



West Central CTST – February 10, 2021

Meeting started 1:30pm

I. Welcome and Introductions were made

II. Minutes were Approved with below mentioned amendments.

- Harry requested corrections to the January minutes.
 - 1) The second part of Item #12 on December's Problem Location Spreadsheet, Good Neighbor Trail, YIELD signs at driveways were discussed
 - Harry requests the minutes reflect: a) the item was discussed, and b) the county has decided to not remove the YIELD signs facing the trail because the trail was put in well after the roadway and therefore is not part of the roadway section. Therefore, the Florida Statutes which Harry cited do not apply.
 - 2) Item #12 on the December's Problem Location Spreadsheet was comprised of two parts, the second being the STOP signs facing the trail at the forest roads. This part was not discussed during the January meeting, so there was no update.
 - 3) Because the STOP signs at the forest roads part of Item #12 was not even discussed it should remain on the Problem Location Spreadsheet.

III. Old Business – Review of Problem Location Spreadsheet

1. US 41/US 98/SR 45/SR 700/SR 50A - E. Jefferson St. @ N. Brooksville Ave. and N. Broad St. @ S. Magnolia Ave.: Mike – The consultant is working on possibly putting in a full-blown pedestrian signal rather than RRFBs. The full signal is a federal pilot program; trying to see if this will qualify.

2. US 19 and Hexam Road: Mike - This Push Button contract was awarded, and this project could take place towards the end of the year.

3. County Line Road at Waterfall Drive: Mike spoke with Venkat at the last CTST, in Pasco County, he would be getting with Hernando County on this project. Cayce stated that HC MPO is putting the widening of County Line Road on their priorities list. Currently this project is unfunded. Melissa read to the group the Pasco County CTST notes for this location, which are: “Venkat stated he thought the Engineer Project Manager was working through the plans. Will send us an update for the meeting from his side. Project designs are going through the review process. Zinn stated we would let Ernie Lane know that Venkat is in the design process.”



- 4. Powell Road at Silver Ridge Boulevard:** Steve Daniels stated this location is still a mess. Ernie was not in attendance to give an update.
- 5. Forest Oaks Boulevard at Deltona Boulevard:** No update.
- 6. US 41 and CR 491:** Walt stated it was still on hold until we get back to normal.
- 7. SR 44/ Crystal Street (Crystal River):** Walt/Mike – these two items (#7 and #9) will be evaluated and addressed as part of the FDOT SR 44 3R project.
- 8. WB SR 44, Left Turning Lane, West of Lowe's:** Mike -Pretty close to wrapping up this design.
- 9. SR 44 / NE 8th Avenue:** Walt/Mike – these two items (#7 and #9) will be evaluated and addressed as part of the FDOT SR 44 3R project.
- 10. Coronado Drive around J.D. Floyd in Spring Hill:** David G. stated they are waiting on the consultant.
- 11. Silver Lake Campground at Croom Rital Road:** David G. – No update.
- 12. Spring Hill Drive & Bentley Avenue:** David G. stated they looked at this intersection and did not see an issue. They felt this was an enforcement issue. This location will be turned over to SO and removed from the CTST list.
- 13. SR 44 and Forest Drive/Pleasant Grove:** Mike – No update.
- 14. 44 @ Stoneway Intersection:** Mike – No update.

IV. Calendar Updates/Activity Reports

Mike gave the February campaigns:

- Hit and Run Awareness Month
- Severe Weather Awareness Week – 2/1 – 5
- Florida School Crossing Guard Appreciation Day – 2/10
- American Heart Association Month
- National Cancer Prevention Month

Mike stated that he sent out that next month, March, is Bicycle Month in Florida on February 26th in Spring Hill and then later in Brooksville. Julie will be at the locations.

Julie mentioned the Love to Ride campaign where you can log rides. www.lovetoride.net/tampabay CUTR is giving virtual safety classes for those who are interested. Please let Julie know and she'll schedule that. George gave an update on scheduling high schools in the northern counties for the driver's education course. George stated that he has started to book some schools, virtually, in Hernando County.



V. SRTS Update

Walt stated the CR 581/Pleasant Grove is complete. The County did a press release on it and there will be a ribbon cutting to celebrate. It was a great project and FDOT did a great job.

Walt also stated that they are working with FDOT on another SRTS project, Forest Ridge Boulevard, from 486 to Lake Beverly. This project will connect Forest Ridge Elementary School to a Library on Roosevelt, to the County's Community Center in Lake Beverly, all connected by sidewalk.

