



West Central CTST – May 12, 2021

Meeting started 1:30pm

I. Welcome and Introductions were made

II. Minutes were approved for May

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.: No update.

2. County Line Road at Waterfall Drive: No update.

3. Powell Road at Silver Ridge Boulevard: Ernie stated they are analyzing the data they received from the consultant and weighing the options.

4. Forest Oaks Boulevard at Deltona Boulevard: No update.

5. US 41 and CR 491: No update.

6. WB SR 44, Left Turning Lane, West of Lowe's: Mike stated this project is going to a design build/push button contract. *This project will be taken off the list next month.*

7. Coronado Drive around J.D. Floyd in Spring Hill: No update.

8. Silver Lake Campground at Croom Rital Road: Harry changed his mind about contacting FDEP and is now going to ask the County if, instead of a crosswalk, they would install signs at the crossing. Discussion followed. The signs would be posted to alert the drivers of a crossing.

9. Good Neighbor Trail- Stop Signs: Ernie stated he has no update on this. Harry stated there will be an upcoming meeting within the next couple of weeks to discuss this.

10. Withlacoochee State Trail and Independence Highway Crossing: Mike does not have an update. Discussion followed. Harry inquired about his previous requests. He requested that the blank-out signs need to be lit at all times. Also inquired about a permissive left turn. Peter Hsu stated they are looking at these updates and still working on these improvements. Discussion followed.

11. Good Neighbor Trail - Preston Road & Weatherly Road: No update.

IV. Calendar Updates/Activity Reports

Jeannine (MADD):

- MADD's Annual West Central Florida Walk/Run Virtual May 29
<https://www.walklikemadd.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1191>
- Law Enforcement Recognition & Training Symposium event nominations are open; this is not only for law enforcement, you can also nominate people within your community.
<https://form.jotform.com/MADDFL/2021-state-ler-nomination-form>



V. SRTS Update

Walt stated that FDOT is working on the Phase I of Forest Ridge Boulevard sidewalk.

VI. New Business

Chuck stated this issue came from one of the School Board members, US 41 South of Inverness, where the Charles E. Davis funeral home is located; the location makes you drive a ½ mile to make a u-turn into the funeral home. Apparently there have been many rear end collisions, traffic backs up, etc. Discussion followed.

Mike stated off of 41, on Croom Road, the new section that was recently paved, is already rutted out badly and has a 6-8" of drop-off, which causes folks to run off the road there. This has caused several accidents and one fatality. Ernie will take a look at this location and get the Project Manager involved.

Harry stated he had two items to discuss:

- Withlatchoochee State Trail and Tower Trail Crossing – the crosswalk markings need to be replaced/restriped. Walt will check with road maintenance about this.
- US 41/SR 700 in Brooksville – stated the signal timing is off and takes too long to cross. Requested the crosswalks be timed accordingly. Discussion followed. Ernie will take a look at this.

VII. Open Forum

Mike gave the campaign updates:

- National Youth Safety Month
- National Distracted Driving Awareness Month
- Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month
- National Bicycle Safety Month
- National Police Week, 5/9 – 5/15
- National EMS Week, 5/16 – 5/22
- Click It or Ticket Campaign, 5/17 – 6/6
- Bike to Work Week 5/17 – 5/21
- Bike to Work Day 5/21

Mike gave updates on fatal statistics:

- Citrus County: 15 YTD, 4 pedestrians, 0 bicycles, 4 motorcycles
- Hernando County: 7 YTD, 1 pedestrian, 2 bicycles, 0 motorcycles



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Ashley, with the Health Department, thanked Mike Zinn for getting her information regarding some of the campaigns that are occurring; specifically, for her, the bicycle safety campaign. Ashley stated she could/would publish any campaigns we have through their social media channels.

Harry inquired again about the pedestrian crossing signal law/statute that states what to do when looking at a pedestrian crossing signal. No law enforcement folks were on the phone to give him the information he was looking for. Discussion followed. George Edmiston tried to assist and stated he would be there next month to answer any further questions. More discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm

Attendees: Julie Bond, David Carr, Sherry Cook, Cayce Dagenhart, Steve Daniels, Chuck Dixon, Walt Eastmond, George Edmiston, Beverly Howard, Peter Hsu, Ernie Lane, Jeannine Lawrence, Jim McLean, Ginger Regalado, Andrea Sauvageot, Melissa Shepherd, Michele Snow, Harry van den Berg, Ashley Thomas, Dan Willcox, Mike Zinn



