



PINELLAS TRAIL SECURITY TASK FORCE (PTSTF) MEETING AGENDA

January 10, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.

Pinellas County Emergency Services Center
12490 Ulmerton Road, Room 130
Largo, FL 33774
(Telephone: 727-582-2000)

THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY

FACE MASKS WILL BE ENCOURAGED BUT NOT REQUIRED

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 11, 2022**
3. **ELECTION OF CHAIR FOR 2023**
4. **SUNSET POINT ROAD TRAIL CROSSING**
5. **QUARTERLY REPORT FROM PINELLAS TRAIL PARK RANGER**
6. **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AGENCY REPORTS**
 - Sheriff's Office
 - Belleair
 - Clearwater
 - Gulfport
 - Largo
 - St. Petersburg
 - Tarpon Springs
 - Animal Services
 - Public Safety Services
 - Pinellas County Risk Management
 - Friends of the Pinellas Trail
 - Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates
7. **REPORT ON TRAIL USER COUNT DATA**
8. **REPORT ON TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY**
9. **OTHER BUSINESS**
10. **ADJOURNMENT**
11. **Notice to Law Enforcement Representatives – If you are unable to attend the meeting, please e-mail your Incident/Offense Report to Kyle Simpson at ksimpson@forwardpinellas.org. If you would prefer, you can fax the report to the Pinellas County MPO at (727) 464-8212. *Thank You***

NEXT PTSTF MEETING – APRIL 11, 2023

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services (free of charge) should contact the Office of Human Rights, 400 South Fort Harrison Avenue, Suite 300, Clearwater, Florida 33756; [(727) 464-4062 (V/TDD)] at least three days prior to the meeting.

Appeals: Certain public meetings result in actions taken by the public board, commission or agency that may be appealed; in such case persons are advised that, if they decide to appeal any decision made at a public meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

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Pinellas Trail Security Task Force – January 10, 2023

2. Approval of Minutes – October 11, 2021



SUMMARY

The summary minutes of the October 11, 2022 Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting are attached.

ATTACHMENTS: Pinellas Trail Security Task Force Summary Minutes – October 11, 2022

ACTION: Approval of the October Meeting Summary

**PINELLAS TRAIL SECURITY TASK FORCE
MEETING SUMMARY
OCTOBER 11, 2022**

The following is a summary of the October 11, 2022 Forward Pinellas - Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting, which was held in person in Largo. The Security Task Force meets at least quarterly during the year.

IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Officer Ron Wolfson, Chairman | St. Petersburg Police Department & Volunteer Coord. |
| Officer Misty Swanson | St. Petersburg Police Department |
| Officer Mehmedin Karic | St. Petersburg Police Department |
| Officer Anthony Alli | St. Petersburg Police Department |
| Officer Allison Daniels | Belleair Police Department |
| Officer Dan Monscher | Clearwater Police Department |
| Sgt. Vanessa Boback | Pinellas County Animal Control |
| Stephanie Nikodem | Pinellas County Animal Control |
| Lynn Abbott | Pinellas County Public Safety Service |
| Lyle Fowler | Pinellas County Parks and Conservation Resources |
| Scott Rintz | Pinellas County Risk Management |
| Joan Rice | Pinellas County Public Works Traffic Division |
| Jim Wedlake | Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger |
| Stuart Schwartzreich | Pinellas Trail Auxiliary Ranger |
| Kyle Simpson | Forward Pinellas Staff |
| Dana Santos | Forward Pinellas Staff |
| Chelsea Favero | Forward Pinellas Staff |
| Maria Kelly | Forward Pinellas Staff |

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Ronald Wolfson, St. Petersburg Police Officer, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and asked members to introduce themselves.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY – July 12, 2022

The summary from the July 12, 2022, meeting was approved with no corrections.

