

Hillsborough CTST – August 27, 2025

Meeting started at 9:39am

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were given. July 2025 minutes were approved.

II. Membership Reports

Enforcement and Crash Statistics

Jacob Gonzalez (TPD): Jacob Gonzalez from the Tampa Police Department (TPD) provided an update on DUI arrests and related activities. For August, there have been 128 DUI arrests, compared to 131 in August 2024. TPD is conducting DUI education at high schools, and they have already completed education at Jefferson High School. TPD is also conducting underage drinking operations. There is a Labor Day operation at Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, and they will bring the bat mobile.

Demetrius German (TPD): Demetrius German from the TPD provided an update on the traffic unit's recent activities. There have been 22 fatalities year to date, which is down from last year. TPD is conducting traffic enforcement on the Courtney Campbell Causeway and I-275.

Jim Reiser (TPD): School zone cameras will take effect this month. They hope for the cameras to expand to more sites in the future. Discussion followed.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): There will be ELEE initiatives for Labor Day weekend. They are tracking super speeder enforcement details as well through the super speeder law.

Lori Palaio (JMT): From January 1st through June 4th, 2025, there were 70 fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1st to May 2nd, 2025, there were 56 fatal crashes. There were 14 new fatal crashes, which included two sideswipe, two head on, two run off road, two other, one right angle, one left turn, one bicycle, and three pedestrian fatal crashes. For the three pedestrian fatal crashes: The first pedestrian fatal crash occurred on April 3rd, 2025, at 9:09 PM (Report Number 26876144) on West Waters Avenue and North Dakota Avenue, not at the intersection in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian was improperly crossing the roadway without using a marked crosswalk. The second pedestrian fatal crash occurred on May 10th, 2025, at 4:19 AM (Report Number 27284125) on North Nebraska Avenue and East Robson Street, not at the intersection in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian improperly entered the roadway directly into the vehicle's path. The third pedestrian fatal crash occurred on May 21st, 2025, at 9:21 PM (Report Number 26981553) on State Road 60 and Strawberry Ridge Boulevard, at the intersection in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian improperly entered the roadway directly into the vehicle's path. For the bicycle fatal crash: The bicycle fatal crash occurred on May 6th, 2025, at 12:58 PM (Report Number 26961939) on State Road 574 (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.) and Sydney Dover Road, at the intersection in daylight, clear, and dry conditions. The bicyclist failed to slow/stop for the red light and entered the intersection causing vehicle one to hit him. Pedestrian Fatal crashes were the highest fatal crash type with 21.4%, followed by other fatal crashes with 14.3%, and bicycle fatal crashes

with 12.9%. Pedestrian and bicycle fatal crashes are in the top three fatal crash types. There are currently 70 fatal crashes through June 4th, 2025. Same period in 2024 there were 73 fatal crashes. Hillsborough County is down by three fatal crashes in the same period.

Health Agencies/Safety Groups

Alexandria Roeder (TGH): Alexandria Roeder from Trauma Injury Prevention shared several upcoming events and initiatives related to traffic safety. They are collaborating with AAA to hold a press conference on September 18th focused on e-bike and e-scooter safety. Alexandria also discussed that they are recruiting volunteers for Battle of the Belts. Alexandria also discussed that they are trying to figure out ways to enhance e-bike and e-scooter safety.

Karen Kress (Tampa Downtown Partnership): Tampa Downtown Partnership is conducting research on prohibiting speeding on sidewalks in downtown.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): The Safe Mobility for Life Coalition is going on right now in Tallahassee.

School Operations

None.

Engineering/Planning

Josh Blackman (City of Tampa): Intersection murals are being removed throughout the city. The City of Tampa is updating their high injury network. He discussed the Morgan Street quick build project. Public engagement will start soon.

There was discussion about school zone murals, including the removal of the 78th Street mural. It was noted that while some have said that crosswalk murals are not MUTCD compliant, some mural locations in medians and side lanes are not even addressed in the MUTCD. It was also noted that FDOT crash data and national traffic studies show significantly improved safety in most street mural locations.

Harry Walsh (Plan Hillsborough TPO): The TPO is performing a safety analysis for Henderson Boulevard and Manhattan Avenue and there will be community feedback on November 12th at Jan Platt Library at 6:30pm. The corridor is a four-mile stretch. TPO is also updating their crash mitigation process, and they are seeking consultants to come up with best practices on crash mitigation. He discussed updates to the high injury network.

