

Florida Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Coalition Meeting Report

April 23-24, 2024

Orlando City Hall, Orlando, FL



*Prepared for the Florida Department of
Transportation
5-22-2024*



Attendees

Coalition Members & Program Management Support:

Last Name	First Name	Agency	Attendance
Acosta- Anderson	Libertad	FDOT District Five	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alluri	Priyanka	Florida International University	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amicarelli	Mariano	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Andrews	Maura	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Askins	Jon	Florida LEL Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Avola-Brown	Michelle	Naples Pathway Coalition	<input type="checkbox"/>
Babcock	Gina	National Coalition for Safer Roads	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Beaty	Allison	FDOT Office of Policy Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bhattacharya	Poorna	ASHA Planning Consultancy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blais	Jasmine	Kittelson & Associates, Inc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bobo	Loreen	FDOT District Five	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Borms	Jotan	FDOT – TDA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brown	Mark	Broward MPO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bryant	Curtis	Creative Fuel, LLC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Burgess	Kevin	FHWA Florida Division	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bush	Emily	Bike/Walk Central FL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Carver	DeWayne	FDOT Central Office	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cordle	Abigail	St. Augustine Police Department	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corkery	Terrence	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Craig	Chris	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Crosby	Dana	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
de los Santos	Claudette	FDOT District Four	<input type="checkbox"/>
Discepolo	Isabella	HCA Bayonet Point Hospital-Trauma Center	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Duran	Emmeth	FDOT District Seven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Facuse	Valentina	Palm Beach TPA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fall	Matthew	City of Jacksonville	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Feinberg	Rory	FDOT District Six	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fellerhoff	Christopher	Hillsborough County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Frank	Jason	Sarasota Police Department	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gehrke	Tiffany	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Giroux	Rupert	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gray	Ray	Florida Department of Education	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gruener	Leilani	FLHSMV	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hackett	Jensen	FDOT District Seven	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hardwicke	Laura	City of Orlando	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hawk	David	FHWA – Florida Division	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hsu	Peter	FDOT District Seven	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karron	Annely	FDOT District Two	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Katz	Eric	FDOT Central Office	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kehres	Katherine	FDOT District Four	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Kristiansen	Angela	Kittelson & Associates, Inc.	✓
Lewis	Michael	FDOT District Three	✓
Lyter	Tommi	Escambia County Sheriff's Office	✓
Machado	Claudia	MADD – West Central Florida	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marquez	Kevin	FDOT District Five	✓
Martinez	Janice	Florida LEL Program	<input type="checkbox"/>
McDaniel	Gevin	SpanPath, LLC	✓
Merkle	Tanya	FDOT District One	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mello	Megan	Kittelson & Associates, Inc.	✓
Miller	Chris	FL Highway Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morphy	Kelly	Florida Bicycle Association	<input type="checkbox"/>
Moss	Alison	Alachua County	✓
Moss	Stephanie	FDOT District Five	✓
Murchison	Sharon	IPTM	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nandam	L.K.	FDOT District One	✓
Porth	William	City of Tampa	<input type="checkbox"/>
Quenneville	Kristina	FL Highway Patrol	<input type="checkbox"/>
Railey	Brett	IPTM	✓
Raulerson	Mary	Kittelson & Associates, Inc.	✓
Reinhardt	Ken	FDOT District 7	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reiser	James	Florida LEL Program	✓
Robbins	Keith	FDOT District One	✓
Robinson	Mandy	Health First	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rodrigues-Silva	Karla	Dept. of Transportation/City of Gainesville	✓
Russo	Tina	Pasco MPO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Severyn	Josette	Broward County Florida	✓
Sheppard	Derwood	FDOT Central Office	<input type="checkbox"/>
Silva	Lisa	Hillsborough County MPO	✓
Simpson	Kyle	Forward Pinellas	<input type="checkbox"/>
Simpson	Paul	University of Florida –PedBike SRC	✓
Smith	Kim	Space Coast TPO, Retired	✓
Suguri	Vitor	FDOT District One	✓
Sully	Thuraia	FDOT Systems Implementation Office	✓
Teague	Michael	Florida Police Chief's Association	<input type="checkbox"/>
Torres	Lauren	National Safety Council	✓
Torres	Stephanie	St Lucie TPO	✓
Villatoro	Shelby	Space Coast TPO	✓
Walford	Kevin	Miami-Dade TPO	✓
Wall	Kathy	Safe Kids Palm Beach County	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wandall	Melissa	National Coalition for Safer Roads	✓
Wiglesworth	Chris	FDOT Transit Office	<input type="checkbox"/>
Williams	Angel	IPTM	✓
Zenoni	Scott	Health First	<input type="checkbox"/>

