

Manatee/Sarasota Community Traffic Safety Team Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2021

Chairperson: Jim Davis

Vice Chair: Kim Clayback

Vice Chair Kim Clayback called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

Members

Tom Arsenault, FDOT
Andrew Beymer, FDLE
Connor Cardwell, FHP
Kim Clayback, City of Bradenton
Alvimarie Corales, MPO
Theresa Chestnut, FDOT
Jim Davis, Chair
Matt Dunford, Manatee County
Mike Ebersol, FDOT
Nanette Eubanks, MPO
Rich Garrett, Various Bicycle Groups
David Hutchinson, MPO
Chris Keller, Tindale Oliver
Mike Kenyan, Manatee Sheriff
Patrick Lui, Sarasota County
Michael Lynch, Manatee County
Anthony Rodriguez, Bradenton PD
Tim Roberts, FDOT
Suraj Rao, Sarasota County
Darrel Seckendorf, Sarasota Sheriff
Corinne Tucker, MPO
Francisco Walle, FDOT
Andrew Wentworth, Venice PD
Mary Webber, PSG

Approval of January 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Tom Arsenault entertained a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Patrick Lui second the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no one from the public.

FDOT Report

a. Action Item List

- Ms. Theresa Chestnut, FDOT, provided the following updates of the pending projects listed on the Action Items List:
- Project 5/19: US 41 Manatee County, Ms. Theresa Chestnut, FDOT, reached out to the Project Manager to find out the date for a public hearing and they still do not have a date. As soon as a date is set the Sheriff's office will be made aware. Also, the Project Development and Environment (PD&E) Study has not been completed.
 - Project 3/20: City of Bradenton, various locations, regarding the "Do Not Block" sign for 6th Avenue West was approved, it will be determined if FDOT or the County will install the signage.

Captain Connor Cardwell, FHP, received the following to be placed on the Action Item List:

- Project 01/21: SR 70 in Manatee County, Mr. Gary Guam, Citizen, stated there is quite a bit of speeding occurring on Hwy 70 in Manatee, especially between I-75 and Lockwood Ridge. He noticed that there is a highway patrol station located right across from him at Fairfield Community and wondered if there was a way to slow people down. His first thought is to put a sign up showing the speed the drivers are going and flash at them if they are over the speed limit. The second item is to put a flashing light when they drive excessively fast, to make them think that someone just took their picture and give them something to think

about. He believes that photos can no longer be used to issue tickets but not sure how many drivers know this and to be honest there are quite a few less intelligent drivers who it may scare them a bit and pass on the info to others. Just his thoughts as to ways to slow drivers down at least in his little part of the world.

Ms. Theresa Chestnut, FDOT, stated Traffic Services Engineers are looking into the suggestions and will report back. Captain Cardwell, FHP, stated it has been requested that if there is time for Troopers to be placed in the area to be a deterrent for speeding.

Ms. Kim Clayback, City of Bradenton, received the following to be placed on the Action Item List:

- Project 02/21: Starbucks at 1st Street East in Manatee County, Mr. Ryan Vaughn, Bradenton P.D. spoke with Lynda regarding a traffic complaint at Starbucks on 1st Street East and Manatee Avenue East. During the morning rush hour (0615 – 0830) traffic is backing up onto north bound 1st Street because of patrons filling up the Starbucks drive through. This back up onto 1st Street is causing near collisions and other traffic related issues. I would like to get this item on the agenda for our COB quarterly traffic meeting and onto the MPO meeting as an action item due to 1st Street (State Road 55) being under the control of FDOT. I am not sure what can be done to work with Starbucks to see if they can improve the flow of their drive through in conjunction with FDOT/COB assistance. Officer Bjurholm and I can get out this week or next to survey the problem and report back with data that we find so we have a better idea of the problem to move forward.

Ms. Kim Clayback, City of Bradenton, suggested sending the information onto the Design Team to see if there is something that can be done to remedy the situation.

b. Crash Reports Update

- Ms. Theresa Chestnut, FDOT, stated Signal 4 Analytics allow for individuals to access the crash data information on their own and asked if the CTST would prefer the crash data information presented at the meetings. It was the consensus of the Members to have the crash data information presented at the CTST meetings.
- Mr. Andrew Beymer, FDLE, reported on the following:
 - Florida’s Traffic Fatalities; 3,187 in 2019; 3,299 in 2020; 320 as of February 14, 2021.
 - To sign up for the 2020 Florida Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Challenge Report go to the www.floridalel.info.
 - For crash data that is broken down by counties go to signal4analytics.com.
 - “Click It or Ticket Florida” is scheduled for May 24th through June 6, 2021; dates for “Operation Southern Shield” have not yet been determined; and “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” is scheduled for Labor Day and through the Holidays. For more information, please visit www.Floirdalel.info.
- Ms. Mary Webber, PSG, provided an overview of Signal 4 Analytics Florida Traffic Safety Dashboard for Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

c. Miscellaneous

- Mr. Tom Arsenault, FDOT, provided a presentation regarding Sarasota-Manatee Incident Debriefs.
- Ms. Mary Webber, PSG, provided an overview of FDOT’s Work Program for Manatee and Sarasota Counties which may be accessed by going to www.swflroads.com.

Reports

a. MPO Report

Ms. Corinne Tucker, MPO, introduced Mr. Chris Keller, Tindale Oliver, who presented an overview of the 2020 Gulf Coast Safe Streets Summit (GCSSS) that was hosted by the MPO and held virtually over a four-day period between November 16th and November 19th. This was the 3rd annual installment of the GCSSS, which is a collaborative effort between the Florida Department of Transportation and six MPOs including Forward Pinellas, Hernando/Citrus MPO, Hillsborough MPO, Pasco MPO, Polk TPO, and the Sarasota/Manatee MPO.

b. Planning/Engineering

Vice Chair Kim Clayback noted the Florida Local Technical Assistance Program (FLTAP) (through USF-CUTR) offers a wide variety of webinars. Also, she asked why people are walking in the streets when sidewalks are available. Discussion ensued regarding the many possible reasons why people are doing this.

c. Safety

Ms. Mary Webber, PSG, stated the Safety by Design Group is gearing up for the Florida Bike Month campaign which will be held in March, more information to come.

Adjournment

The CTST meeting adjourned at 2:19 p.m.