3. PRESENTATION: DISCOVER PINELLAS MAP UPDATES

Kyle Simpson, Forward Pinellas staff, shared information with committee on the Discover Pinellas bike trail map. This publication is the most popular document produced by the agency, with thousands being distributed on an annual basis. With the current supply nearly exhausted, this provided an opportunity to update the current map to reflect an up-to-date bicycle facility network, while making other changes to improve its readability. The presentation shared different ideas of the use of icons, graphics and texts as well as different lay-outs of street/trail designs. Staff has requested suggestions and ideas from the committee member to help improve the map prior to printing the next batch. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

4. QUARTERLY REPORT FROM PINELLAS TRAIL PARK RANGER

Chief Ranger Carol Gray, Parks and Conservation Resources (PCR) was not in attendance.

5. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND AGENCY REPORTS

A. Sheriff's Office

Deputy Brian Camadeca was not in attendance

B. Belleair

Officer Allison Daniels with Belleair PD shared there were four First Information Reports (FIR) in the 3rd quarter for people being on the Trail after dark. On October 8, 2022, minor e-bike crash, 18 year old male claims he lost control of his e-bike. Minor injuries and EMS came to assist.

C. Clearwater

Officer Dan Monscher shared for the period of July 1 to September 30, 2022, there was a total of 273 calls for service on or near the trail. Most were walk and talk or directive patrols. No major incidents on the trail to report.

D. Gulfport

Gulfport PD did not submit a report.

E. Largo

Officer Keith Bowling was not in attendance.

F. St. Petersburg

Officer Misty Swanson reported 34 calls for service with 26 of those being directive patrols and park walk and talks, four were minor accidents happening in cross sections of the trails. Three incidents of trail related activity, people coming out of bushes approaching trail users. Responding officers did not locate anyone and the complainant did not stay around. One suspicious circumstance report turned out to be people from Keeping Pinellas Beautiful, cleaning up the trail.

G. Tarpon Springs

Officer Anthony Boone was not in attendance.

H. Animal Services

Sergeant Vanessa Boback shared one report of a stray dog at trail marker 315, however no dog was found when officers arrived.

I. Public Safety Services

Ms. Lynn Abbott, Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration reported 43 calls for service from July 1 – September 30, 2022 on or near the trail. One deceased person was found, two found sleeping, one fall alcohol related, three assaults where the people knew each other, 11 bike falls, all were non-condition related, three overdoses, two motor vehicle

and bike crash, one vehicle and pedestrian, two vehicle and vehicle crashes. More homeless activity due to the weather.

J. Pinellas County Risk Management

Mr. Scott Rintz was in attendance and shared that the Bi-Annual Safety Inspection will take place next week, October 17 – 21, 2022.

K. Friends of the Pinellas Trail

Mr. Jim Wedlake shared the courtesy campaign was mentioned, which was originally done by Joan Rice and Public Works as an award winning program. Friends asked to have all the courtesy signs into one poster composite, and the Courtesy Campaign poster is being displayed at all the bike shop locations along the Trail. There are additional posters if any member would like one to display. The Guidebook is doing well and will be updated with the new North Gap addition.

L. Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates

Chair Wolfson shared that his volunteers are still active. They helped the Park Ranger with some cleanup of abandon property.

Aux. Ranger Stuart Schwartzreich did a patrol following the hurricane and observed debris already cleaned up. He shared pictures to trail users who responded favorably with appreciation to the county workers for quick action clean up.

6. AUTOMATIC TRAIL COUNTERS

Mr. Simpson shared there are still issues with the East Lake counter and those counts were not included in the chart. August showed just under 130,000 users with more bike than pedestrians. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

7. REPORT ON TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

Joan Rice provided an update to the construction activity on the Pinellas Trail. The North Loop from John Chesnut Park to Enterprise Road is now open. Construction for the bridge over the Lake Tarpon Canal will begin in Spring 2023. In the meantime, signage has been placed for safe movement around the bridge. The South Loop is just starting design from the section from Whitney Road to 126th Avenue.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wolfson adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m. The next PTSTF meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2023.