Coalition Guests:

Last Name	First Name	Agency	Attendance
Bunton	Gavin	Bike/Walk Central Florida	✓
Burgos	Rafael	Bike/Walk Central Florida	✓
Chico	Lina	Orlando Health	✓
Clay	Andrew	City of Jacksonville	✓
Dyer	Vince	Bike/Walk Central Florida	✓
Knox	Dana	FHWA	✓
Patel	Agasteena	Manatee County Public Works	✓
Garcia	Tropper Migdalis	Florida Highway Patrol	✓
Gray	Andrew	JMT (on behalf of FDOT District Seven)	✓
Hsu	Vincent	Advent Health	✓

Tuesday, April 23, 2023

Call To Order – Chris Craig, FDOT Traffic Safety Administrator

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Chris Craig. Chris thanked the City of Orlando for hosting the Coalition. Chris shared some highlights of the meeting agenda, thanked the Coalition for their commitment to safety, and welcomed new members and guests.

Welcome – Vincent Hsu, Physician at Advent Health

Vincent Hsu thanked the Coalition for inviting him to speak. He gave an introduction of how health care can contribute to pedestrian and bicycle safety efforts in Florida. He recognized the importance of taking care of people throughout their lives, which reinforces the importance of supporting healthy habits and lifestyles. Active transportation is an area that Advent Health supports. This includes walking paths, bike lanes, and appropriate infrastructure on their campuses. Dr. Hsu is hopeful we can collaborate better with different disciplines to reinforce safety for pedestrians and cyclists. He is a great supporter of the Coalition and our cause.

Meeting Dedication in Honor of Merci Díaz-Paus – Angela Kristiansen, Kittelson & Associates (*see Appendix B for slides*)

The meeting was dedicated to Merci Díaz-Paus, who lost her life in a crash while crossing a signalized intersection near her apartment building in 2023. Merci participated in philanthropic organizations here in Orlando FL, she was very altruistic and consistently supported her local community.

Coalition Meeting Announcements – Angela Kristiansen

Angela shared some general housekeeping information, a public meeting announcement, and an announcement about Ride Like MADD.

Crossing Guard and Agency of the Year – Dana Crosby, FDOT

Dana Crosby shared information about the crossing guard of the year and agency of the year awards that occurred on February 2, 2024 (Crossing Guard Appreciation Day).

Permissive Left Turns + Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety – Alison Moss, Alachua County

Alison Moss presented the results of a data analysis conducted in Alachua County looking at crash history and intersections with permissive left-turns. She shared common crash types that have occurred at such intersections. She asserted that protected-only left turn phasing provides the safest crossing experience for pedestrians. She provided additional background on Alachua County's transportation improvement initiatives and efforts. Next steps for the County may include an SS4A Action Plan and a Pilot Project on possible priority corridors in the region.

- Emmeth Duran commented that often one of the biggest challenges of updating signal infrastructure is the structural engineering limits of mast arms. His comment related to 4-section heads for Flashing Yellow Arrows.
- Laura Hardwicke noted that transitioning from fully permissive to protected-permissive phasing still offers more protection to pedestrians than before but protected-only left turns would provide the most safety benefits.
- Tommi Lyter wondered if anything can be physically installed at crossings (like bollards) to protect pedestrians from errant vehicles.
- Other questions focused on the cost of signal upgrades and new hardware.