VI. New Business

Cobb: Brought up the intersection of SR 44E, Burger King and McDonald's area, this was previously stated in past meetings. Issue here was there no designated turn arrow. There have been many crashes at this intersection. Mike Zinn stated he would speak to Traffic Ops Signal Department about this light/intersection. He also mentioned that the intersection would be getting a dual turn lane heading southbound to eastbound SR44. The conceptual designs have already been approved; construction is a little way out. Discussion followed.

Harry: Brought up the STOP signs facing the trail at the forest roads. This was the second piece to the Good Neighbor Trail which was removed from the minutes last month. David G. stated that this portion of the item was not complete yet. David G. thought that they had received permission from the Forestry Service to remove the stop sign, but they unsure of who should be handling the removal (Hernando County or Forestry Service). This item will be solved with the understanding that if there is a forest fire, bicyclists should not proceed in front of emergency vehicles. Discussion followed if it was one stop sign or five of them. David G. thought it was just one stop sign. David G. asked this to be added back in as "new business." Melissa to add this back in and parse out the yield sign information.

Harry: Withlacoochee State Trail and Independence Highway Crossing. At this location, he has had folks stop him with issues with signal timing and several close calls. What the folks described to Harry was not what the FDOT promised him, in writing, they would implement at this location. Harry went to the location and noted several observations:

1. FDOT has implemented a permissive, protected left turn for NB 41 traffic turning on to Independence across the Trail. FDOT promised him a protected let turn only.
2. The protected left turn phase for the NB traffic was activated with no vehicles in the turnlane, which caused a delay.
3. When the trail users push the button and receives the green signal to cross Independence, the green signal is only lit between 4-5 seconds. This is very short.
4. The "no right turn" blank out signal for SB 41 traffic, trying to cross the trail, is only illuminated during the 4-5 seconds the trail is green. Turning traffic is being released even though trail users are in the crosswalk, or allowed in the crosswalk.
5. After Harry pushed the button, he had to wait about 85 seconds before he received a green signal.



- Trail is closed one block north of the crossing. There was very low traffic and they still had to wait or they just went for it, looking both ways.

Harry again stated the signal timing issues and that this was not what FDOT promised him when they were working on this intersection. He asked who he could talk to someone about this intersection. Mike Zinn stated he would get with his Signal folks within the Traffic Ops Department. Mike thought when you hit the call/push button, the average call was up to 3 minutes. Walt agreed with the wait times. JoEllyn Guthrie was the director who was directly involved with this signal installation and that all items were contemplated and incorporated. Jim McLean agreed that the signal is not operating properly; timing needs to be adjusted. Discussion followed. Cayce mentioned maybe adding instructions to assist with the push button/call. Discussion followed.

Walt: Brought this up to CCSO, Highland and Holly. Walt went out and looked for engineering related issues and listened to the complainant's problems. They requested a four-way stop but the location does not warrant that. Speeding is the issue. Motorcyclists speed through this area daily and they are concerned about this. Sgt. Anstead is working with the complainant about this location.

Mike gave statistics for fatalities:

- February 2021 statistics
 - Citrus fatalities: 0 bicyclist / 1 motorcycles / 0 pedestrian | total for the County: 5
 - Hernando fatalities: 0 bicyclist / 0 motorcycles / 0 pedestrian | total for the County: 2

VII. Open Forum

Jeannine: They are continuing their programs virtually. A big shout out her colleague in the Tallahassee area who has a large MADD billboard on I-75 South in the Ocala area. The billboard will be in place over Spring Break, March 15 – April 15.

Meeting adjourned at 2:26pm

Attendees: Laura Anstead, Julie Bond, Karen Cobb, Cayce Dagenhart, Steve Daniels, Steve Diaz, Walt Eastmond, George Edminston, Ryan Glaze, David Gordinier, Beverly Howard, Jeannine Lawrence, Jim McLean, Ginger Regalado, Andrea Sauvageot, Melissa Shepherd, Harry van den Berg, Mike Zinn.



