

## University CTST – January 15, 2025

Meeting started at 3:02pm

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

Welcome and introductions were given by the group.

**The December 2024 meeting minutes were not approved. During the next CTST meeting, we will approve both the December and January meeting minutes.**

Martin Sorrentino (UT): Marty announced that Katie Godwin, of UT, is moving on to a position with TECO Energy. He thanked Katie for all her contributions on the CTST team.

### **II. Business Updates – Problem Identification/Follow Up**

1. **Lois Avenue Crossing to get to the HCC Campus:** No update. Marty Sorrentino will try to get ahold of Paige Niehaus for next month's meeting for an update.
2. **Lighting Issue at BBD and Holly Drive:** No update.
3. **Kennedy Boulevard at Willow Avenue and Delaware Avenue:** Marty Sorrentino stated that he reached out to the city contractor, and the outreach company is sending updates when they do road closures on Kennedy Boulevard. They are anticipating that the Kennedy Boulevard water line work will be finished in late spring, around April.
4. **North Boulevard between Cass Street and Kennedy Boulevard:** Josh Blackman, from the City of Tampa, stated that the grant was not awarded to the City of Tampa.

### **III. Calendar Updates/Activity Reports**

#### *Law Enforcement Activity*

Jacob Gonzalez (Tampa PD): Pirate Fest is at the University of Tampa on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Tampa PD will have some officers out there discussion various traffic safety topics, including impaired driving. They will have their fatal vision goggles out there, walking the students through field sobriety exercises. The glasses mimic impairment by giving you blurred vision. For Gasparilla Day, Tampa PD will have 15 DUI officers throughout the night, beginning at 3:00pm and going throughout. Tampa PD will be partnering Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office at Gasparilla. In January, there have been 61 DUI arrests, which is down by 20 percent from last year. But there have been several officers on vacations, with injuries, or schedule modifications.



### *Bicycle/Pedestrian Reports*

Brian Goercke (USF): USF will be having a bicycle, pedestrian, auto, scooter, and skateboard safety event next Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11:00am to 1:00pm. CUTR has committed to join them. Brian is hoping USF PD will join them as well. Yesterday, an international student was struck on 50<sup>th</sup> Street. It is not a fatal crash, but the student is in the hospital.

Susan Boda (Benesch): Walk Like MADD is March 28<sup>th</sup> at USF. If you are not on a team, sign up.

Eric Henry (FDOT): FDOT will be at the Martin Luther King parade this Monday. On January 25<sup>th</sup>, FDOT will be in Dade City for the Kumquat Festival. On January 31<sup>st</sup> in St. Petersburg in the Sunshine Center, FDOT and Safe Kids have set up a helmet fitter technician trainer. If you are not helmet fitter certified, it is a quick course on how to properly fit a helmet onto somebody and it also allows access to helmet fitting resources. If you are interested, reach out to Eric Henry or Tina Russo. Tina Russo is the new bicycle pedestrian program manager at FDOT who was previously at Pasco MPO. The central office hospital grant application cycle is now open. This is a great funding opportunity, not only for state agencies and law enforcement agencies, but universities are eligible as well. The deadline for applications is February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Jim Reiser (LEL): They wrapped up the Drive Sober Get Pulled Over at the beginning of January. Officer Doug Bailey, from Tampa PD, has been taking a proactive approach to DUI enforcement. He will be recognized by the Tampa Bay Lightning game tomorrow night through the state FDOT state office for his DUI reduction efforts. He has lifetime DUI arrests over 2,000. It is a big accomplishment for him and Tampa PD to get recognized for their continuing efforts to try and curb impaired driving, especially with their outreach to the universities.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): USF is having their annual Campus Safety Day on Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. The City of Temple Terrace has just announced their Bike with the Mayor Event. It is their 11<sup>th</sup> annual event, and they are trying to get to 100 riders this year since it's the city's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

#### **IV. Fatal Crash Maps**

Melissa Shepherd (JMT): From January 1<sup>st</sup> to October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024, there have been 20 fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1<sup>st</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024, there were 16 fatal crashes. There have been four new fatal crashes since the last CTST within one mile proximity to a college campus: one at University of South Florida (bicycle), two at University of Tampa (one right angle, one pedestrian), and one at HCC Ybor (other)

For the University of South Florida Bicycle Fatal Crash (Report Number 26547709): The bicycle fatal crash occurred on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 4:06pm, on Bruce B Downs Boulevard and Campus Hill Drive, not at the intersection, in day, clear, and dry conditions. Vehicle one (HART bus #2139) was traveling southbound



on Bruce B Downs Boulevard in the right through lane. The pedestrian was operating an electric scooter southbound on Bruce B Downs Boulevard in the sidewalk. While making a transition down from the sidewalk to the bike lane, the pedestrian lost control of her scooter and fell forward onto the southbound right through lane of Bruce B Downs Boulevard. The pedestrian was simultaneously struck by vehicle one as it was traveling in the right through lane.