- Alison noted that left turn phasing can differ by approach to an intersection.
- Lisa Silva noted that in her area, protected left turns are often recommended and implemented at intersections near schools.
- Laura shared that the meeting dedication honoree was walking during a walk signal and was struck by a vehicle turning left on permissive green.
- Alison described that pedestrians often contend with vehicles potentially coming toward the crossing from multiple directions during a walk signal.
- Melissa Wandall reminded members that some people move to Florida and don't know the state laws. This could also contribute to safety issues.
- Agasteena Patel (Guest) noted some of the differences between FL and Australia and shared how revisiting the placement of signals could make it easier for drivers and pedestrians to interpret when they can proceed through an intersection.
- Karla Silva-Rodrigues asked if there can be increased flexibility in the TEM to lower thresholds for protected-only left turn phasing. Mariano said the slides represented a small snapshot of what the TEM covers related to flashing yellow arrows. FDOT is continuing to add to the information each year.
- Jon Askins asked if there was ever an educational push about flashing yellow arrows. Angela Kristiansen recalled there were FDOT Tip Cards in District Five about ten years ago. Flashing Yellow Arrows were originally introduced as intuitive devices based on human factors research.

FDOT District Spotlights – Vitor Suguri, D1 and Annely Karron, D2

District One

Vitor Suguri shared several examples of recent corridor-wide improvements in District One. The first example, Cortez Road, was a project the District has tried to approach from a community perspective. They sought to understand the community's vision for the corridor and look beyond the boundary of the right of way to find systematic solutions to improving safety. The planners combined data with local knowledge and experience to come up with solutions. Community engagement included a road safety audit and transportation talks. The second example, SR 789, was a project that includes the addition of protected bike lanes.

- Tiffany Gehrke asked if any of these communities have network plans that include the project corridors and improvements.
- Others asked questions around specific cross section elements and the interaction of the bus lanes and the bike lanes.
- Emmeth Duran noted that the maintenance and upkeep of protected bicycle lanes can be a challenge (for example, street sweepers)
- Alison Moss wondered if this is something that is happening in other districts or if this is unique to how District One does things. Vitor noted this has been consistent with his experience since starting with the district.

District Two

Annely Karron introduced projects in Jacksonville and related pedestrian improvements. Elements such as pedestrian refuges, bulb outs and blank out signs have been proposed. She covered the before and after safety improvements of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure implementation. Bicycle and

pedestrian activity is tracked through counters installed in Fall 2023 on a new shared use path paralleling a main bridge in downtown Jacksonville.

- Terrence Corkery asked if there are any considerations for pedestrian safety when cyclists ride fast on the shared path on the Fuller Warren bridge. Annelly has not noticed any conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists.
- Alison Moss asked what informed the choice of mid-block pedestrian signals (MPS) versus pedestrian hybrid beacons (PHB) on these projects. Annelly said there was a process where Central Office asked for locations where these were under consideration.
- Mark Brown asked about installing pedestrian hybrid beacons (PHB) at three-leg intersections. Others noted this was not recommended.

[Bike Month Events – Coalition Members](#)

Coalition members highlighted events held in their area during March for Florida Bicycle Month and in May for National Bike Month. Events included group rides, helmet fittings, and friendly contests.

[Rural Ped Bike Crash Data – Jon Askins, District 5 Law Enforcement Liaison](#)

Jon Askins shared that he presented rural bicycle and pedestrian safety at a recent LEL conference. Jon shared highlights from this analysis.

- There was some discussion about how roadways were distinguished as rural, based on the geographic area type. The road type did not come from the crash report.
- Karla Rodrigues-Silva asked if a buffer had been used to capture crashes geolocated slightly outside of the roadway segment. Poorna offered to follow up on this, as she was involved in the data analysis.
- Alison Moss asked if the analysis considered types of vehicles involved in crashes. Poorna said this level of data was not available at the time of the analysis but could be considered in the future.

[Implementation Plan Update – Megan Mello, Kittelson & Associates, Inc.](#)

Megan introduced the structure of the breakout sessions.

[Breakout: 2024 Emphasis Area Plans and Priorities](#)

Emphasis area teams met to discuss updates to and priorities of their implementation plans.

[Regroup: Collaboration Needs – Coalition Team, Goal Leaders](#)

The emphasis area teams regrouped to report back on their collaboration needs.

[2024 Legislative Session Updates – L. K. Nandam, FDOT D1 Secretary](#)

Secretary L.K. Nandam thanked the members of the Coalition for their commitment to attend the meetings and their continued efforts to push towards Target Zero. He described how bills get are processed in state legislature and gave an overview of the 2024 legislative session.

