

### Pinellas CTST – February 5, 2026

Meeting started at 10:01am

#### I. General Meeting

Welcome and introductions. The January meeting minutes were approved.

#### II. Committee Reports

##### *Enforcement*

Jeffrey Estoch (St. Pete PD): Jeffrey reported that during yesterday's monthly traffic update, the team issued 152 citations, with 82 of them for speeding over 15 mph. ELEE operations on state roads will continue through the end of the month. The department is also conducting ongoing HVE operations at least once a week, sometimes twice, and continues to run the motorcycle safety grant operations once or twice weekly. Two additional enforcement operations are being planned for next month on Gandy Boulevard and downtown, both focused on pedestrian and e-bike safety. He noted that the first fatality of the year occurred last week, involving a pedestrian struck by a vehicle, with early indications suggesting the pedestrian was at fault for not using marked sidewalks.

Mark Eastty (PCSO): Mark shared that in Pinellas County they are currently working on ELEE and likely HVE operations as well. January was relatively quiet, with the team mainly completing their forensics work along with a couple of days of related training. In the coming weeks, they plan to conduct enforcement details focused on e-bikes, which have become an ongoing issue.

##### *Engineering and Bike/Pedestrian*

John Rieman (Pinellas County): John stated that things are generally quiet but highlighted several upcoming outreach events. He noted that the Pinellas Trail Security Task Force (PTSTF) will be holding its EEE Day, Education and Enforcement Day, formerly known as HVE Day on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Pinellas County will participate, with Friends of the Pinellas joining as well. The day is intended to promote high-visibility enforcement and educational outreach along the trail. He encouraged any interested agencies to contact Kyle Simpson at Forward Pinellas to take part.

Eric Henry (FDOT): Eric reported that there is little new on the engineering side but noted a busy period of outreach events over the next month or two. His team will attend several of the events John mentioned, including Dunedin's bike month activities and the Country in the Park event in Pinellas on March 21<sup>st</sup>, where planning staff will host a table highlighting the Transportation Talks program. He added that they also intend to participate in Pinellas Trail Enforcement Day with related outreach efforts.

Brentin Mosher (CUTR): Brentin noted that most updates have already been covered, including preparations for Dunedin and the Pinellas Trail enforcement efforts. He reminded agencies that the ELEE program ends on February 28<sup>th</sup> and urged them to complete and submit their enforcement details and orders. He shared that Belleair and Indian Shores are receiving new variable message boards, adding to the ones previously acquired by Treasure Island and Belleair, which will help support public messaging. He

also mentioned that outside of regular operations, the team attended the Gasparilla Kids Rodeo on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, where they fitted more than 100 children with helmets.

### *Education*

Sheila Rainey (John’s Hopkins All Children’s Hospital): Sheila reported that the E-bike Micromobility Task Force continues its work, with the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday and a focus on developing educational solutions. She plans to check with a helmet manufacturer regarding the availability of e-bike helmets, noting that the U.S. lacks formal standards and that they are currently following Dutch guidelines; the shipment of compliant helmets has been delayed in customs for several weeks. She also highlighted upcoming car-seat certification training in Sarasota at the end of February, which unusually still has available openings due to strong instructor support, while an upcoming Polk County class already has a waitlist. Another class may be held in Pinellas, potentially hosted by Johns Hopkins at the request of Tampa PD, likely beginning April 16<sup>th</sup> and running three and a half to four days. She said she will provide updates as plans finalize.

Valerie Brookens (Forward Pinellas): Valerie shared that a survey is now open for the Safe Streets Pinellas update and will be sent to Eric to distribute to the group. She encouraged participation, noting that it consists of general safety questions and includes an interactive map where users can mark locations needing improvement. She explained that they have also developed a High Injury Network, representing just four percent of the roadway system but accounting for 60 percent of KSI crashes, and they will continue building on this analysis. Additionally, she and Deneta plan to overlay this network with the county’s intersection camera data to take a closer look at problem areas and deepen their understanding of safety needs.