For the University of Tampa Fatal Crashes:

The first fatal crash was a right-angle fatal crash (Report Number 26867910) on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 10:15pm East Palm Avenue and Florida Avenue, in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. This right-angle fatal crash was within the one-mile buffer overlap zone of University of Tampa and HCC Ybor college campus. Vehicle one was traveling westbound on Palm Avenue in the travel lane approaching the intersection with Florida Avenue which had a non-operational electronic traffic signal. Vehicle one failed to treat the intersection as a four-way stop, entered the intersection, and struck vehicle two on the passenger side. The second fatal crash was a pedestrian fatal crash (Report Number 26868703) on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 2:45am on West Horatio Street and South Howard Avenue, not at the intersection, in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. Vehicle one was exiting a private roadway located at 433 South Howard Avenue turning right onto West Horatio Street. As the vehicle turned from the private roadway it turned right without stopping. The vehicle's front right tire struck the pedestrian.

For the HCC Ybor Other Fatal Crash (Report Number 26422501):

The other fatal crash occurred on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 7:49pm on I-4 Entrance Ramp and 21st Street, not at the intersection, in dark-lighted, severe crosswinds, and wet conditions. Vehicle one was on westbound Interstate 4 entrance ramp, west of SR-585. During travel, a two-post roadside freeway sign fell onto the top of vehicle one. Vehicle one came to a controlled stop on the outside shoulder of Interstate 4 entrance ramp, facing west.

There are 20 fatal crashes through October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Same period in 2023, there were 13 fatal crashes. University CTST is up by seven fatal crashes in the same period. Discussion followed on the HART bus/bicycle fatal crash. Brian Goercke, USF, asked if there have been any studies with scooters. Eric Henry stated that Doctor Can Cui gave a presentation on micromobility previously. Discussion followed.

Jim Reiser (LEL): If anybody does outreach with micromobility devices with the university students, you need to emphasize that they need to be responsible for their riding behavior. They need to be aware of all their surroundings because the vehicles may not see them because the scooters approach fast on the sidewalk. Scooters can go over 10 miles per hour, but the average walking speed is five mph or less, so vehicles do not always see the scooters. In terms of the pedestrian bicycle coalition and changes to the crash report, the DHSMV controls what's on that crash report. There have been several talks with the DHSMV about how to capture micromobility data reliably. Discussion followed.



## MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 2025

THE TAMPA BAY AREA  
UNIVERSITY CTST

### V. Open Forum | Announcements

Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition): On January 21<sup>st</sup>, Ellen will be with a group of prevention coalitions in Tallahassee for Provision Coalition Day. She is going to talk to legislators and two of their major topics are delta eight THC and kratom. Discussion followed on amendment three.


**Next Meeting:** February 5, 2025, 3:00pm – Virtual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 3:42pm

**Attendees:** Matthew Belmonte (Gresham Smith), Josh Blackman (City of Tampa), Susan Boda (Benesch), Brian Goercke (USF), Jacob Gonzalez (Tampa PD), Eric Henry (FDOT District 7), Nicholas Inniss (Element Engineering Group), David Liller (HCC Ybor City), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Jim Reiser (LEL), Melissa Shepherd (JMT), Ellen Snelling (Tampa Alcohol Coalition), Marty Sorrentino (UT)