He provided an update on the micromobility model legislation that the group created in 2023. The micromobility model legislation was submitted late in the process and was not included in the FDOT legislative package. However, the language could be added in future sessions.

L.K. described several bills related to pedestrian and bicycle safety and traffic enforcement. There is more work to be done on the policy side, but L.K. is positive the Coalition is moving in the right direction. L.K. also described recent increases in construction costs compared to FDOT's Work Program.

- Vitor Suguri asked if coordinated traffic signals would have had to be included at every crosswalk based on the proposed traffic and pedestrian safety legislation (bill that did not pass).
 - L.K. noted this legislation would not apply to every crossing due to the varying characteristics of each crossing.
- Josette Severyn asked if the lane repurposing legislation only applies to FDOT roadways
 - L.K. will look into this further.
- Kevin Marquez asked if the micromobility definition could be added in the future, perhaps to the railroad legislation.
 - L.K. noted this was a smart strategy but the Coalition will need more time to insert the language into new legislation.
- Poorna Bhattacharya asked if statewide high crash corridors will be identified since there are multiple lists and it can be hard to prioritize.
 - The FDOT State Safety Office is working on how to clarify high crash corridors.

Public Comment Period

No public comments were received.

Day 1 Wrap Up

Members and guests were provided with reminders about travel and the optional group dinner.

Wednesday, April 24, 2023

Coffee Talk – Meet & Greet with Coalition Members

Members used this time to connect over coffee before the start of the Coalition meeting.

Call to Order – L. K. Nandam, FDOT D1 Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Secretary L. K. Nandam.

BWCFL/BFF Spotlight – Emily Bush and Vince Dyer, Bike/Walk Central Florida

Emily Bush introduced the Best Foot Forward program, which is led by Bike/Walk Central Florida. She emphasized that the program supports all pedestrians regardless of their background. She highlighted the importance of educating the community and providing equitable transportation options.

Vince Dyer continued the presentation with an overview of pedestrian crash statistics. Vince covered contributing factors, such as speeding and aggressive driving, and explained that the goal is to change the culture of drivers and walkers. Vince explained how to conduct the data collection for the Walkshop.

Walkshop & Data Collection Exercise

Attendees were split into three groups to conduct pedestrian yielding rate and data collection activities.

Walkshop Recap – Roundtable Discussion of Experiences – Emily and Vince, BWCFL

Coalition members shared their experience during the data collection exercise and discussed common crossing issues and highlights. Members noted observations from their experiences crossing at the different intersections. People noted how the following elements can change the crossing experience:

- Signs / Markings (including yield line)
- Elevation/slope of raised crossing
- Eye contact with drivers
- Driver speed
- Obstructions
- Diversity and age of people crossing
- Skew of intersection
- Intersection design (slip lanes, pork chop islands, raised crossings, etc.)
- Sun glare

Emily provided additional insight into mitigation measures that could be used to improve yielding rates at crossing locations.

Breakout Rotations: Collaboration & Work Session

Emphasis area teams broke out to work on tasks that were being closed out since the last meeting and to identify upcoming ideas and items.

Emphasis Area Status Updates – Goal Leaders

- **Policy and Programs (Stephanie Torres):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - Implementation Plan Revamp
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Pedestrian/Bicyclist Accommodations during Construction

