



Community Traffic Safety Team Meeting Summary – October 28, 2015

William Porth, CTST Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Welcome and introductions were made. The September minutes were approved; the minutes from August will be delayed until the next CTST meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Pedestrian Safety Subcommittee

Amber Wheeler provided an update on the newly formed Ped/Bike Safety Messaging team which came together after the death of Alexis Miranda, the Gaither student killed on Busch Boulevard. The School Board, BOCC, City Council, MPO, law enforcement agencies will be sending an open letter to the newspapers showing unity in their concern for pedestrian safety. A student video contest on traffic safety will be featured with the intent that the winning video will be widely distributed. A follow up phase is sharing the safety message at local churches to reach the target group of adult males in lower-income communities.

William Porth announced the City of Tampa's Vision Zero press conference would be held the following day on the steps of City Hall at noon.

Impaired Driver Subcommittee

Larry Morrell shared recent statistics on DUI arrests which are down 15% from the same time last year. The average blood alcohol content was 0.14. Law enforcement is targeting the 21-34 year olds although there were 10 arrests for those under the legal drinking age 18-20 years old. He added the October is the worst month for those driving under the influence.

Members complimented the Sheriff's Office for their outreach to high school students. Mr. Morrell explained an impactful video shown to the students of a war hero who served nine tours in Iraq without injury but when on vacation and lost both of his legs when hit by a driver under the influence.

Larry Morrell added there were 14 wrong-way motorists this year, none of which were on the interstate.

HSIP SAFETY PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

No presentations planned for today's meeting. FDOT reminded CTST members about the Safety Summit on January 20, 2016. Matt Weaver who replaced Dave Skrelunas at District 7 has set up this year's summit as more of a workshop than simply



presentations to allow applicants to have their projects vetted and get assistance with the paperwork needed.

NEW BUSINESS

Education

It was announced that the first week of October was International Walk to School Day. Amber Wheeler and Rhonda Grice discussed 16 schools in Hillsborough County and 36 schools in Pinellas participated.

Larry Morrell added that USF and University of Tampa would be hosting a Mock Cocktail event.

Tara with MORE Health shared they are teaching walking and cycling safety in Hillsborough and Pinellas counties. First graders at 30 schools were taught. TGH partners with All Childrens in Pinellas. Charter and private schools can participate as well, the program is first come, first serve for interested schools.

HCSO Corporal Cherpock told the group about the Walk to School event at Moore Elementary. There was a great turnout and the media was present to document the event.

The Hillsborough CTST was represented at Cyclovia. A bike rodeo was held with help from the Health Department. The trailer of equipment was loaned from Pinellas SafeKids.

Enforcement

Corporal Cherpock announced that HCSO received the \$100,000 grant from FDOT for bike and pedestrian safety. The program begins with an education component, coupons of given out to Chik fil A and bicycle lights and reflectors are distributed. The next phase of the program includes giving out warnings for 2-3 months and further enforcement follows. The focus is mainly in the USF area.

The City of Tampa Police Department explained that they were turned down for the grant due to ongoing State Department of Justice inquiries into the stopping and ticketing of cyclists. The CTST members look forward to the resolution of that issue and future funding for walking and cycling initiatives.

Engineering

William Porth gave an update on the City of Tampa's project to transform Cass and Tyler streets from one-way to two-way. Construction of the cycle track to be included



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is well underway. The cycle track will tie into the Green Spine and is an important piece in the effort to provide a continuous trail system throughout the city.

Gena Torres shared the efforts to date on the Florida/Tampa/Highland study looking at potential alternative roadway configurations. Updates will be provided as the study moves forward.

CALENDAR UPDATES

CTST members were reminded that there will not be a November meeting. The next CTST meeting will be held on **TUESDAY** December 8th.

OPEN FORUM/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting was adjourned.

Attendees:

Mahshid Arasteh, AQC
Susan Boda, TOA
Brentin Moser, CUTR
Cpl Steve Cherpock, HCSO
Ezra Folsom, FHP
Rhonda Grice, FDOT
Alex Henry, FDOT
Larry Morrell, HCSO
William Port, City of Tampa
Shirley Ready, Hillsborough County Schools
James Reiser, TPD
Michelle Schofner, ICON
Amber Wheeler, Hillsborough County Schools
Tara Saraceno, More Health
Ashton Grimsley, DHSMV