

Hillsborough CTST – December 9, 2025

Meeting started at 9:46am

I. Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were given. October 2025 minutes were approved.

II. Membership Reports

Enforcement and Crash Statistics

Jim Reiser (TPD): The Driver Sober, Get Pulled Over campaign will run from December 13th through January 1st and is reportable through the Law Enforcement Liaison (LEL) program. Jim provided updates on speed zone camera issues in Hillsborough County, noting challenges with right-of-way due to existing utilities, underground drainage, and water lines. He explained the camera specifications and mentioned that media coverage has been critical, portraying the cameras as controversial. Progress is currently on hold as they work with the vendor to ensure proper implementation. Jim also noted that a bill has been introduced to change how these cameras operate. Mahshid added that school board meetings have raised questions about when cameras are active. Details are included in the Senate bill.

Lori Palaio (JMT): From January 1st through September 14th, 2025, there have been 100 fatal crashes. At the last CTST from January 1st through August 14th, 2025, there were 89 fatal crashes. There are 11 new fatal crashes added to the fatal crash map. They include seven pedestrians, one head on, one run-off-road, one right angle, and one left turn fatal crash.

For the seven pedestrian fatal crashes:

- Report Number 27284497: The first one occurred on W John F Kennedy Boulevard and N Lois Avenue, at the four-way intersection, in day, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian failed to obey traffic signal.
- Report Number 27285667: The second one occurred on East Columbus Drive and North 62nd Street, not at the intersection, in dark not-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian was walking eastbound in the center of the eastbound travel lane with her back against oncoming traffic.
- Report Number 27031517: The third one occurred on I-4 and MM 6, not at the intersection, in dark-lighted, rainy, and wet conditions. The vehicle struck the pedestrian and a guardrail.
- Report Number 27290709: The fourth one occurred on East Ohio Street and South Maryland Avenue, not at the intersection, in day, cloudy, and dry conditions. The pedestrian was in the driveway when the vehicle was backing up.
- Report Number 26999594: The fifth one occurred on I-75 and MM 247, not at the intersection, in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian darted/dashed. The pedestrian was under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

- Report Number 26999596: The sixth one occurred on U.S. 41 and 4th Avenue Southeast, no tat the intersection, in dark-lighted, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian was in roadway improperly. The pedestrian was under the influence of alcohol.
- Report Number 27656428: The seventh one occurred at 3001 West Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Boulevard, on a private roadway, in day, clear, and dry conditions. The pedestrian was crossing at or near a marked crosswalk on the premises of St. Joseph's Hospital when a vehicle struck the pedestrian.

There are currently 100 fatal crashes through September 14th, 2025. The same period in 2024 there were 111 fatal crashes. We are down by 11 fatal crashes in the same period. Pedestrian fatal crashes are the second highest by mode of travel, representing 25 percent of the fatal crashes. The City of Tampa has ten pedestrian fatal crashes, which is the same as state road pedestrian fatal crashes. State roads represent 52 percent of all fatal crashes, followed by Hillsborough County roads at 27 percent.

Health Agencies/Safety Groups

Michele Harris (AAA): Michele introduced the Crashes Hit Different campaign, which highlights the top reasons people crash. She also discussed the Safe Streets for Small Wheels campaign, developed in partnership with TGH, focusing on micromobility safety and educating riders on best practices. This initiative will launch across Florida universities as well as high schools and middle schools, and they are seeking additional partners to support the effort.

Alexandria Roeder (TGH): Alexandria emphasized the importance of proper safety gear for e-scooters, noting that regular helmets do not provide adequate protection for speeds of 25 mph. She shared that the EMS group has used Amazon to link recommended safety equipment. Looking ahead to the 2026 fiscal year, TGH plans to conduct four car seat fitting events. The Battle of the Belts campaign is currently underway, with post-counts scheduled for next week. For the Stop the Bleed initiative, TGH continues to expand its community presence, though finding adequate classroom space remains a challenge. Additionally, TGH is working on legislation related to e-bikes, providing data and collaborating with lawmakers; the average age for e-bike injuries is 23.

Eric Henry (FDOT): The Teen Driver Coalition is tomorrow afternoon. Eric will provide updates from the coalition at the next meeting.

School Operations

Ruby Shannon (Hillsborough County School District): Bus stop signs are still functioning well, and bus patrol efforts have been effective. Current citations now include video footage, enhancing enforcement and accountability.

Katie Godwin (TECO) and Brandon Rodriguez (TECO): Katie Godwin and Brandon Rodriguez presented potential traffic safety concerns on Lake Kath Drive in Brandon. The intersection experiences heavy



pedestrian activity throughout the day, with 10–15 people crossing at once. Apartment complexes on both sides contribute to school bus pick-ups occurring directly at the intersection, yet there are no signs indicating bus stops. While pedestrian crossing signs exist, there are no marked crosswalks or rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs). Visibility is poor due to a dense tree canopy and lack of street lighting, making the area particularly dark during dawn and dusk, times that coincide with school bus pick-ups. The road's curvature and the intersection's location at the apex of Lake Kath Drive add further safety challenges. Katie requested an internal contact for lighting and signage issues and suggested a traffic safety assessment. Venkat, who handles street lighting, offered assistance, and Mike Flick also volunteered to help. For school bus stops, lighting typically does not require formal study and can be installed directly. Discussion followed.