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Problem Locations – February 2021

Item	Date Reported	Description	Staff	Last Update	Date Resolved/ Withdrawn	Comments
1	January 2019	US 41/US 98/SR 45/SR 700/SR 50A E. Jefferson St. @ N. Brooksville Ave. and N. Broad St. @ S. Magnolia Ave.9	Ginger/ Peter/ Mike Z	Feb. 2021		Currently this is in design by JMT. No design schedule yet. 1st priority is the crosswalk at Jefferson and Brooksville Avenue; 2nd priority is North Broad Street at Magnolia Avenue; 3rd priority is North Broad Street at Brooksville Avenue. Mike Zinn reported that the City approved the conceptual plans and the plans are back with the engineer. The consultant is working on possibly putting in a full-blown pedestrian signal rather than RRFBs. The full signal is a federal pilot program; trying to see if this will qualify.
2	March 2019	US 19 and Hexam Rd.	Ginger/ Emmeth/ Mike Z	Feb. 2021		The signal was approved. “The US 19 intersection at Hexam Road has met signal warrants and a project is planned within the next 18 months. In the interim, we would like to propose supplying the county with a solar-powered yellow flashing beacons sign assembly to retrofit the existing (W3-1) Stop Ahead sign assembly. The design build contract should be advertised by 11/2020, with contract execution by early 2021. Mike Zinn reported this is still in design. This Push Button contract was awarded, and this project could take place towards the end of the year.
3	March 2019	County Line Road at Waterfall Drive	Ernie	Feb. 2021		Steve D. with Hernando County Schools wanted to know if a signal could be installed at this location. Hernando County will be meeting with Pasco County to go over the requirements for the signal and required equipment and what County agency will install and implement it. Consultant is on board to design and build project. Ernie - This is in Pasco County’s hands. Ernie stated that the County has sent funds to Pasco County for design of this project. Going to speak to Venkat at the Pasco County CTST to add this project/info to their CTST notes. Ernie is awaiting a returned call. Ernie stated that this was in Pasco County’s arena. He received the plans for the



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						<p>intersection improvements and they under review. Mike spoke with Venkat at the last CTST, in Pasco County, he would be getting with Hernando County on this project. Cayce stated that HC MPO is putting the widening of County Line Road on their priorities list. Currently this project is unfunded. Melissa read to the group the Pasco County CTST notes for this location, which are: “Venkat stated he thought the Engineer Project Manager was working through the plans. Will send us an update for the meeting from his side. Project designs are going through the review process. Zinn stated we would let Ernie Lane know that Venkat is in the design process.”</p>
4	March 2019	Powell Road at Silver Ridge Blvd.	Ernie	Feb. 2021		<p>Steve D. vehicles have been observed traveling the wrong way in the directionalized left turn median opening. Ernie will work with Carlene for update.</p> <p>Hernando County is designing delineator alternatives. The County is working with their consultant (ICON) to get the contract completed. Performing safety audits for this project. Will be following up with consultant on status of completion. Ernie is trying to make contact to transfer the files over to them.</p> <p>Ernie spoke with the consultant and they went to the location and noticed the problem. He has not received anything back from the consultant yet with recommendations for a solution. They are still reviewing the traffic studies and weighing their options. To date, the consultant only sent the preliminary report.</p> <p>Steve Daniels states the location is still a mess. Ernie was not in attendance to give an update.</p>



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5	March 2019	Forest Oaks Blvd. at Deltona Blvd.	Ernie	Aug. 2020		Steve D. a raised concrete traffic separator has been installed at this location, making it difficult for buses to make the turns. Ernie – they shaved the median back 8ft, this should help. Ped signal should be up soon. Studying the area. Ernie stated this project is still on hold. This may be released at the end of the month and Ernie will get with the County Engineer to see how he wants to proceed. No update.
6	Sept 2018 & Sept 2019	US 41 and CR 491	Peter/ Edith	Jan. 2021		Northbound left turn has no left turn signal phase; but there is a left turn lane. Due to heavy SB traffic, no gaps are created for vehicles turning left. They need to wait for multiple cycles or take risk turning in front of oncoming traffic. Citizens are requesting evaluation of timing and phasing, possibly add left turn phase. Drivers are cutting through Smith Terrace to avoid signal at intersection. On hold – waiting for things to return to the old normal. Walt received a complaint from an irate citizen regarding the left turning movement. Walt said he will call them back to let them know we are tracking this location. Once we go back to the old normal, Walt stated DOT will perform traffic counts. No update.
7	Feb. 2020	Crystal Street NE @ 12 th Avenue (split lane-Huddle House) <i>(On the southside it lines up with NE 12th Avenue)</i>	Cpt. Novy Peter, Edith	Feb. 2021		Many near miss crashes at this location, per the business owners. Peter stated he will work with Crystal River on this issue. FDOT is going to reach out to the City to look at possible improvements. FDOT is looking at crash data for the past 5 years. Peter stated FDOT is looking for a win-win solution with all the businesses within that area. FDOT is looking at short-term solutions since the area will be revitalized. Mike Zinn stated that FDOT is waiting to hear back from the City of Crystal River. Mike Zinn stated the two-way turn lane is still in design. These two items (#7 and #9) will be evaluated and



