



## Community Traffic Safety Team Meeting Summary – April 27, 2016

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

William Porth, CTST Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:33am. Mr. Porth explained his absence from the last CTST meeting as he was on vacation but shared that he had participated in the Temple Terrace Bike Ride and was impressed with its success.

The March minutes were approved.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee

Mr. Porth announced the City of Tampa is preparing a Pedestrian Master Plan correlating crashes with types of improvements that are successful. Similar to the City's Walk-Bike Plans, the Pedestrian Master Plan will focus on identifying, prioritizing, and funding projects focused on safe walking. Calvin Thornton, is the city's project manager working with Sam Schwartz consulting firm.

#### Impaired Driver Subcommittee

Ellen Snelling reported that DUI arrests are up from the previous year in March. Driving under the influence is still a big issue. Ms. Snelling will be on talk show with City of Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn on Heart Radio soon regarding DUI and wrong way driving. The Sheriff's Office is working on a new slogan with FDOT Safety Office.

Mr. Porth spoke to a map that plots locations of DUI arrests and where those arrested were drinking. The expected areas show on the map – Ybor City and SoHo. Some countermeasures in the event those drinking will also become wrong-way drivers is to mark the pavement versus signs that are up higher, as studies show those under the influence tend to focus more on what is directly in front of them.

Ashton Grimsely, with FHP, is responsible for tracking and mapping all aspects of traffic data and noticed spikes in DUI crashes.

### **HSIP SAFETY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS**

No Presentation. Mahshid reminded the team that safety applications are being accepted all year. She hasn't seen applications for hardware yet (signs, lighting, flashers). She encouraged agencies to fill out the pre-application which is simple and gets the process started.



## **SRTS Presentation - Amber Wheeler**

Ms. Wheeler updated the committee on the School Districts' Safe Routes to School application for improvements at Mort Elementary. She also added that the application receives more points if it is presented and thanks us for listening.

Mort Elementary is surrounded by a large residential population and is also a magnet school. There is only one bus and a high number of students receiving reduced lunches which indicate that lower economic conditions lead to many of the students needing to walk (159) or bicycle (5). An audit around the school identified many needed sidewalks leading up to the main roads. Sidewalks are needed on 142<sup>nd</sup> Ave, 140<sup>th</sup> Ave, 139<sup>th</sup> Ave, 19<sup>th</sup> St, 20<sup>th</sup> St, and 12<sup>th</sup> St.

Recent activities to promote safe walking and cycling, and to help identify other needed improvements, participating in a Walking School Bus which both Ashley and Lucy Gonzalez attended. They noted that improvements would serve the community as well as students since many residents and employees in the area walk to all the nearby destinations – community centers, other schools, health services.

The School District partnered with University Area Community Development Center, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office, and the Center for Urban Transportation Research. Deputy Steven Cherpach addressed his and the Sheriff Office's participation at Mort for the International Walk to School Day. He was able to identify the lack of sidewalks back in the neighborhood and working with Mike Flick, Hillsborough County Public Works Department, as well as Amber and Lucy, to get applications filled out for sidewalk construction. There were also signs added on Bearss to use the crosswalk, and a series of phone calls were sent to remind parents of laws and speed enforcement.

Mike Flick updated on the parking issues, some parents were parking on sidewalks. The County extending turn lanes on Skipper Road and replacing road markings during off school times. William wanted to know if Skipper was deemed hazardous. The presence of sidewalks does not permit it to be deemed hazardous, if it were, busing would be required.

Mr. Flick, added that if the application for improvements around Mort Elementary are approved, the County would construct them using Local Agency Program specifications.

## **VISION ZERO Gena Torres**

Ms. Torres provided an update on Vision Zero – that our goal should be to have no traffic fatalities. The idea originated over 20 years ago in Sweden and a significant reduction in crashes have been realized. The effort gained local traction after a tragic fatality prompted citizens and officials to embrace Vision Zero.



