



Manatee/Sarasota Community Traffic Safety Team Jim Davis, Chair & Kim Clayback, Vice Chair

Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2021

Vice Chair Kim Clayback called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Members

Maika Arnold, Town of Longboat Key
Tom Arsenault, FDOT
Andy Beymer, FDOT
Mayor John Chappie, City of Bradenton Beach
Theresa Chestnut, FDOT
Kim Clayback, City of Bradenton, Vice Chair
John Crosby, Bradenton Beach PD
Slade Downs, MPO
Matt Dunford, Manatee County
Mike Ebersole, FDOT
Nanette Eubanks, MPO
Alison Evanitz, Commuter Connect
Rich Garrett, Citizen
Tom Harmer, Town of Longboat Key
Vice Mayor Mike Haycock, Town of Longboat Key
Kera Hill, City of Palmetto
Mike Kenyan, Manatee County Sheriff
Patrick Lui, Sarasota County
Michael Lynch, Manatee County
Dan Middleton, Florida Highway Patrol
Daniel Ohrenstein, City of Sarasota
Aaron Pilant, City of Bradenton PD
Ramon Quintero, Florida Health
Md Haswibur Rahman, Sarasota County
Mike Stinson, City of Palmetto PD
Corinne Tucker, MPO
Francisco Walle, FDOT
Mary Webber, FDOT-PSG

Approval of August 17, 2021

The meeting minutes were approved.

Public Comment

Ms. Maika Arnold submitted an Action Item Request Form for the East Side of Gulf of Mexico Drive (SR 789) along the entire length of the Town of Longboat Key, starting at the northern-most side of New Pass Bridge and SR 789, and ending at the southern-most end of Longboat Pass Bridge and SR 789. The Town of Longboat Key primary access roadway through the Town is Gulf of Mexico Drive (SR 789). This roadway runs the full 10-mile (+) length of Longboat Key. Along the full length of the east side of the roadway is an existing eight (8) foot multi-use trail that is very popular and used by residents and visitors for walking, biking, jogging, and other modes, as well as dog/pet walking on leashes, etc. The original pathway was six (6) feet wide, and, several years ago, was widened with two (2) feet of concrete. The two-foot concrete expansion was created with a large expansion joint between the existing and new pathway. There are several infrastructure issues with the disjointed pathway, including cracks, uneven and varied surface conditions, patchwork concrete additions and repairs over time, isolated subsidence, and utility box retrofits throughout the length



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of the trail. In addition to these infrastructure issues, the gap that exists due to the expansion joints causes a hazard for thin wheeled bicycles navigating the path and moving around pedestrians, pets, etc. The bicycle lane on Gulf of Mexico Drive is too thin and many Town riders do not feel safe utilizing the lane on a 45-mph roadway, and rather utilize the multi-use trail. Therefore, there are two solutions, one of which is preferred:

1. Remove and replace the eight (8) foot trail with new trail meeting current FDOT multi-use trail width and surface standards for the full length of Gulf of Mexico Drive (SR 789) (preferred).
2. Recognizing the complexity of design, right-of-way and stormwater issues with Option 1, the Town would defer to Option 2 to remove and replace the full length of existing trail at the current width with a consistent cross-section and surface.

Vice Mayor Haycock, Town of Longboat Key, expressed concern with the safety hazards stating this is one of the most used trails within Longboat Key. Ms. Theresa Chestnut stated she would present this issue to FDOT for a solution.

FDOT Report

a. Action Item List

- Theresa Chestnut, FDOT, stated the action items were status quo.
- Vice Chair Kim Clayback noted the Action Item request form is now fillable and can be requested by contacting the MPO (Nanette@mympo.org).
- Ms. Corinne Tucker asked if Project 02/21: City of Bradenton, 1st Street (US 301) and Manatee Avenue (SR 64), traffic back up at the Starbucks could be removed from the Action Item List. Vice Chair Kim Clayback stated Starbucks has installed delineators within the drive through space giving vehicles the opportunity to pass the line up at the speaker and it seems to be helping with the issue. It was determined this item can be removed from the list.
- Vice Chair Kim Clayback noted she received a safety request from a business owner regarding SR 64 westbound at 9th Street and 15th Street East, who is requesting reduced speed signage and speed traps along SR 64: vehicles are traveling at an excess speed and vehicles slowing to turn into the parking lots for shops are almost hit countless times during the day between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Sgt. Aaron Pilant, Bradenton Police Department (BPD), stated this is a speeding issue and the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour (mph), but vehicles typically travel at 45 mph. The BPD will have enforcement at that location.