### III. Old Business

#### *Problem Locations*

1. **Passing School Busses:** No update.
2. **Texas Avenue at Dunedin High School:** Blaine Loring reported that Stephanie Carrier from the Pinellas County School Board recently met with Deputy Ken Roberts at Texas Avenue to address ongoing concerns in that area. Although complaints have been minimal, a new voicemail was received today, indicating the issue persists. He described the situation as a work in progress and said they are coordinating with the school and local officers to improve enforcement.
3. **Trinity Boulevard and East Lake Road:** Mark stated since issuing a directed patrol there, officers have written 11 citations and more than 25 warnings. He said they will keep this location on the list a little longer, noting that it was originally raised by Sgt. Daniel NegerSmith from Clearwater PD. Mark plans to reach out in the coming weeks to see whether conditions have improved. In the meantime, patrol units will continue monitoring the area during morning hours when drivers tend to roll past the stop bar and block the intersection.

### *HSIP and SRTS Projects*

Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants): Mahshid reported that her team is currently working on new applications in coordination with Colin, the City of Safety Harbor, and Pinellas County, focusing on LED stop signs, speed feedback signs, RRFBs, and material-request codes. She highlighted a positive example of FDOT and local government collaboration: Pinellas County had requested two speed feedback signs for Keystone Road, but after learning that one could not be installed there, they provided additional information allowing it to be placed instead on C.R. 1, north of Curlew Road. She reminded everyone to send photos of installed equipment for record-keeping and reiterated her availability to help as needed.

### *High Crash Intersections and Fatal Map*

Mark Eastty (Pinellas County Sheriff's Office): Mark reviewed the current fatal crash numbers, noting that as of January 29<sup>th</sup> there had been three fatal crashes resulting in three fatalities, with an additional pedestrian fatality in St. Petersburg expected to bring the total to four. Even with that increase, the county remains ahead of last year's pace, when there had already been nine fatal crashes and ten fatalities by the same time. He emphasized the hope of achieving another year with fewer than 100 fatalities, following last year's milestone.

#### IV. New Business

Deneta Jones (Pinellas County TMC): Deneta presented on Pinellas County's IVA (Intersection Video Analytics) Program. Deneta delivered an in-depth overview of how the TMC uses IVA analytics to monitor intersections, identify safety issues, and support decision-making. She explained that staff review video daily to detect problems such as misaligned sidewalks, near-misses, red-light running, and unsafe pedestrian behaviors, noting how heat maps and time-to-collision indicators help pinpoint risks. When patterns emerge, such as students illegally crossing S.R. 60 near Clearwater High School, they coordinate with schools, law enforcement, and engineers to address issues through enforcement, education, or infrastructure changes. Deneta highlighted how IVA data enables precise analysis by time of day, improves collaboration with partners like Google, FDOT, municipal agencies, and Forward Pinellas, and supports law enforcement by identifying ideal hours for targeted patrols. She emphasized that the technology also provides valuable tools such as digital twins, adaptive signal timing, accurate turning movement counts, and performance measures that reveal delays and arrivals on red. As AI integration expands, the system will better detect trends and automate insights. Overall, she stressed that the program's success stems from strong collaboration, new safety insights, and the ability to conduct pre and post-treatment evaluations, inviting anyone interested in data or assistance to reach out.

Richard Hartman (City of Clearwater): Richard praised the IVA work and asked how the planning department could become more involved, noting that the detailed evidence could help them propose safety countermeasures.

Deneta Jones (Pinellas County TMC): Deneta explained that planning staff can use the list of intersections equipped with IVA and request specific data whenever they have a project or concern in a particular area; her team can provide pedestrian, bike, vehicle, and other analytics to support planning decisions. She added that locations can also be prioritized for IVA installation when planning identifies a need.

Richard Hartman (City of Clearwater): Richard said he would follow up directly and then asked about an unusual signal operation at MLK Jr Avenue and Gulf to Bay Boulevard, where the main signal briefly goes red before returning to green. Deneta confirmed this is intentional to avoid confusion for left turning drivers and noted that IVA could help evaluate whether this operation remains optimal at that intersection.