Pinellas Trail Security Task Force – January 10, 2023

3. Election of 2023 Chairman



SUMMARY

St. Petersburg Police Officer Ron Wolfson has served as the Chairman of the Pinellas Trail Security Task Force for the past few years. He is very willing to continue to chair these meetings for the 2023 calendar year.

Anyone interested in chairing the meetings for 2023 are encouraged to submit their names for nomination.

After nominations are complete, elections will follow. The elected person will proceed to chair the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS: None

ACTION: Nominate and Elect PTSTF Chairman for 2023

Summary

One of the core elements of Safe Streets Pinellas, the Vision Zero program for Pinellas County, is to take a “data-driven approach” and address top risk factors and mitigating treatments to reduce potential crashes and lessen crash severity. One area of focus is to reduce the likelihood of crashes at trail crossings by identifying improvements that result in trail and roadway users behaving predictably at intersections.

Forward Pinellas has requested AECOM conduct data collection at the Pinellas Trail and Sunset Point Road Crossing as before and after conditions. The County extended the trail to the south and installed RRFBs at this crossing within the last year. The County is considering revising the trail crossing. The before count data and field observations are to be collected in June 2021 to be used by Forward Pinellas and the County to address safety concerns. An after conditions data collection will be conducted by AECOM at a date to be determined (prior to June 2022) based on improvements to the current RRFBs.

The before–after study is the most popular approach for estimating the safety impacts of an intervention or treatment. It is important for CDOT to continue to conduct Before/After Safety Analyses to understand what safety improvements are most effective. While many of the projects analyzed in the study have shown significant safety benefits, some showed deterioration in safety. It is essential to complete these studies to understand the impacts of different improvement types and why the initially predicted safety improvements are not always observed following construction. It is recommended that CDOT institutionalize this process and perform a before/after safety analysis evaluation of safety performance for all projects constructed when after period crash data becomes available. Analyzing safety performance of projects before and after completion will allow CDOT to make better and more informed decisions for future projects, thereby maximizing the positive impact of the limited safety improvement funding that is available.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- [After Conditions](#)
- [Before Conditions](#)

ACTION: None Required, Informational Item Only

Pinellas Trail Security Task Force – January 10, 2023
5. Quarterly Report from the Pinellas Trail Park Ranger



Summary

Pinellas County Park System is responsible for the care and maintenance of the County-owned parks and preserves, trails, campgrounds, boat ramps, rights of way and roads. This department also provides maintenance, operations, and oversight for the Pinellas Trail. Their role is vital to keeping people using the Pinellas Trail safe and informed. At each Pinellas Trail Security Task Force meeting, the Park Ranger provides an overview of any security topics which arose during the previous quarter. The information helps everyone attending understand any concerning behavior on the Pinellas Trail that can be addressed by the appropriate parties in attendance.

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None Required; Informational Item Only

6. Law Enforcement and Agency Reports



- **Sheriff's Office**
- **Belleair**
- **Clearwater**
- **Gulfport**
- **Largo**
- **St. Petersburg**
- **Tarpon Springs**
- **Animal Services**
- **Public Safety Services**
- **Pinellas County Risk Management**
- **Friends of the Pinellas Trail**
- **Volunteer Patrol Programs and Updates**

ATTACHMENT(S): None

ACTION: None Required; Informational Item Only

SUMMARY

This item will include the monthly data summary reports for the automatic trail counters along the Pinellas Trail. Note that average hourly data has been included with the reports.

ATTACHMENT: Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary Reports:

- September 2022
- October 2022
- November 2022

ACTION: No Action Required, informational item only

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
September 1st-30th (30 days)