- Vice Chair Kim Clayback received a second request from Public Works regarding 15th Street East and 13th Avenue East regarding Bus Stop Safety:
 - At 15th St E (SR70A) and 13th Ave East is a bus stop for middle school students on the east side of the road - 12 to 15 of these students on any given day are crossing in the morning from the west side to the east side.
 - These students are crossing 15th Street East without a crosswalk or any sort of safety measures - on the handful of days Vice Chair Clayback watched them exercise little judgement and "frogger" their way across the road.
 - Vice Chair Clayback pulled up FDOT traffic online that gives a 5-year running average of +/- 12,000 AADT (the roundabout to the north was built in the last 5 years)
 - On the west side of 15th Street East is a County maintained park that has the "eastside pool" facility.



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- Throughout the summer, many of the residents on the west side of 15th Street East are crossing to get to the pool facility - they cross to get to these amenities throughout the rest of the year, but summer is the most trafficked.
- All these residents are crossing the road with approximately 12,000 AADT as well.

Public Works is requesting: 1. As 15th Street East is a FDOT road, the City of Bradenton is requesting at a minimum for a high impact crosswalk to be installed; and 2. What would be most beneficial to the people using the crossing is a push button pedestrian signal with stop bars drawn where the vehicle needs to stop when the signal is flashing as well as a high impact crosswalk.

- Vice Chair Clayback stated a developer has contacted her on numerous occasions regarding moving light poles on the southeast corner of 6th Avenue and 9th Street West, eastbound SR 64 at Business US 41, and she has explained each time that the contractor needs to contact FDOT not the City of Bradenton regarding the request. Ms. Theresa Chestnut, FDOT, stated she would reach out to the developer.
- Capt. Mike Stinson stated where the delineators were installed on US 41 at 26th and Bayshore Road, expressed concerns about vehicles still being able to attempt a left-hand turn, which could cause accidents. He asked who to contact to address this issue. It was suggested an email be sent to the City of Palmetto regarding this concern.

b. Crash Reports Update

Ms. Mary Webber, PSG, provided an overview of the September crash statistics and fatalities for Manatee and Sarasota Counties.

c. Miscellaneous

Mr. Andy Beymer announced:

- The 2021 Labor Day DUI Campaign “Sober or Get Pulled Over” was held across the country from August 18, 2021 to September 6, 2021. Law Enforcement reports are due by September 30, 2021. More information may be found at [Florida LEL Program - Home](#).
- Click It or Ticket Campaign was successful with over 32,000 citations/warnings written statewide.
- Sadly, Law Enforcement traffic related deaths while on duty are up 47%.

Once Around the Table

- Ms. Corinne Tucker, MPO, invited the Members to the Destination Zero Workshop to discuss walking, biking, and driving SAFELY around Sarasota and Manatee County. The Workshop will be held on Monday, September 27, 2021, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., following the Joint PTF and MPO Board Meeting, at the Bradenton Area Convention Center (BACC). Registration is closed but there are a few spots still open, Members may contact Ms. Tucker to register (for free).

During 2021 Mobility Week (October 29, 2021 - November 5, 2021) MPO Staff will “Bike From Work” with the City of Sarasota and tour the arts.

- Ms. Allison Evanitz stated Commuter Connect has 23 vanpools currently operating in the district with 2 more being added in October. Also, Commuter Connect is looking to forward to its “Bike Form Work” event for Mobility Week.

Adjournment

Ms. Corinne Tucker reminded the Members the next CTST meeting will be Hybrid. The CTST meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.