Engineering/Planning

Eric Henry (FDOT): Eric provided several updates. He noted that ramp closures will begin this evening on U.S. 301 at the northbound exit to I-4 eastbound, with additional lane closures scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday nights on other ramps. Eric also shared that FDOT is undergoing organizational changes, with the engineering group splitting and transitioning to traffic operations. He advised that any delays in email responses may be due to this transition, and in the meantime, questions can be sent to him for forwarding to Emmeth. Lastly, Eric announced an upcoming bicycle rodeo scheduled for Thursday.

Venkat Vattikuti (Hillsborough County): At one of the future CTST meetings, Venkat will present a GIS map showcasing ongoing projects in Hillsborough County, including safety initiatives and Vision Zero projects. The map will provide detailed information on each project. Additionally, Mary Sheets will serve as the Project Manager in the safety and mobility department for projects including Safe Routes to School within the Hillsborough County office. The traffic operations/engineering department will be delivering other safety projects as well.

Jim Reiser (TPD): The City of Tampa is advancing a long-range transportation plan currently under review by the city council. Key components include the West River Area multi-modal project, the city-wide Tampa Moves mobility initiative, the Westshore Regional multi-modal center, and the CSX South Tampa Corridor Rails-to-Trails project. Future grant opportunities are anticipated to support these efforts. The group also discussed impact fees, noting that this would be the first update in 30 years.

Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants): Mahshid provided updates on new applications and safety initiatives. She is working on codes and discussed Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) applications for bike lane delineators and rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFBs). Plant City has applied for bright sticks, and Mahshid also highlighted HSIP efforts for the safety edge tool, which attaches to pavement to help vehicles re-enter the roadway after running off. Additionally, she discussed the approved products list.

Community Organizations/University

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): Brentin stated that in November, there were presentations for the Tampa Bay Citizen Safety Academy. He also mentioned that Temple Terrace Walk with the Mayor is coming up, as well as a bicycle rodeo that FDOT and CUTR are supporting.

Susan Boda (Benesch): Susan said that the MADD vigil was wonderful and there was a large presence of law enforcement.

Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers): There are 16 Hillsborough County school programs that meet on a weekly and monthly basis, as well as presentations. Emily would like to partner with more schools. In November there was the Walk Bike Tampa award ceremony. Lisa Silva was recognized for her efforts in the community.

III. Follow-Up Items

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. Brentin reported that the social media ad campaign is still active, while the on-street education component has concluded. He also noted that the pedestrian hybrid beacon (PHB) at Nebraska Avenue and Idlewild Avenue will incorporate geofencing and educational outreach.

IV. Presentations

Amy Elmore (EXP) and Alex Burns (EXP): Amy and Alex presented on FDOT D7 Crash Data Analysis and Campaign Recommendations. They discussed the Target Zero Local Approach; its mission and vision is to commit to fostering a culture of safety and reducing preventable crashes as well as promoting behavior changes through education and outreach. They defined key terms such as lane departures, occupant protection, aging road users, and impaired driving. They discussed campaign recommendations, focusing on aging road users and their caregivers, proposing initiatives like vision and hearing checks, car fit events, educational workshops, and social media campaigns to promote safe driving and support independence. The goal is to combine digital outreach with on-the-ground education to effectively reach all road users. Discussion followed, including a stop the bleed discussion. Emily Hinsdale asked about the 25-44 age group, as that is worse than the 65+ age group. Amy stated that 65+ is a vulnerable user's group with high fatalities. Amy mentioned that they can do additional campaigns for other age groups.

Discussion followed out outreach with Florida PTA and community HOA and CDD's.

V. Announcements

Tina Russo (FDOT): In 2026, FDOT D7 will receive Target Zero funding for different emphasis areas.



VI. Action Items (procedural items for committee vote)

None.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:07am.

Next Meeting: January 28th – Virtual Meeting, 9:30am

In attendance: Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants), Matthew Belmonte (Gresham Smith), Susan Boda (Benesch), Alex Burns (EXP), Lindsey Champlin (AAA), Amy Elmore (EXP), Mike Flick (Hillsborough County), Caroline Fraser (Kimley Horn), Katie Godwin (TECO), Michele Harris (AAA), James Hartwell (LEL), Eric Henry (FDOT), Emily Hinsdale (Sidewalk Stompers), Sebastian Meyer (TPD), Brentin Mosher (USF CUTR), Lori Palaio (JMT), Jim Reiser (TPD), Brandon Rodriguez (TECO), Alexandria Roeder (TGH), Tina Russo (FDOT), Andrea Sauvageot (Benesch), Ruby Shannon (Hillsborough County School District), Andrew Stastny (Kimley Horn), Venkat Vattikuti (Hillsborough County)