The MPO will take the lead on developing an Action Plan over the next year with stakeholders from similar participants at CTST, but also branching out to the media, private companies, sports franchises, etc. Ms. Torres added that many individuals and agencies are doing amazing work to reduce crashes, but with the continuing number of injuries and fatalities, a new and different approach will only help. One idea thought of early on was hosting a Student Video Contest for more effective peer-to-peer messaging. 31 videos were submitted by high school students in Hillsborough County. Several videos were shown to the Team. Ms. Torres would continue to keep the CTST updated and may be asking members to join the Vision Zero team.

Rebecca with St. Josephs Safe Kids is currently working with Stuart Middle School 6<sup>th</sup> graders on a traffic safety program and using the student videos in their safety efforts.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Education**

Lucy Gonzalez, with CUTR, reported on the National Bike to School as a number of schools: Chiles, Mort, and Temple Terrace.

Julie Bond announced the Temple Terrace Cyclovia will be held on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12pm. The event will be on 56<sup>th</sup> Street which will be closed from Whiteway to Busch Boulevard. Activities include a bike rodeo, helmet giveaway and fitting, skateboarding, and other fun activities.

St. Joseph's Hospital is participating on May 20<sup>th</sup> in Bike to School event at Pride Elementary and Foster Elementary will be starting new traffic education program.

Tampa General Hospital reported their work with 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders on safe walking. They are teaming up with CUTR for events at local YMCA for Healthy Kids Day Tampa on April 30.

Ms. Bond announced a successful Bike Rodeo workshop held yesterday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, between USF, Tampa Police Department, and University Area Community Development Center. The informative training will be held again soon.

### **Enforcement**

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office continue their work at Fletcher Avenue and Waters Avenue with their High-Visibility Grant. They have reached over 3,000 people.

### **Engineering**

Ms. Torres updated on the Tampa/Florida Study the MPO was asked by the City of Tampa to conduct looking at various design alternatives. She offered to present at a future meeting if there was interest.



## CALENDAR UPDATES

Susan Boda reminded the CTST members that the Statewide CTST meeting will be held on Wednesday June 8<sup>th</sup>. Although the main meeting is from 10am-2pm, attendees can arrive at 8am for a light breakfast. Lunch will cost \$10. The agenda is full and will surely prove to be an interesting meeting. The guest speaker is from AAA, with speakers from District 5 and our own Gena Torres. This statewide meeting presents an opportunity to learn what others are doing around the state to reduce crashes and is a great event for networking.

## OPEN FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Danielle Joyce announced that the Hillsborough County Mobility Fee passed at a Board meeting last night which requires developers to contribute by providing more dollars to fix transportation system.

Ms. Snelling announced pending legislation drafted MADD for an interlock system to be required and more penalties for refusing to breath, making it a criminal offense. Lastly, bars, restaurants, clubs, need a law to enforce serving someone who is already drunk. Laws exist in several other states already.

## ADJOURNMENT

After no further input, Chair Porth adjourned the meeting at 10:45am.

## ATTENDEES

Mahshid Arasteh, AQC	Fred Baxter, Plant City
Susa Boda, TOA	Julie Bond, CUTR
Steve Cherpock, HCSO	Mike Flick, Hillsborough County
Lucy Gonzalez- Barr, CUTR	Tracey Goodman, USF Police
Rhonda Grice, FDOT	Ashton Grimsley, FHP
Danielle Joyce, Greenman-Pederson	Carlene Lemaster, More Health
Kristi Nalls, St. Joe's Hospital	Todd O'Hehir, HCSO
David O'Neil, MacDill AFB	William Porth, City of Tampa
Shirley Ready, HCSD	James Reiser, TPD
Ellen Snelling, TAC	Gena Torres, Hillsborough MPO
Greg Weekes, City of Tampa	Amber Wheeler, HCSD
Jennifer Gonzalez, HCSD	