

New North Transportation Alliance (NNTA)
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, August 13, 2015 8:00 a.m.
USF Center for Urban Transportation Research

Attendance

Raymond Mensah, Chairperson	USF Parking and Transportation Services
Vicki Ahrens	MOSI
Julie Bond	NNTA Co-Director, CUTR
Marie Bowen	USF Parking and Transportation Services
Barbara Donerly	USF Facilities Planning and Construction
Christine Epps	CUTR
Kebreab Ghebremichael	USF Office of Sustainability
Lucy Gonzalez	Safe Routes to School, CUTR
Sara Hendricks	NNTA Co-Director, CUTR
Jason Jackman	CUTR
Jonathan Kelly	Busch Gardens and Adventure Island
Karen Kress	Tampa Downtown Partnership
Nina Mabileau	City of Tampa
Francis Morgan	USF Student Affairs
Mark Sharpe	Tampa Innovation Alliance
Amber Wheeler	Hillsborough County School Board
Dr. Fredric Zerla	University Square Civic Association

Welcome/Introductions

Raymond Mensah, Chairperson, NNTA, welcomed attendees and asked for self-introductions of NNTA members and visitors.

Approval of Minutes

There was a motion and second to approve the February 2015 NNTA meeting minutes. The board approved the meeting minutes as submitted.

Presentation: Share-A-Bull

Francis Morgan, Assistant Director Outdoor Recreation, USF

Francis Morgan gave a presentation outlining the Share-A-Bull USF Tampa campus bicycle sharing program. Mr. Morgan indicated that the delivery of bicycles to the University was delayed. The program is scheduled to launch September 2, 2015. The program allows persons with a USF NETID to borrow a "Share-A-Bull" bicycle on the Tampa campus for free for the first two hours, and \$5 per hour after that. There is a \$50 fee for taking the bicycle off campus. There will be 100 bicycles available and housed at standard bicycle racks throughout the USF Tampa campus. There will be an outreach registration booth at the Bulls Market, located outside the Marshall Center, on August 26, 2015. There will also be an outreach visit to the USF Health location and a launch celebration.

A member asked if there were safety measures in place to protect the bikes from theft or vandalism. Mr. Morgan described the electronics and GPS that are attached to each bicycle. There is a “ping” that alerts the USF Police if the bicycle is stolen. A member asked if the bicycle could be transported by bus. Mr. Morgan explained that instead of taking the bicycle on the bus, a rider would leave the bicycle at one location and pick up another bicycle at the next location. It was noted that the Downtown Tampa bicycle initiative has seen 10,000 riders with 300 bicycles, however riders typically use them for recreation rather than transportation.

Presentation: NNTA Year in Review and Proposed Initiatives

Julie Bond and Sara Hendricks, NNTA Co-Directors

Sara Hendricks and Julie Bond presented an overview of 2014 NNTA initiatives. The presentation included a description of the physical boundary of the NNTA service and the diverse types of occupants including businesses, hospitals, a university, a theme park and many residential areas. NNTA topics have included traffic congestion relief, outreach, transportation planning, education and bicycle infrastructure. Future initiatives include a vanpool program, Zimride ride-sharing program, Tampa Bike/Walk coalition, Bike-smart classes, a Bike-smart safety quiz, donation of bike racks and the installation of bicycle air pump and repair stations.

Presentation: Safe Routes to School Program Overview

Lucy Gonzalez, Safe Routes to School Coordinator

Lucy Gonzalez provided an overview of the Safe Routes to School program. This program includes safe bicycling and walking education for elementary and middle school students and their parents/guardians. Mrs. Gonzalez described the “Walking School Bus” which is a parent/adult led group of approximately 8 students walking to school. October 7, 2015 is “Walk to School Day” and will highlight safety, health and transportation concerns. Schools may register at www.srtstb.com. Mrs. Gonzalez explained that this is a walk to and from school and may include a walk following an after-school program. A member asked why high school students are not included in this initiative especially since accidents seem to be higher in this age category. Mrs. Gonzalez explained that there are other initiatives that serve the high school population, including “Walk Wise,” and that some high school students participate in Safe Routes to School as leaders.

Announcement: Bulls Walk and Bike Week

Jason Jackman, USF Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR)

Jason Jackman described the upcoming USF Tampa Bulls Walk and Bike Week. All members were invited to participate. This 4th annual event is scheduled for September 1-3, 2015 and will promote bike, pedestrian and car safety.

New Business/System Updates

- Nina Mabileau, City of Tampa, provided a brief update concerning the Cross Creek road widening. On-road bike lanes were added along with a multiuse, wide bike path and additional bushes to buffer noise to adjacent neighbors. Ms. Mabileau indicated the cost was \$1.8 million.

- A member asked if the NNTA Board had any involvement or position on “Tampa Bay Express,” the addition of toll lanes Tampa Bay area interstates. It was noted that the board does not have a position, but a discussion could be scheduled for a future meeting.
- A member asked if ride share programs such as Uber and Lyft had been discussed by the board. It was noted that a future discussion or presentation could be added to the agenda of a future meeting.
- A member asked if the NNTA would be part of the Innovation Area study. One issue involves street-scaping for the entry of I-275 from Fowler Avenue and Busch Boulevard. It was noted that the board currently has no involvement.
- A member asked if extending the USF Bull Runner to the Temple Terrace area was under consideration by the NNTA board. The board stated that the Bull Runner does not currently extend to the Temple Terrace area and the demand for ridership is unknown. One member stated that Temple Terrace is interested in improving transportation to attract and keep businesses in that area.
- The board also discussed the possibility of a Fowler/McKinley to Downtown and Tampa International Airport transportation corridor express system, especially with the new USF medical school being built in the downtown Tampa area.

Announcements

A vice-chairperson for the NNTA board is needed. Duties include chairing convened NNTA board meetings in the absence of the chairperson, recruiting new NNTA board members and representing NNTA in the local area.

The next scheduled NNTA board meeting date was proposed as **Wednesday, September 9, 2015**. No objections were raised. Proposed agenda item: Barbara Donerly, USF Facilities Planning and Construction, will provide a presentation on the USF Tampa Campus Master Plan update.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 am.