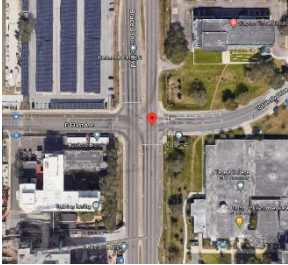


## PROBLEM LOCATIONS - JANUARY 2025

Item	Date Reported	Description	Staff	Last Update	Date Resolved/ Withdrawn	Comments
1	May 2022	<p>Lois Avenue Crossing to get to the HCC Campus</p>  <p><a href="https://goo.gl/maps/EuYbxcwQRL4EeCn36">https://goo.gl/maps/EuYbxcwQRL4EeCn36</a></p>	Joseph Bentrovato / Mike Zinn / Matthew Belmonte	July 2024		<p>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 prioritized. Internally, things are being redone on campus, including crosswalk improvements, to try and get the students to take a different route. Matthew Belmonte will have more to report on this next month. Paige sent an email stating that the crosswalk on Lois Avenue connecting the students in Hawks Landing to the campus is still being reviewed by the Drew Park CRA CAC. Paige, via email, said that they are continuing to work with the Drew Park CRA CAC. Paige, via email, stated that the Drew Park CRA CAC approved a mobility project earlier in April which would address installation of a crosswalk at Lois Avenue for the Hawks Residence students. There is no additional information regarding a timeframe for when this will be completed. Paige Niehaus stated that the City of Tampa approved the project. The earliest the crosswalk could be in, is in December. <b>No update. Marty will try to get ahold of Paige for next month's meeting for an update.</b></p>




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2	Oct 2022	<p>Lighting issues at Bruce B Downs and Holly Drive</p>  <p><a href="https://goo.gl/maps/7VwSCs3xRYoEbFidA">https://goo.gl/maps/7VwSCs3xRYoEbFidA</a></p>	Nicole M. (USF PD)	Nov 2023		<p>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, 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 County contact information including Abigail Flores and Megan Tetro. Nicole Marchesano, of USF PD, stated that she will get in contact with Hillsborough County engineers Sean Jaquez-Taylor (USF PD) will reach out to Officer Marchesano. <b>No update.</b></p>




## PROBLEM LOCATIONS - JANUARY 2025

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3	Jan 2023	<p>Kennedy Boulevard at Willow Avenue and Delaware Avenue</p>  <p><a href="https://goo.gl/maps/tVevDzDBaGbTnFz59">https://goo.gl/maps/tVevDzDBaGbTnFz59</a></p>	Marty Sorrentino	January 2025		<p>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. 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 start in the middle of October and will extend through the end of 2024. 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. Marty discussed two projects and the availability of adding inlets on one portion of Kennedy Boulevard. Marty stated that he received plans on two projects on the north side of Kennedy Blvd. There will be a repavement project on the north side of Kennedy Blvd from Woodlyne Ave to Brevard Ave. The second project will be redoing the railroad crossing on Kennedy Blvd at Willow St. Marty stated that he received confirmation from FDOT that there are no storm water inlets as part of the two projects. The drainage department at FDOT asked Marty to provide some exhibits on proposed stormwater inlets and Marty provided them back on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Marty has not heard back yet from the drainage department. Marty 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 storm water inlet exhibits. Marty hopes to develop a project for the inlets. Marty stated that every time he sees a build-up of water, he will let the drainage department know. Marty stated that just north of Kennedy Boulevard, Willow Avenue is blocked off. Katie Godwin (UT) stated that they are doing utility maintenance and the initial end date for that was October 31st, but it was pushed back. The rerouting of that has come through the UT campus so there is increased vehicle traffic on campus, but that should resolve once the area becomes less construction heavy. Marty will inquire on when construction will be completed. <b>Marty Sorrentino stated that he reached out to the city contractor, and the outreach company is sending updates when they do road closures on Kennedy Boulevard. They are anticipating that the Kennedy Boulevard water line work will be finished in late spring, around April.</b></p>



## PROBLEM LOCATIONS - JANUARY 2025

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4	April 2024	<p>North Boulevard between Cass Street and Kennedy Boulevard</p>  <p><a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/t83DaQWkyusev4Ee6">https://maps.app.goo.gl/t83DaQWkyusev4Ee6</a></p>	Marty Sorrentino	January 2025		<p>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. Katie Godwin (UT) stated that she was approached by the city's mobility area a couple weeks ago. The city is working on applying for the Unite Boulevard grant, which is supposed to reconnect displaced communities through transportation. Josh Blackman (City of Tampa) stated that the Unite Boulevard grant application was submitted yesterday, and the project limits are from Ross Avenue to Swann Avenue. Discussion followed if Safe Streets for All funding could be applied as well, which will be investigated. Marty Sorrentino (UT) stated that the Unite Boulevard grant is being worked on. Eric Henry (FDOT) is trying to get Josh Blackman from the City of Tampa to present on the project. Marty Sorrentino (UT) stated that the Unite Boulevard grant is being worked on and the limits are from Ross Avenue to Swann Avenue. Josh Blackman from the City of Tampa gave a presentation on the Unite Boulevard grant.</p> <p><b>Josh Blackman, from the City of Tampa, stated that the grant was not awarded to the City of Tampa.</b></p>