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						addressed as part of the FDOT SR 44 3R project. Items #7 & #9 will be removed from CTST tracking.
8	Feb. 2020	WB SR 44, left turning lane, west of Lowe's	Jim/Peter/ Walt/ Kevin	Feb. 2021		This location needs a "left turn to u-turn." This is near the Walmart that was recently corrected. Peter stated he speak to Walt about this location. Edith stated she would look into this location. A turn lane analysis is warranted. Group discussion followed. Edith stated that a project was created for push-button contract (late this year/early next year), this project will provide a turn lane for WB traffic exiting Lowes. A concept was completed and placed within the contract. Kevin stated they will install a WB u-turn lane, back-to-back with the existing EB LT channelized lane. Walt asked for Kevin to send him an aerial concept. Discussion followed. Peter stated that FDOT has a national expert looking at the u-turn. For this area, they will have 2 choices to exit and go to the eastside. Kevin is looking at turn lane issues and has a concept developed. They are trying to find the best way to make it happen. Jim asked Walt what he thought about it? Walt said it was fine by them. Peter stated they are looking at concepts and costs. It is still on the drawing board. On hold. Mike Zinn stated they are close to wrapping up this design.
9	Feb. 2020	SR 44/NE 8 th Avenue	Sherry/ Peter/ Edith/ Kevin	Oct. 2020		A sign or some other indication is needed at this location to inform motorists that they are in a school zone. Currently, there is not a school zone sign. Kevin stated he will work with the City to get them the equipment. (Had previously sent the info to the County.) Walt has seen emails going around between Kevin Dunn and Dave Robertson, County's Traffic Control, about wanting to put up signage on the side roads. The County has no objection, but DOT needs to coordinate with the City as the roads are city owned and maintained. On hold. Captain Novy stated that the City has gotten with FDOT and this



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						intersection is included in the redesign and is being discussed. A charrette was conducted, and this area will be part of a bigger redevelopment, just not sure of when this will happen. Funding issues did come up. These two items (#7 and #9) will be evaluated and addressed as part of the FDOT SR 44 3R project. Items #7 & #9 will be removed from CTST tracking.
10	Feb. 2020	Coronado Drive around J.D. Floyd in Spring Hill	Cayce/ Peter/ Ernie	Feb. 2021		Complained that there is a speeding issue at this location and people are passing in a no-passing zone. A speed limit flashing light/camera was also requested at this location. Sidewalks are also needed at J.D. Floyd Elementary School. Ernie said this is a school principal issue. This has been an issue for the past 5 years (traffic backs up into surrounding roadways). Cayce: Scott, a HC engineer, is performing a study at JD Floyd. Both Hernando County and Hernando County School Board are conducting studies. Sgt. Brown stated it was the parents that queue along neighborhood streets that is causing the problem. Ernie – currently with the consultant. Ernie hasn't received the traffic study yet. Ernie stated he spoke with the consultant and they were going to start on the traffic study soon. David G. stated they are waiting on the consultant.



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11	Feb. 2020	Silver Lake Campground at Croom Rital Road	Ernie	Sept. 2020		<p>This was originally brought up back in 2016. Harry originally asked for a crosswalk to be installed. The crosswalk was postponed due to construction. Ernie stated that they are restarting on crosswalks on Croom Rital Road. Ernie will be taking a field visit Friday to see where things are at with the project. Harry asked that all three parties are involved with this effort.</p> <p>Ernie stated there were some issues with this project. All the players that were involved with this project have left the County. Harry stated there is a crest in the road to the north; difficulty seeing oncoming traffic. Ernie said he'd open a service request up and do some investigating.</p> <p>On hold. Ernie needs to complete a sight distance study of the location and needs to measure how long the sidewalk will be required. He will try and get this completed by the next meeting. Ernie spoke with the new Assistant County Engineer and he will be looking into this. No update.</p>



