

New North Transportation Alliance (NNTA)
 Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday, May 10, 2017 8:00-9:30 a.m.
 USF Center for Urban Transportation Research

Attendance

Jennifer Bartlett	Tindale Oliver
Stephen Benson	FDOT
Julie Bond	NNTA Co-Director, CUTR
Erica Nelson	UACDC
Linda Crescentini	HART
Barbara Donerly	USF Facilities Management
Christine Epps	CUTR
Kebreab Ghebremichael	Patel College
Sara Hendricks	NNTA Co-Director, CUTR
Eric Larson	Innovation Place
Lorraine Lyn	City of Temple Terrace
Nina Mabillean	City of Tampa
Francis Morgan	USF Office of Student Affairs
Rich Piccininni	USF Facilities Planning
Ashok Sampath	USF
Charles White	Hillsborough County
Kristine Williams	CUTR
Phil Winters	CUTR
Dr. Fredric Zerla	University Square Civic Association

Welcome/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 8:11 am by Sara Hendricks, NNTA Co-Director, who welcomed members and visitors and called for a round of introductions.

Approval of Minutes

There was a motion that was seconded to approve minutes from the March 8, 2017 NNTA meeting. The board approved the meeting minutes as submitted.

Presentation: FDOT Complete Streets Handbook to implement FDOT’s policy on Complete Streets Stephen Benson, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District 7

Mr. Benson discussed the handbook and design manual for Complete Streets implementation. FDOT has adopted a Complete Streets Policy to improve quality of life, safety, and economic development. FDOT conducted workshops to determine the needs and vision for Complete Streets, then created an implementation plan with a multidisciplinary approach. The Complete Streets Handbook was created to guide FDOT Districts in assigning context classifications and subsequent design guidelines to highway corridors under study for construction, reconstruction or resurfacing. Mr. Benson presented the

external draft of the Handbook and stated that FDOT is currently accepting comments and suggestions. Comments can be submitted to www.flcompletestreets.com. There will be regional workshops for local partners in the near future and the final Handbook should be complete by January 2018.

Mr. Benson described the context classification. The number of classification types have been doubled and the criteria for the roads changed based on the classifications.

The FDOT Plans Preparation Manual will be renamed the Florida Design Manual. For planning purposes, the planner must know the context classification before design. Mr. Benson discussed allowable design speeds for different classifications, new guidelines for lane widths and sidewalk widths.

Board members asked questions about the Handbook including the development of context classifications, the use of future land use maps for future growth, and the inclusion of TDM policy in the Handbook.

Presentation: Complete Streets Design Concepts for Morgan Street in Downtown Tampa by USF Engineering Students

Kristine Williams, Center for Urban Transportation Research (CUTR), University of South Florida

Ashok Sampath, University of South Florida

USF student Ashok Sampath and USF Instructor, Kristine Williams presented information about the Morgan Street Complete Streets Project. Florida has a statewide complete streets implementation plan. The USF class helps students learn about Complete Streets using “real-world” applications. Each student team prepared a Complete Street design using Morgan Street in Tampa as a project.

Student design concepts included changes to the driving lanes, a separate signal for pedestrians and bikes, pedestrian lanes, a green protected bike lane, a bus stop shelter, permeable brick paver sidewalks that would absorb water, parklets in some of the parking lanes, energy harvesting in bus shelters, street lights with solar panels and lithium battery collecting energy under the streets. The students compared the cost of changes with the cost of traffic injuries and fatalities and found that making the improvements would be more cost effective.

Announcements

The City of Temple Terrace was awarded the Gold Level for a comprehensive plan.

One member was pleased to report that TECO recently increased the lighting in the area of the University Mall and the lights are amber and not too bright.

The Streetscape project for Fowler Avenue from Bruce B. Downs Blvd east to 56th Street is under study by the consultant for The Innovation Place. One NNTA member expressed concern that there are more issues in front of the University Mall, which is not included in the area to be renovated, especially the pedestrian crossings. Another NNTA member noted that the improvements will later be added to the mall area along Fowler Avenue extending to Nebraska Avenue. Another member indicated that if the traffic signal pedestrian walk phase is of insufficient time for pedestrians to cross Fowler Avenue safely,

that can be changed by placing a request with the City of Tampa. It was noted that pedestrians have been seen crossing Fowler Avenue in areas other than the crosswalk. The walkability audits conducted by community members of the University Area Community Development Corporation (UACDC) show unsafe walking behavior in that area. The UACDC is partnering with the community and Hillsborough County to develop a safety action plan for that area. The plan will be available online.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, September 13, 2017.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 a.m.