

**Pinellas Community Traffic Safety Team Meeting
May 3, 2007 Minutes**

Chairperson David Fechter called the general meeting to order and welcomed members present. Introductions were made. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved as distributed.

Subcommittee Reports:

Engineering

- Marc Hanger reported that FDOT District Seven plans on installing a curve ahead warning sign, which includes ramp advisory speed, at the 118th Ave N to I-275 southbound on-ramp. This should help reduce off-road incidents at the location.
- Construction has begun on two projects in Pinellas Park; Park Blvd. at Home Depot; and, at 49th St. N. Both projects are expected to improve safety and traffic flow. Accidents at these locations could be reduced as much as 33 percent. The projects are channelizing the median restricting left turns south.
- Hillsborough County has started a Senior Traffic Zone program. The program is targeting roads near adult congregate living facilities for road safety improvements such as larger lettering, wider stripping, high visibility signage (20/70 vision design) and better crosswalks.
- The City of St. Petersburg has painted the bicycle lane on 1st Ave N at 34th St N green to reduce conflicts with motorists and cyclists. If successful, painted bike lanes may be used elsewhere.
- FDOT will install “Quick Kurb” to supplement flex posts in the median at Pasadena Ave and 66th St.
- At 54th Ave S, traffic signal progression timing was implemented for southbound 34th St. to Eastbound 54th Ave S through 31st.
- At 22nd Ave N and the Pinellas Trail, the city is working with the county and FDOT to install medians and a LED rapid flashing rectangular beacon crosswalk.
- Peter Hsu reported on the sharing of crash data. He said FDOT has all the long form data for the city, county, and state. We can share this data with governmental agencies. He wants to work together to get the data quicker.
- Dave noted that the Pinellas County Goods Movement Study, developed by the Pinellas County MPO in coordination with HNTB, should be finished later this summer. It will include a review of the top 20 intersections/segments of concern on the Pinellas County Truck Route network.

Enforcement

- St. Pete PD held 4 traffic operation details for Speeding and Red Light Running with 299 citations. The 3 Pedestrian Operations resulted in 43 citations and during the 8 School Zone operations they issued 399 citations.
- Pinellas Park PD held Railroad Crossing details with the stats to come at the next meeting.

- The April 11 Motorcycle Detail at Quaker Steak and Lube Restaurant was well advertised to the media, who were in attendance. The detail conducted by the Pinellas Park PD, with the help of St. Pete Beach PD and St. Pete PD, was 3 hours. Although shortened due to rain, they issued 9 moving violations, 89 non-moving, 20 criminal violations, 1 habitual offender and 2 DUIs for a total of 118. A total of 18 officers actually were involved although rumors had it as high as 100 officers. It was noted that many legal bikes were at the event as well.
- The Pinellas Sheriffs Office held 3 Railroad Details with 31 total citations issued on April 17, 18 and 19. A North County Saturation patrol was held April 19 with 85 citations and 13 warnings issued. The April 20-21 Dunedin DUI Checkpoints resulted in 101 citations. The April totals were 208 citations and 30 arrests. The Annual Memorial Day SALE kickoff is May 23rd at 10:00 AM by the St. Pete/Clearwater airport. All were invited.

Education

- Kim Jowell and Dave reported for Bruce Murakami that the CARS Event at Quaker State and Lube restaurant on April 28 went well. There were many cars with a few motorcycles in attendance. Renee Napier had the actual crash vehicle from her daughter's crash there and Melissa Wandall had a Stop Red Light Running booth. Others who had lost family members in crashes that participated included the Katy Marchetti family and Denise Clark.
- Kim announced that the Suncoast Safety Council now has a pedal car they obtained through GEICO, and DUI goggles, that can be used to demonstrate the impact of alcohol on driving abilities.
- Diane Pearson reported Knology will be doing a commercial on motorcycle safety. "Look Twice Save A Life" billboards are displayed on Seminole Blvd. and US 19, all in time for May, which is Motorcycle and Bicycle Safety Month.
- It was announced that the subcommittee submitted an excellent application for the 2006 CTST Team of the Year Award consideration. Kim, Dave, Jeanette, Kris, Marc, Jackie, Ron, and PSO all contributed. Orange, Lake, Hillsborough and Seminole CTSTs also submitted applications.
- The Battle of the Belts banquet had very good attendance from the schools and sponsors. Winners of the poster contests will have their designs on bookmarks paid from FDOT safety money. The winning PSA will air on Channel 44 as a 30-second spot. Next year, the contest will change to the first part of the year to avoid conflicts with Prom and Graduation events.