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Problem Locations – May 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	March 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. Mike stated he had a meeting scheduled the meeting and some folks didn't show up. He will try and reschedule the meeting one last time to get resolved. Discussion followed. Mike stated he has not scheduled a second meeting yet. No update.
2	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 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



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						<p>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.” David G. stated there is no update on this. Tina Russo will follow up with Venkat on this item. No update.</p>
3	March 2019	Powell Road at Silver Ridge Blvd.	Ernie	May 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. Steve Daniels states the location is still a mess. Ernie stated they just received the information from the consultant, and they are reviewing. Will have an update next month.</p> <p>Ernie stated they are analyzing the data they received from the consultant and weighing the options.</p>



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4	March 2019	Forest Oaks Blvd. at Deltona Blvd.	Ernie	Mar. 2021		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. Discussion followed with David G. and Steve about setting up a meeting offline. No update.
5	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.



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6	Feb. 2020	WB SR 44, left turning lane, west of Lowe's	Jim/Peter/Walt/Kevin	May 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. Mike Zinn stated they are close to wrapping up this design. Mike stated this project is going to a design build/push button contract. This project will be taken off the list next month.
7	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 stated he spoke with the consultant and they were going to start on the traffic study soon. No update.



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8	Feb. 2020	Silver Lake Campground at Croom Rital Road	Ernie	May 2021		<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. 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. 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. Discussion followed with Harry and David G. regarding the original requests Harry made and where things are at currently. David G. stated they could discuss this further when they meet in the coming weeks. No update from Ernie. David Carr stated it is up to the US Forestry Division, the DEP (trail), and the County as to what needs to be done here. David G. didn't have anything to add. Discussion followed. Mike pulled the crash reports for this area, and over a 5-year period there have been no crashes at this location. Ernie stated he found one crash, a careless driving crash. Discussion followed. Harry stated he is willing to reach out to DEP and Forestry, as a citizen, in regards to this item.</p> <p>Harry changed his mind about contacting FDEP and is now going to ask the County if, instead of a crosswalk, they would install signs at the crossing. Discussion followed. The signs would be posted to alert the drivers of a crossing.</p>



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9	Feb. 2020	Good Neighbor Trail- Stop Signs	Ernie/ David G.	May 2021		<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> <p>David G. said that he has an upcoming meeting with the original EOR for this project, folks at the County, and Harry to discuss what can be completed holistically.</p> <p><i>continued next page...</i></p>



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						<p>David G. has reached out to the original designer (HDR) and they have a couple indications on what they think should be done in this area. Scott Herring has reached out to Harry to set up a meeting over the next couple of weeks. Harry agreed to meet. They will discuss the options amongst each at that time. Hernando County PW is discussing solutions to the issue.</p> <p>Ernie stated he has no update on this. Harry stated there will be an upcoming meeting within the next couple of weeks to discuss this.</p>



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10	Feb. 2021	Withlacoochee State Trail and Independence Highway Crossing	Harry / Mike Zinn	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.</p> <p><i>continued next page...</i></p>



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						<p>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.</p> <p>Jim McLean stated he did go and investigate this area. Depending on when you push the button to cross, there could be a wait to cross Independence. He did not find it to be a problem. FDOT did relocate the sign out towards the intersection; it's very visible now. The County would have to get involved to move the sign onto the mast arm. Harry mentioned that he sent Mike an email with items he was requesting at this location (items are in the problem location sheet). Mike sent those items, back in February, to Signals at Traffic Ops. Discussion followed.</p> <p>Mike does not have an update. Discussion followed. Harry inquired about his previous requests. He requested that the blank-out signs need to be lit at all times. Also inquired about a permissive left turn. Peter Hsu stated they are looking at these updates and still working on these improvements. Discussion followed.</p>



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Item	Date Reported	Description	Staff	Last Update	Date Resolved/ Withdrawn	Comments
11	Apr. 2021	Good Neighbor Trail - Preston Road & Weatherly Road	Ernie / Harry	Apr. 2021		<p>Harry stated that on the Good Neighbor Trail, where it crosses Preston Road, the sight distances to the north are severely restricted. In the NW corner, there are a lot of trees; if they could be trimmed back that would help significantly. Crosswalk warnings are currently facing the motorists; these signs are in odd locations. Mike added that the ADA mats are crumbling and peeling up. Ernie stated he will look into this location. On Weatherly Road, the warning signs at this location are positioned in strange locations as well.</p> <p>No update.</p>