

**New North Transportation Alliance (NNTA)  
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, January 8, 2014 8 a.m.  
USF Center for Urban Transportation Research**

**Attendance**

Jonathan Kelly	Busch Gardens		
Rick Fallin	USF Parking and Transportation Services	Jonathan Esteban	James A. Haley Veterans Hospital
Dan Jurman	University Area Community Development Corporation	Michael Gardner Fredric Zerla	Florida Hospital Tampa University Square Civic Association and THAN (Tampa Homeowners an Association of Neighborhoods)
Karen Kress	Tampa Downtown Partnership		Florida Department of Transportation
Eric Trull	Tampa Bay Bike Share	Elba Lopez	Hillsborough Area Regional Transit
Bob Campbell	Hillsborough County Public Works	Lynda Crescentini	USF Facilities Planning and Construction
Michael Flick	Hillsborough County Public Works	Barbara Donerly	CUTR, NNTA Co- Director
Lisa Montelione	Tampa City Council, MPO Vice Chair	Sara Hendricks	CUTR, NNTA Co- Director
Anne Vincent	TBARTA-vRide	Julie Bond	CUTR
Katina Kavouklis	Florida Department of Transportation	Tameika Fraser	CUTR, Safe Routes to School
Randy Stribling	Hillsborough Area Regional Transit	Jason Jackman	
Brad Parrish	City of Temple Terrace		

**Welcome/Introductions**

Barbara Donerly, Chair of the NNTA, welcomed attendees and asked for round robin self-introductions of NNTA members and visitors.

**Approval of November Minutes**

The November meeting minutes were approved.

**Overview, Dan Jurman, University Area Community Development Corporation (UACDC)**

Dan provided highlights of several new initiatives of the UACDC. The Cooperative Community Garden has begun and has started to have its first harvests. The Community Market has begun to build an audience for Crime Prevention through Environmental Design and with the goal to get the fresh produce out to the community. UACDC won a United Way Community Impact Grant. They received \$100,000 to pilot a new anti-poverty program, Steps for Success. It is designed to bring all the pieces together for a person by helping the person, not treating the crisis. Building a 'circle of support' and 'person-centered planning' are two evidence-based practices that were combined by UACDC. Another big effort is the Prometheus Project Cure Violence, in which the UACDC hires ex-convicts to do community outreach with youth for violence interruption. In Chicago, which has some of the worst violence rates in the

country, this program has reduced violent crime by 40-70 percent and the program is now being used across the country. UACDC will be the first Cure Violence satellite site in Florida and the Southeastern U.S. UACDC is lobbying state legislators and County Commissioners to get the steady funding needed to enact the program and show they can get the same results in Hillsborough. The final big push for 2014 to stabilize the community is to develop single family housing in coordination with HUD. They have a Partners Coalition of over 70 organizations, including non-profit, for-profit, and government agencies that signed a formal memorandum of understanding to not just talk but to work together to get something done to alleviate poverty.

Dan also announced that in December there was a well-attended ceremony of the completion of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Street improvements, dedicated in honor of the memory of long-time NNTA member and leader Tom Locke. County Commissioners Miller and Crist were there and Tom's wife Julia was there. Dan thanked members of NNTA who joined the celebration that day.

**Update, Michael Flick, Hillsborough County Public Works Department**

Michael Flick distributed map handouts on progress of Fletcher Avenue Complete Streets Project, 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, 56<sup>th</sup> Street and Bruce B. Downs Blvd. He gave updates on the scheduling, types of safety improvements and funding for Fletcher Avenue, 42<sup>nd</sup> St., 46<sup>th</sup> St., 50<sup>th</sup> St., 56<sup>th</sup> St., and Bruce B. Downs Blvd.

Brad Parrish asked if there was a long term plan to redesign 56<sup>th</sup> Street to add left turn lanes. There are several proposed developments of vacant properties along 56<sup>th</sup> Street in which significant numbers of truck traffic will be generated. Brad expressed concern regarding the adequacy of the current roadway configuration to accommodate truck traffic. Bob Campbell said that presently, there is no plan for 56<sup>th</sup> Street. It is not a high crash corridor. Mike said that these current projects are aimed primarily at bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements.

Lisa Montelione said that a previous MPO Livable Roadways Committee presentation was about design alternatives for storm water drainage and at the same time accommodating sidewalks and bike lanes within constrained ROW. Mike said Public Works is working with SWFWMD on a short timeline to design and install the bike/pedestrian safety improvements. Maintenance work had not been done on 56<sup>th</sup> Street for a long time so ditches had to be re-graded and there were utility conflicts.

