don't Let Florida Go to Pot" as well as "Vote No on Three." She discussed the miscommunications involved in the amendment. She also explained the research available on this and the crash statistics of states that legalized marijuana. Discussion followed.

Next Meeting:

September 12, 2024 – CTST Mega Meeting (No Team Meeting) October 2, 2024 – Virtual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm

Attendees: Matthew Belmonte (Gresham Smith), Ashley Cason (FDOT District 7), Katie Godwin (UT), David Liller (HCC), Nicole Marchesano (USF PD), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Lori Palaio (JMT), Daymar



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Reeder (USF PD), Jim Reiser (LEL), Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition), Marty Sorrentino (UT), Michael White (TPD)



| Item | Date Reported | Description | Staff | Last Update | Date Resolved/ Withdrawn | Comments |
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| 1 | May 2022 | Lois Avenue Crossing to get to the HCC Campus https://goo.gl/maps/EuYbx cwQRL4EeCn36 | Joseph Bentrovato / Mike Zinn / Matthew Belmonte | July 2024 | | 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 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 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 multiple times throughout the day. 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. 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. Kelly said the Drew Park CRA is studying the whole area, including this crossing. Kelly met with the CRA and the CRA kicked off their streetscape transportation study. There will be an update next month when the CRA gets further into finishing their study. Crosswalk locations will be priorit |



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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, said that the intersection. Officer Marchesano will get information from someone in the County at the Hillsborough County CTST. Officer Nicole Marchesano, of USF PD, said to set this location aside for now until she could get some more information. Mike Zinn, of FDOT, told Officer Nicole Marchesano, of USF PD to reach out to Bob Campbell at Hillsborough County. The lights are being worked on, but it is being pushed back with other concerns on campus. Melissa Shepherd, of JMT, will send Officer Marchesano Hillsborough C |



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| 3 | Jan 2023 | Kennedy Boulevard at Willow Avenue and Delaware Avenue https://goo.gl/maps/tVevDzDBaGbTnFz59 | Marty Sorrentino | July 2024 | | There is no storm water inlet on the north side of Kennedy between Willow Ave and Delaware Ave, where TGH was built. Every time it rains, the right westbound lane fills with water. They are doing a resurfacing project on both sides of Kennedy Blvd. He is looking to see if anything is going to be addressed about the stormwater issue. 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. 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. Kennedy Blvd floods when it rains, and it adds some safety complications for students walking on the sidewalk, along with biocyclists and vehicles. The construction is running from University Dr westward to North Blvd, which is the southern border of the UT campus. Katie said that they are still doing a lot of construction. 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 to Cass St is having issues with safety at crosswalks. The students do not use the sidewalk, there are no flashers at crosswalks, etc. Martin 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. Marty discussed two projects and the availability of adding inlets on one portion of Kenned |



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| 4 | April 2024 | North Boulevard between Cass Street and Kennedy Boulevard https://maps.app.goo.gl/t8 3DaQWkyusev4Ee6 | Marty Sorrentino | April 2024 | | The new problem location Martin wants to add are crosswalk safety issues on North Boulevard by West Garage. Cal Hardie, at the City, gave three options to look at including speed humps before the crosswalk, a raised crosswalk with a flashing beacon, or concrete bulb outs to narrow the lanes, which would require moving the curb. They would need a right-of-way permit as well as a plan in place. This project could be a springboard to get more work done on North Boulevard, including adding sidewalks, etc. For this project, there needs to be an application with the City's Mobility Group with a scope and design. There is traction to get this area financed. No update, other than just looking for opportunities for further funding. Marty Sorrentino attended grant training. He believes he could obtain funding for the Safe Streets and Roads for All Grant under the political subdivision of a state. The documents do not show that universities are eligible for the grant, but the training Marty attended stated that state colleges or universities created under state law could apply. There is a planning and demonstration grant and the implementation grant. The planning grant is due August 29th, but there is a lot of funding until 2026. Marty hopes to get a high-level buy-in/support. There is approximately three billion dollars left. Marty stated that for federal funding, FDOT will provide 80 percent funding with a 20 percent match requirement. |