Sheila Rainey (John's Hopkins All Children's Hospital): Sheila provided an update confirming that the Tampa car seat certification class is officially scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> through March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Johns Hopkins Tampa Outpatient Care Center on Bruce B. Downs Boulevard. She noted that the course is typically 3½ to 4 days but has been condensed into two 10-hour days followed by a 7½-hour day, making it more time-efficient while still covering all required content. The class is intensive but highly valuable, led by experienced instructors including Karen McCauley, a head trauma nurse at Johns Hopkins. Sheila and Petra, along with other technicians, will also be present. The class is limited to 12 students, and registration is only guaranteed once payment is made. With Tampa Police Department planning to send several participants, remaining spots may fill quickly.

**Upcoming Meeting:** March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – In-Person Meeting, 10:00am, Pinellas Park Public Works Operations Center, 6250 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Pinellas Park

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am

**Attendees:** Basit Ali (Kimley Horn), Mahshid Arasteh (American Quality Consultants), Colin Batholomew (City of Safety Harbor), Matthew Belmonte (Gresham Smith), Valerie Brookens (Forward Pinellas), Mark Eastty (PCSO), Jeffrey Estoch (St. Pete PD), Richard Hartman (City of Clearwater), Jim Hartwell (LEL), David Hegarty (City of St. Petersburg), Eric Henry (FDOT), Deneta Jones (Pinellas County TMC), David Knoph (Pinellas County TMC), Blaine Loring (PCSO), Brentin Mosher (CUTR), Lori Palaio (JMT), Sheila Rainey (John's Hopkins All Children's Hospital), John Rieman (Pinellas County), Andrea Sauvageot (Benesch), Frances Sharp (City of Dunedin), Thomas Washburn (Pinellas County)

## PROBLEM LOCATIONS - FEBRUARY 2026

Item	Date Reported	Description	Staff	Last Update	Date Resolved/ Withdrawn	Comments
1	11/4/21	Passing School Buses	Deputy Miller, Joe Camera	11/6/25		<p>The buses are not activating the red lights which activates the stop bars, only the yellow lights are on. People are passing with the yellow lights on. The deputies can't stop people unless the red lights are on, and the stop bars are out. He asked that the bus drivers be re-educated about this to help the situation. Everyone forgets and more education and enforcement is needed. They must identify their high problem areas, such as Gandy, 4th Street, 114th Avenue, etc. The City of St. Pete suggested a billboard campaign. The new school buses have lights that are a lot brighter, than previous buses. Deputy Loring and other agencies are working on passing school bus enforcement. Joe reached out to Sgt. Caseber, of Largo PD for assistance. Joe stated when parents have their kids getting on the bus in the morning near Belcher Rd and Lancaster Dr, the students jump in the middle of the median. Mark Easty will make sure there is directed patrol in the areas Joe mentioned. Tampa Road was discussed. Deputy Loring will be taking care of the issues at US 19 and Highland Acres. This area backs up traffic for six to eight miles. Joe spoke to the driver, and she is going to try to open the yellow a little bit further back to give them more warning. Deputy Loring created a directive patrol for that as well and he is trying to include some of the patrol deputies and make them aware of it and enforce it when Deputy Loring is unavailable. School buses will take a break soon once school ends. Vehicles are not paying attention to bus stop arms. Daniel Negersmith stated that on Belcher Road by Oak Grove Drive, vehicles are constantly running past the bus stop arms. It is a 40mph zone. There is a transfer where buses pick up other students from other schools at that school, so many buses are coming and going. Daniel Negersmith if there is any way they can make that a school zone to slow down people during those times. John Rieman will investigate this location. Discussion followed. Autumn will reach out to her drivers to ensure they are doing what they need to do. Mark will follow up on information on speed cameras in school zones. Autumn Westermann from Pinellas County Schools has a</p>