September 2022

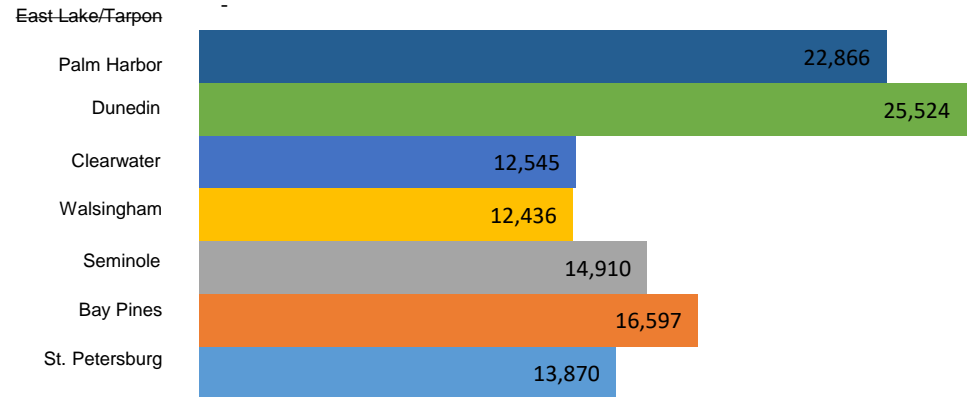
30-Day Count Total: **118,748***
Daily Average Users: **3,958**

Highest Daily Totals:

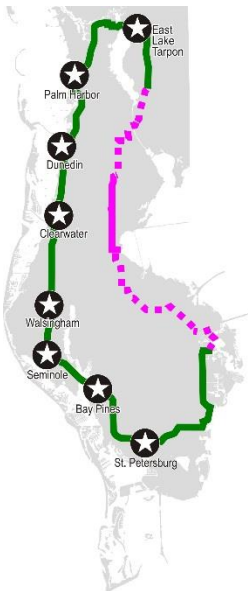
- #1 – Saturday, September 17th (Dunedin – 1,585)
- #2 – Sunday, September 4th (Palm Harbor – 1,213)
- #3 – Sunday, September 4th (Bay Pines - 927)

**East Lake/Tarpon counter not included due to technical issues*

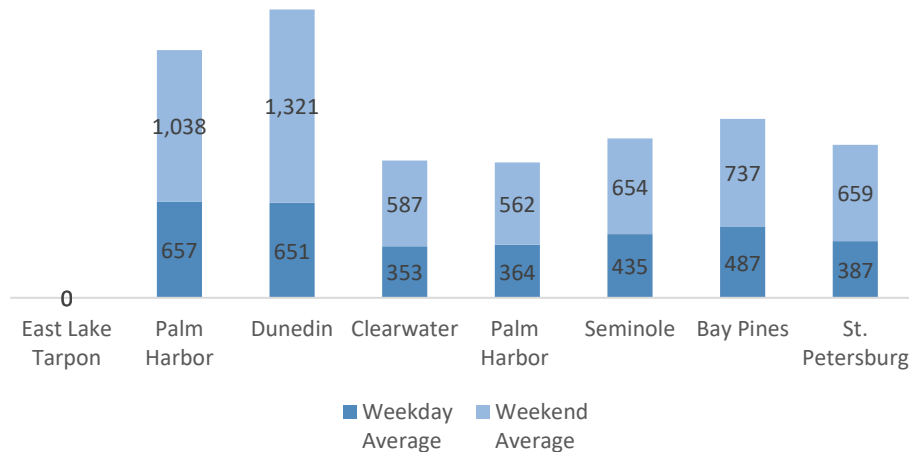
September Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