- Best Practices Project Database
 - Policy Champions List Update
 - Next Steps – Micromobility Language Legislation
- **Data, Analysis, & Evaluation (Poorna Bhattacharya):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - Performance Metrics
 - Glossary of Terms
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Data Sources Compilation
 - Before/After Studies
 - FHWA Proven Countermeasures Mapping
 - Geolocation Concerns w. Crash Data
- **Enforcement (Jason Frank):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - Finalize HVE participating and non-participating agency surveys. Mail May 2024.
 - HVE Agency of the Year criteria finalized and implementation for FY24-25 cycle.
 - Chief Lyter will contact larger agencies about integration of software into crash programs to close the gap of mislocated crashes.
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Facilitate roundtable discussions for the HVE program for the FY 24-25 cycle, including HVE Agency of the Year criteria.
 - Initializing conversations with FDOT HQ for strengthening relationships between LEO's and FDOT District Safety staff.
- **Vision Zero (Josette Severyn):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - Welcoming New Members
 - Update Implementation Plan to % and re-assign or add task leads.
 - Case Study Webinar for cataloguing local best practices.
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Clarification on Lane Repurposing language in DOT Bill
 - Publish Toolkit
- **Planning, Design, and Operation (Mariano Amicarelli, Michael Lewis):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - FDOT Project Suite Enterprise Edition (PSEE) now has a feature to track safety countermeasures on projects
 - Updates to Implementation Plan
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Continued coordination between FDM, TEM, Florida Greenbook and other manuals to provide flexibility for low-cost safety improvements especially given limitations in incorporating into resurfacing
 - Identify for new ways of applying technology for identifying pedestrian risk and proactively evaluate locations before crashes occur
 - Understanding how district & local efforts can lead to future FDOT policies on innovative designs, ped bike plans, local agency partnerships, lessons learned

- **EMS (Isabella Discepolo):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - Defining "serious injury"
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Reviewing and recommending updates to ICD-10 codes
 - Confirming and reviewing updates to crash report form
- **Communication (Emily Bush):**
 - Closing Out (Jan-Apr):
 - Finalizing tip card review
 - E-Bike Tip Card Printing
 - Update PHB Tip card
 - HVE Law Enforcement Survey
 - Coming Up (Apr-Jul):
 - Developing "Root Cause" Tip Card creative brief and outline
 - Scrubbing partner resource center list to distribute survey to evaluate resources and needs
 - Revisiting Coalition awards

Next Steps

Angela Kristiansen shared housekeeping items and led the Coalition in a reflection exercise where attendees shared what their first bike meant to them. Members shared the following responses:

- Freedom. Huffy High Riser Bike in early '70s. Yikes, my odometer is getting up there
- It was/is a way of doing life. Coming from Belgium, Europe it was something we all learn early on (3-4 years old). It's the most efficient way to move around the "smaller" roads. I went to school by bike every single day until I graduated.
- My first bike was a Huffy Snake River mountain bike. I begged my parents for years for this bike. Right by my house was a small hill that all the local kids would gather out to practice jumps. My parents surprised me for my birthday with the bike. I still remember how excited I was to join the group and show off my fresh new bike. A bicycle was one of my first ways of making new friends and exploring my local community, without parents....
- I was officially a cool 80s BMX kid!
- My first bike was my freedom and it was the coolest bike in our neighborhood.
- -no license needed -no need for parking lots, just leave it anywhere there is a secure structure you can attach it to -even if someone does steal it, it's so inexpensive you could literally just buy another no problem -physically improves you while you use it -plain ol' fun -collisions are significantly less likely to kill or even injure
- Quality time with my Dad!
- My first bike provided me the freedom and independence to get around my community!
- Between ages 10-15 a bike represented freedom. And it was always easy to tell where your friends were because of all the bikes in the yard outside 😊
- It was my means of going back and forth to school starting at the age of 9. I felt independent and free, felt like a big girl.
- Freedom to explore with my friends.
- Freedom to roam my wild dormant-volcano neighborhood with my friend in Hawaii

- It meant freedom to explore and discover all kinds of local places. It was a yellow Schwinn rebuild!
- Freedom; the feeling of flying
- Freedom and independence
- That I had a new skill and could go farther
- Exercise!
- The ability to expand my horizons in my neighborhood.
- A way to pal around with my friends in the neighborhood.
- Freedom!
- Fun

Public Comment Period

No public comments were received. Several coalition members provided updates about events in their region related to pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Closing Remarks – L. K. Nandam, FDOT District 1 Secretary

Secretary L.K. Nandam closed the meeting and expressed his gratitude to City of Orlando and Bike/Walk Central Florida for hosting and supporting a great meeting. He thanked everyone for their participation and reminded members of the upcoming meeting location.

Next Meeting Announcement:

The next Coalition Meeting will be held:

July 23, 2024, 1:00 – 5:30PM

July 24, 2024, 8:00AM – 12:30PM

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando
International Drive ICON Park
8250 Jamaican Court,
Orlando, FL 32819

Appendix A – Meeting Agenda

Appendix B – Presentation Slides