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						<p>complaint at Oak Grove Middle School. Mark Easty will get extra enforcement out there. Mark Easty will look into Oak Grove Middle School. School starts on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Mark stated that all agencies will be increasing enforcement around school zones and buses during the back-to-school period. Mark addressed school bus safety concerns. He noted that Tarpon Springs Police Department has been actively monitoring a problematic bus stop area along US 19 and issuing citations for stop-arm violations. Per the discussion from earlier in the meeting, last month, ongoing issues continued from September regarding the bus stop at 2909 Gulf to Bay Boulevard, where drivers consistently fail to stop for buses. Despite seeking assistance from the school board, progress has been minimal, and the situation may escalate to media attention due to the uproar it has caused. Another concern is the Oak Grove area, a 40 mph school zone with multiple buses, where drivers are not stopping. Efforts are underway to designate it as a school zone to slow traffic, and enforcement has been active. <b>No update.</b></p>

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2	9/4/25	Texas Avenue at Dunedin High School  <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/yYBSsKJxj1dXWEKZ9">https://maps.app.goo.gl/yYBSsKJxj1dXWEKZ9</a>	Blaine Loring, PCSO	2/5/26		<p>Blaine Loring (PCSO) raised concerns about traffic flow and pedestrian safety on Texas Avenue, specifically at the half-circle near Dunedin High School. During morning and afternoon hours, the road functions as a one-way, but chevron signs in the area appear to misdirect drivers, encouraging travel in the wrong direction. Additionally, it seems the school is encouraging students to cross at this location, despite the absence of a sidewalk, posing a safety risk. To mitigate these issues, Blaine Loring proposed installing an enforceable “No Parking or Standing” sign to prevent congestion and improve safety. A broader discussion followed on how best to address these concerns. Mark mentioned ongoing efforts to resolve issues near Texas Avenue, where coordination with schools and community policing officers is still underway. Blaine Loring reported progress on traffic issues near school drop-off zones. A message board previously placed on Texas Avenue helped reduce congestion, and two additional boards are now positioned on Pinehurst to encourage parents to use the north and south drop-off points instead of Texas Avenue. The team is exploring further options, such as enforcing no-stopping rules within 20–30 feet of driveways, to improve traffic flow. Blaine Loring is looking into this problem location. Blaine Loring reported that message boards previously placed on Texas Avenue helped deter parking issues for a while, but complaints have resurfaced since their removal. Cooperation from the school remains limited, making the problem difficult to fully resolve. Mark stated that we will keep this on the problem location sheet until we figure something out. <b>Blaine Loring reported that Stephanie Carrier from the Pinellas County School Board recently met with Deputy Ken Roberts at Texas Avenue to address ongoing concerns in that area. Although complaints have been minimal, a new voicemail was received today, indicating the issue persists. He described the situation as a work in progress and said they are coordinating with the school and local officers to improve enforcement.</b></p>

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3	11/6/25	Trinity Boulevard and East Lake Road  <a href="https://maps.app.goo.gl/S7kzk_oLDHbwPnFVG7">https://maps.app.goo.gl/S7kzk_oLDHbwPnFVG7</a>	Daniel Negersmith, Clearwater PD	2/5/26		<p>Daniel Negersmith raised a concern about the intersection at Trinity Boulevard and East Lake Road, where drivers frequently run red lights during morning rush hours, particularly westbound vehicles making left turns southbound. This behavior causes gridlock and poses a high crash risk. Colin Bartholomew from City of Clearwater confirmed the issue occurs around 7:15 AM. Mark Eastty agreed to escalate the matter to traffic enforcement and suggested positioning a patrol car in the median for effective monitoring. The intersection will be added to the problem area list for follow-up next month. Mark sent an email to Deputy Howard Miller. There have been two violations, with one warning for passing a red light. There will be more numbers at the next meeting. Mark Eastty confirmed that directed patrols will continue, noting 13 warnings and several citations issued so far to help curb the issue. <b>Mark stated since issuing a directed patrol there, officers have written 11 citations and more than 25 warnings. He said they will keep this location on the list a little longer, noting that it was originally raised by Sgt. Daniel Negersmith from Clearwater PD. Mark plans to reach out in the coming weeks to see whether conditions have improved. In the meantime, patrol units will continue monitoring the area during morning hours when drivers tend to roll past the stop bar and block the intersection.</b></p>