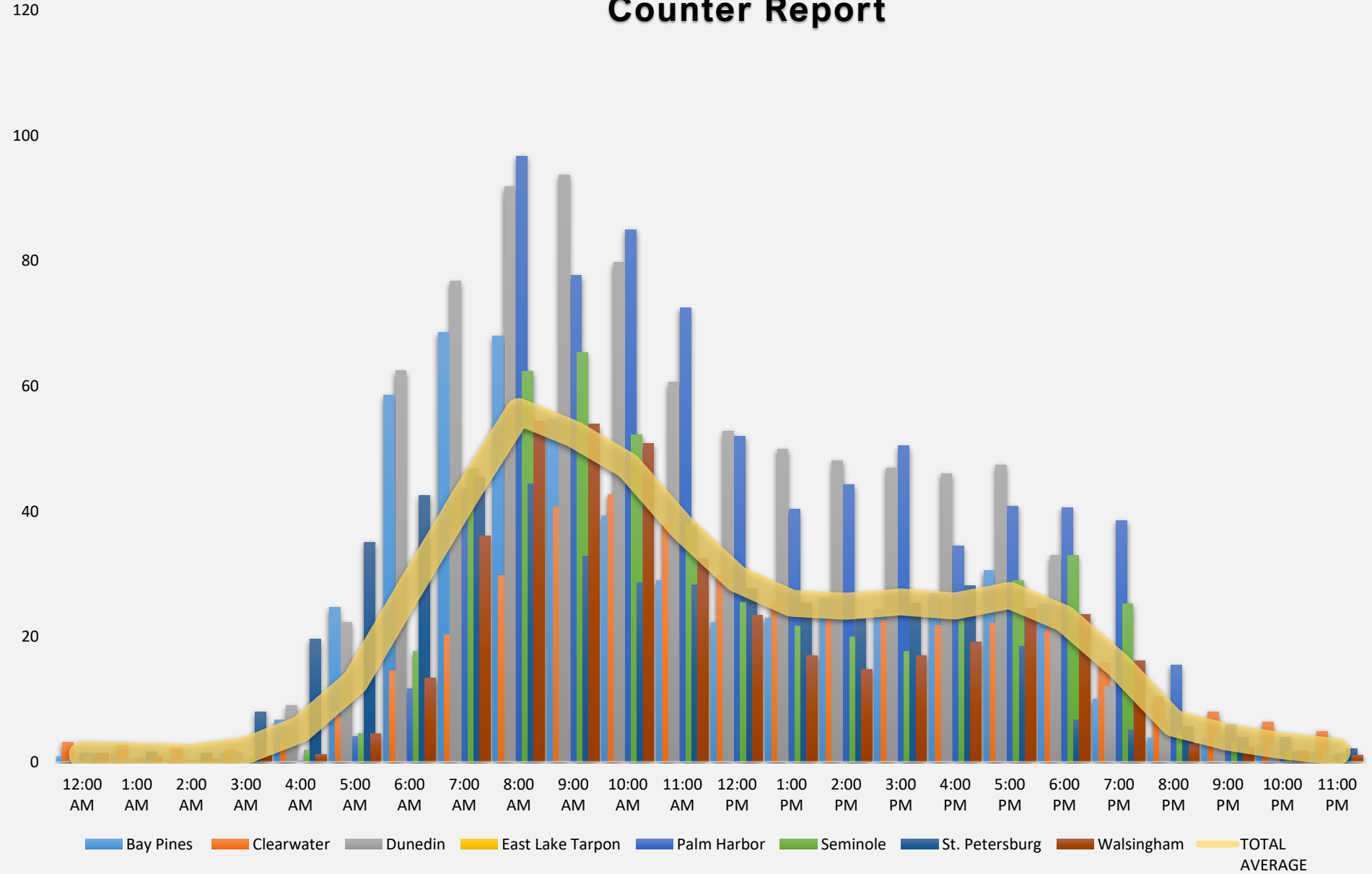
Weekday & Weekend Profile



Trail User Mode Split

| Counter Location | Walking (%) | Bicycling (%) |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Palm Harbor | 21% | 79% |
| Dunedin | 13% | 87% |
| Clearwater | 25% | 75% |
| Walsingham | 3% | 97% |
| Seminole | 18% | 82% |
| Bay Pines | 10% | 90% |
| St. Petersburg | 12% | 88% |
| East Lake/Tarpon | - | - |