Fred Baxter (City of Plant City): There are four new traffic signals in design and there is one awaiting permitting. He discussed that from LTAP, equipment that was received including 17 traffic cabinets. There are three pedestrian projects in design for 2028, one of which is an over-road crossing. They are waiting on approval on US 92 and Baker Street. There is a new welcome center and new community center on US 92 and Baker Street and the park is being redone.



Venkat Vattikuti (Hillsborough County): He highlighted two pedestrian projects, one on McIntosh Road and another on Bearss Avenue. The McIntosh Road project is adjacent to an FDOT project involving capacity improvements and adding lanes.

Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants): Mahshid mentioned that for HSIP, they included an APL number on approved product list. There has been a change in purchase orders for bright sticks, including bright stick width and pole type.

Community Organizations/University

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): Brentin discussed the pedestrian hybrid beacon on Busch Boulevard. The midblock pedestrian signal on Fowler Avenue and 52nd Street will be completed in September. The restricted crossing U-turns are complete, but the pedestrian signals are not activated.

Ariana Roman (MADD): MADD is doing underage substance abuse presentations at schools and they are trying to do more tabling events. On October 13th is Golf Like MADD. December 4th is the Candlelight Vigil.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): School is back in session. Fourteen schools are in activated programs this year for Sidewalk Stompers. National Walk to School Day is on October 8th. Last year there were 39 schools who participated in Walk to School Day.

Karen Kress (Tampa Downtown Partnership): September 20th is World Car Free Day by Walk Bike Tampa. They are looking for volunteers. Volunteers can also have exhibits at the event.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): Emily discussed that there will be a bike rodeo at World Car Free Day. They are looking for volunteers. Emily also discussed the Cass Street bridge project. There is an eco-counter that reveals travel trends and encourages people to try out the growing bike and pedestrian infrastructure. It was discussed that the eco-counter is low cost and quick to implement. The 2nd Annual Kidical Mass is scheduled for Saturday, September 20th, as part of World Car Free Day. The event aims to promote safe and fun cycling for families by organizing a planned, slow-paced group ride through the city. It will teach kids to stop at a red light, etc. There will be a partnership from Bikes from the Heart, where kids can borrow or keep a bicycle. Discussion followed.

III. Follow-Up Items

*Eric Henry provided updates on several projects and topics. He clarified that the project on US 92, which involves resurfacing and other improvements, is in design and funded for construction. The construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2026. This project includes guardrail, sidewalk improvements, signing and pavement marking, lighting, and signalization from Eureka Springs to Thonotosassa Road. Additionally, there is a widening project on US 92 at Mango Road that will add buffered bike lanes and sidewalks. However, this project is still in design and not yet funded for construction. **Fred Baxter, City of Plant City, mentioned earlier in the meeting that they are waiting for approval on US 92 and Baker Street. There is a new welcome center and new community center on US 92 and Baker Street and the park is being redone.***



*Regarding the lane repurposing statute, Eric mentioned that District 7 has a designated coordinator for lane repurposing. He has reached out to see if the coordinator or one of their staff could present at a future meeting to provide clarity on how they are interpreting and implementing the statute. This presentation is in the works and will be scheduled for a future meeting. **No new update.***

*Eric also provided an update on education related to the new signal at Fowler Avenue and 52nd Street. The education efforts are set to start shortly, and the signal is expected to be active on August 7th. **Brentin Mosher, CUTR, mentioned earlier in the meeting that the midblock pedestrian signal on Fowler Avenue and 52nd Street will be completed in September. The restricted crossing U-turns are complete, but the pedestrian signals have not been activated.***

IV. Presentations

None. Corey Norris, Hillsborough County Public Schools, will present school bus arm cameras at the next meeting.

V. Announcements

None.

VI. Action Items (procedural items for committee vote)

None.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:24am.

Next Meeting: September 24 – Virtual Meeting, 9:30am

In attendance: Lama Alfaseeh (Hillsborough County), Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants), Fred Baxter (City of Plant City), Josh Blackman (City of Tampa), Susan Boda (Benesch), Demetrius German (City of Tampa PD), James Hartwell (Element Engineering Group), Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers), Karen Kress (Tampa Downtown Partnership), Demian Miller (Benesch), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Michelle Newton (Plan Hillsborough TPO), Lori Palaio (JMT), James Reiser (Tampa PD), Soufiane Rharad (AtkinsRealis), Alexandria Roeder (Tampa General Hospital), Ariana Roman (MADD), Lisa Silva (Hillsborough TPO), Andrea Sauvageot (Benesch), Venkat Vattikuti (Hillsborough County), Antonio Velez (USF PD), Harry Walsh (Plan Hillsborough TPO), Rich Wilson (Benesch)