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12	May 2020	SR 44 and Forest Drive/Pleasant Grove	Jim / Ginger	Jan. 2021		<p>Complaint was SB on Forest Drive at SR 44, trying to a make a left to go EB on SR 44, stated the signal would only let a couple out. Can the signal timing be looked at? Kevin stated that Ginger can forward that info onto Joe Bugel and Julie Scanlon. Walt gave an update on the project. FDOT is working with a consultant on the signal timing of this location. Dave Robertson sent the signal timing issue to the consultant to be evaluated. Ginger sent this request to the signals timing group. Awaiting response.</p> <p>Mike will follow up on this. Walt recalled that FDOT was going to have their consultant check on signal timings along 44 in several areas.</p> <p>Walt stated Iteris, the FDOT consultant, was going to look at this intersection. Mike stated he would follow up with the signal folks to see where this is at.</p>
13	Oct. 2020	SR 44 @ Stoneway Intersection	Mike	Jan. 2021		<p>Mike Zinn - FDOT received information back from their consultants with recommendations for that location. The short term solution is to add advance warning signage about the traffic signal approaching Croft and to evaluate the Croft Avenue signalized intersection. Mid-term solution is to install advance warning signage with flashers. No long-term recommendations were given. Mike stated that he is looking for Tracey to add these signs. Mike stated that he will follow up on this.</p>



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14	Feb. 2020	Good Neighbor Trail- Stop Signs	Ernie/ David G.	Dec. 2020		<p>Harry stated that the stop signs along the trail are around 9 feet high and bicyclists always disregard stop signs. Harry wanted to know why there are stop signs along the trail. Ernie stated the Forestry Division asked for the stop signs. There are 19 yield signs within a 2-mile area and 3 to 4 stop signs. He asked why is the priority placed to the driveways rather than the trails? Ernie has reached out to FWC and is awaiting their call back to discuss. Ernie spoke with FWC they do not have an issue with changing over the stop signs. Ernie is trying to get in touch with the EOR to get their permission to relocate the stop signs.</p> <p>Harry stated he will send an email directly to Ernie to get an update. The fire road stop signs that are facing the trail users should face the fire road users. Ernie stated this is under review by EOR and Engineering. Ernie is waiting on the EOR to provide him the plans to allow changing of the signs. The other part, regarding the yield signs is being evaluated by the County Engineer. Discussion followed.</p> <p>David G. thought that they had received permission from the Forestry Service to remove the stop sign, but they unsure of who should be handling the removal (Hernando County or the Forestry Service). This item will be solved with the understanding that if there is a forest fire, bicyclists should not proceed in front of emergency vehicles. Discussion followed if it was one stop sign or five of them. David G. thought it was just one stop sign. Discussion followed.</p>



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15	Feb. 2021	Withlacoochee State Trail and Independence Highway Crossing	Harry	Feb. 2021		<p>Withlacoochee State Trail and Independence Highway Crossing. At this location, he has had folks stop him with issues with signal timing and several close calls. What the folks described to Harry was not what the FDOT promised him, in writing, they would implement at this location. Harry went to the location and noted several observations: 1) FDOT has implemented a permissive, protected left turn for NB 41 traffic turning on to Independence across the Trail. FDOT promised him a protected let turn only. 2) The protected left turn phase for the NB traffic was activated with no vehicles in the turnlane, which caused a delay. 3) When the trail users push the button and receives the green signal to cross Independence, the green signal is only lit between 4-5 seconds. This is very short. 4) The “no right turn” blank out signal for SB 41 traffic, trying to cross the trail, is only illuminated during the 4-5 seconds the trail is green. Turning traffic is being released even though trail users are in the crosswalk, or allowed in the crosswalk. 5) After Harry pushed the button, he had to wait about 85 seconds before he received a green signal. 6) Trail is closed one block north of the crossing. There was very low traffic and they still had to wait or they just went for it, looking both ways. Harry again stated the signal timing issues and that this was not what FDOT promised him when they were working on this intersection. He asked who he could talk to someone about this intersection. Mike Zinn stated he would get with his Signal folks within the Traffic Ops Department. Mike thought when you hit the call/push button, the average call was up to 3 minutes. Walt agreed with the wait times. JoEllyn Gutherie was the director who was directly involved with this signal installation and that all items were contemplated and incorporated. Jim McLean agreed that the signal is not operating properly; timing needs to be adjusted. Discussion followed. Cayce mentioned maybe adding instructions to assist with the push button/call. Discussion followed. Mike Z to follow up with DOT Signal Office.</p>



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