September 2022 Average Hourly Counter Report



Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection

Period: January – September 2022 Data*

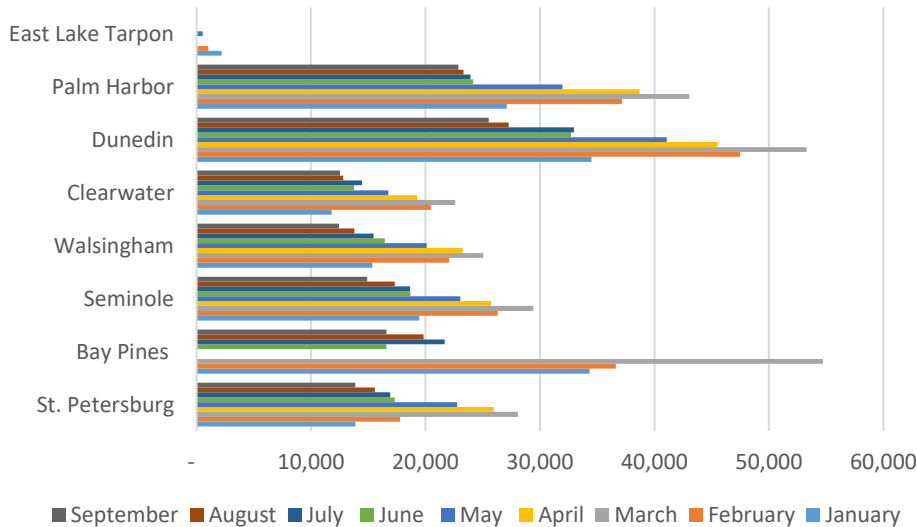


Jan-September 2022 Total Count:
1,490,717*

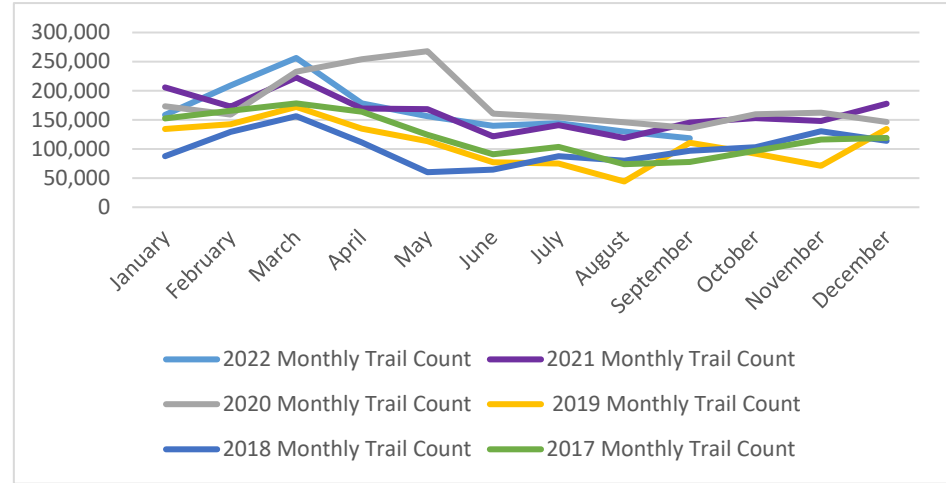
**Technical issues with East Lake / Tarpon counter beginning in Feb 2022; data not included in March-April or June-September 2022*

**Technical issues with Bay Pines counter; not included in April – May, June 1-6 2022*

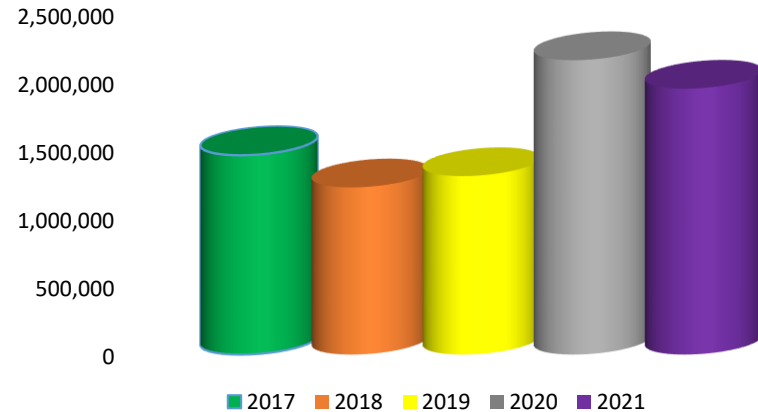
Year to Date Data Per Location



Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2022



Pinellas Trail Use 2017 – 2021



*Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
October 1st-31st (31 days)