EMS-No report

TIM

- Peter reported that travel times will now be posted in ranges on electronic message boards. FHP dispatch will be moving on August 15, 2007, to the new Transportation Management Center behind FDOT District Seven.

New Business/Presentations

- Demian Miller from Tindale-Oliver and Associates reported on the status of the US 19 Pedestrian Safety Study, for FDOT District Seven. Findings indicated that Pinellas County has a high proportion of pedestrian crashes statewide. A good number took place on US 19. The purpose of the study was to look at options to reduce the number of crashes involving pedestrians. The 30-mile corridor from New Port Richey – Pinellas County was studied and the majority was determined to be dart/dash type at mid-block. Half of the crashes were in concentrated areas of St. Petersburg, mid-county and north county. Recommendations were offered to the US 19 Task Force and it is hoped that many will be practical to implement.
- Jeanette Rouse presented the “Eyes on Hillsborough” program as a model media safety campaign. The target was decided to be the aggressive driver and the campaign included a media blitz, safety promo items and printed materials. NASCAR star Joe Nemechek did the PSA’s, which were very popular. In the future, FHWA money can be used in construction areas for safety education and similar campaigns will be undertaken. US 19, North Pasco and Hernando are possible areas to be considered in July or August 2007. It has been demonstrated that the 3 E’s, engineering, enforcement and educations were all needed for success of these types of promotional campaigns.

Announcements/Updates

- Jim Millican discussed the potential traffic issues with the new Lealman Fire Station at 54th Ave N and the RR tracks. The ER vehicles will be entering a very busy roadway and there is concern about potential crashes. A signal rather than a flashing light may be needed. Pinellas County Traffic Engineering representatives will check on this situation

Next CTST meeting is June 7, 2007.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,
Thea Johnson, CTST Secretary

Members Present:

Lt. Phil Beahn	St. Petersburg PD	893-7157
Mike Bingnear	Pinellas Park PD	541-0758
Ron Bulen	Pinellas MPO	464-8200
Katherine Burbidge	Pinellas County	453-3457
Mike Burke	Pinellas Co Schools	547-7100
Robert Davis	Pinellas County	464-8855
Kevin Fannon	Pinellas Co Schools	547-7287
David Fechter	HNTB	813-884-7339
Michael Frederick	City of St. Petersburg	893-7843
Marc Hanger	Pinellas MPO	464-8200
Peter Hsu	FDOT, Safety	813-975-6251
Thea Johnson	Neighborly Care Network	571-4384
Kim Jowell	Suncoast Safety Council	442-0233 x328
Linda Jones	More Health, Inc.	729-8485
Melissa Kuruzovich	UPN 44 – WTOG	813-220-5174
Jim Millican	Lealman Fire District	526-5650 x 549
Elizabeth Monforti	Palm Harbor Fire Rescue	784-0454
Kenneth Page	Pinellas Co Sheriff's Office	582-5604
Tom Paul	Congressman Bilirakis	773-2871
Diane Pearson	Mother on a Mission	797-0176
Cpl Jim Piper	Pinellas Co Sheriff's Office	582-6434
Jeanette Rouse	FDOT Safety	813-975-6256
Frank Ruggiero	Tarpon Springs Police Dept	938-2849
Marian Scorza	FDOT, Public Information	813-975-6038
Bruce Shaw	CSX RR Police Dept	813-664-6397
Bonnie Tarsitano	Pinellas Co Traffic	464-8926
Jackie Zakrzewski	Pinellas MPO	464-8200
Demian Miller	Tindale-Oliver	813-224-8862
Milagros Olivo	URS Corporation	813-675-6660