Michael Gardner said there is a cut-through along BBDB just south of 138<sup>th</sup> Ave., into the hospital property that will be developed by the hospital as another Emergency Room entrance. The hospital inquired about extending that cut through down to the next street between the parking garage and the LifeHope Bldg. The Hospital is proceeding with this to provide quicker access to the Emergency Room. The hospital also is adding a 5-story addition to the front of the hospital to include 150+ rooms. Michael Flick said that the intersection of BBDB and 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue has been the focus of past operational studies and the County has put in for federal grants to fix the intersection. There have also been efforts by HART to place two bus bays and shelters on the west side of BBDB at 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Michael Gardner and Bob Campbell agreed to set up a meeting between the County and the Hospital to review plans, in coordination with FDOT District 7 Safety Engineer Peter Hsu.

Bob Campbell said the Bruce B. Downs corridor is used by VA Hospital staff to train patients on how to safely walk the corridor and how to cross streets. As a result, safety considerations for the special needs of the local population that use the intersection of Fletcher and BBDB must be taken into account before design changes are made. Bob Campbell also said that the County secured safety funding, in coordination with FHWA to do a study of Bearss Avenue between Mort Elementary and BBDB that

included parts of Livingston. Study results suggested the need for an additional southbound lane on BBDB between Bears and Fletcher, to alleviate congestion leading to USF and the Hospital. He also said that the County is embarking on three other safety studies in this area, including one on Bears and another on 131<sup>st</sup> Avenue between Nebraska and BBDB. Michael Flick said they are bundling these three safety projects for contractor bids in February.

Michael Gardner also said that there are signs and a crosswalk connecting the Health Park and Florida Hospital across 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue, but more improvements are needed. He asked if there is a way to install the flashing beacons at this crosswalk, similarly to where they will be used on Fletcher. Bob Campbell said that the County can work with the Hospital on this issue.

#### **Update, Tampa BayCycle, Julie Bond, CUTR, and Karen Kress, Tampa Downtown Partnership**

Karen Kress said that the Tampa BayCycle campaign was created through funding from FDOT District 7 in 2007 to advocate safe bicycling for transportation using low-cost but effective strategies. Julie led an exercise with audience response clickers to test our knowledge of bicycle safety. Tampa BayCycle has worked with Tampa Police to raise motorist awareness about the 3-feet of separation law. Lisa Montelione said we need to rethink the width and striping of our streets and provide wider bike lanes so motorists do not have to cross the center line to pass and to truly accommodate bicyclists.

Tampa BayCycle offers a one-hour safety course to the general public and also by appointment at worksites, community groups, churches, etc. for groups of ten or more. Brad Parrish of City of Temple Terrace said they hosted a Tampa BayCycle class and that everyone who participated learned something, including a motorist who gained greater appreciation for sharing the road. In 2014, Tampa BayCycle is focusing on increasing their public private partnerships to promote safe bicycling, increasing bike parking options, and funding for bike racks and bike repair stations. If you are interested in having these amenities at your location, contact Julie. <http://www.tampabaycycle.com>

#### **Update, Eric Trull, Tampa Bay Bike Share**

Eric said that in the spring, Tampa Bay Bike Share will launch a system of 300-bikes distributed at about 30 hub locations in downtown Tampa, Hyde Park, and Ybor City. You can reserve a bike by smart phone and visit one of the hubs to check out a bike. They are incorporating a new GPS computer technology with an RFID reader located inside the bike that will integrate in the future with a transit card and have a cohesive system throughout the Bay area. A marketing campaign is kicking off now in coordination with the City of Tampa with a web site launched on January 21. They are working on siting the bike hubs with local businesses sponsoring the hubs. In March they are launching memberships and in April the system will open. Eric is in contact with USF planners of the campus bike share program.

#### **Request for Letter of Support, Brad Parrish, City of Temple Terrace**

Brad Parrish asked for a letter of support from NNTA for their application to the League of American Bicyclists to be designated as a "Bicycle Friendly Community" designation awarded by the League of American Bicyclists. Lisa Montelione moved that a letter be prepared by staff for signature by the Chair to support the City of Temple Terrace in its application. The motion was seconded and it passed unanimously.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next NNTA meeting will be Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at CUTR.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 a.m.**