October 2022

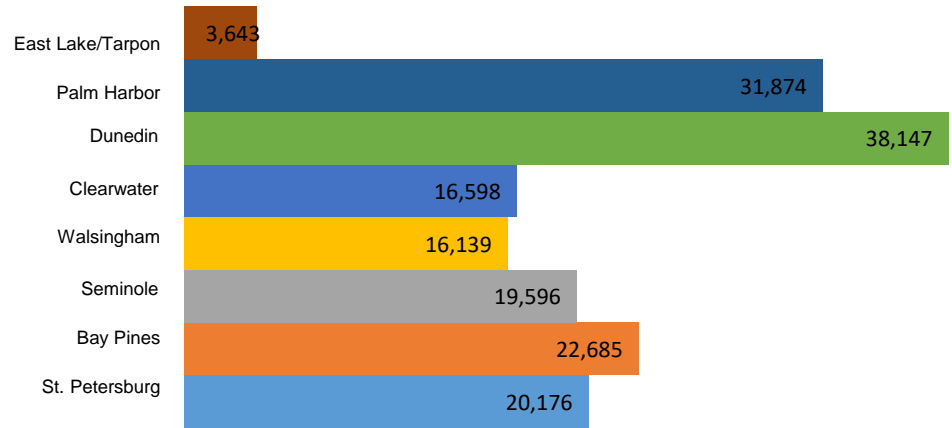
31-Day Count Total: 168,858*
Daily Average Users: 5,447

Highest Daily Totals:

- #1 – Saturday, October 1st (Dunedin – 2,221)
- #2 – Sunday, October 2nd (Palm Harbor – 1,513)
- #3 – Saturday, October 8th (Bay Pines – 1,075)

**East Lake/Tarpon counter not included October 1-5 due to technical issues*

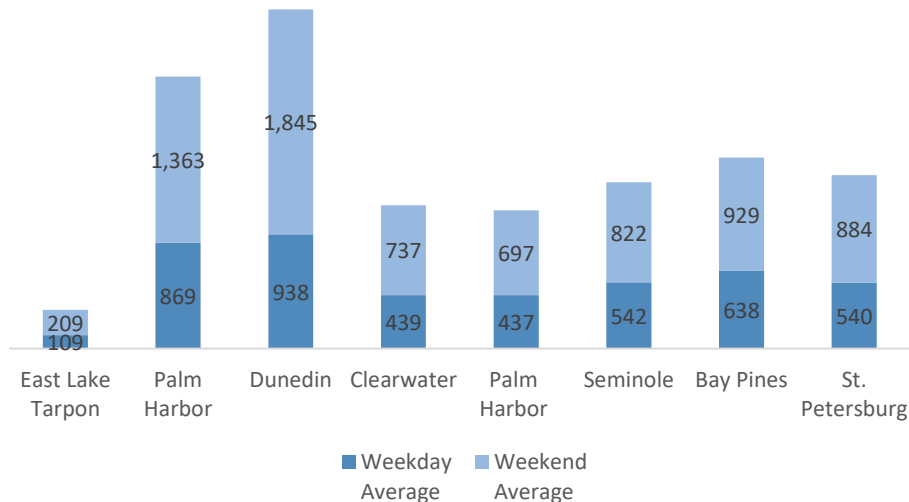
October Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Weekday & Weekend Profile



Trail User Mode Split

| Counter Location | Walking (%) | Bicycling (%) |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Palm Harbor | 20% | 80% |
| Dunedin | 14% | 86% |
| Clearwater | 21% | 79% |
| Walsingham | 4% | 96% |
| Seminole | 10% | 80% |
| Bay Pines | 16% | 84% |
| St. Petersburg | 12% | 88% |
| East Lake/Tarpon | 1% | 99% |

Source: Forward Pinellas October 2022

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection

Period: January – October 2022 Data*

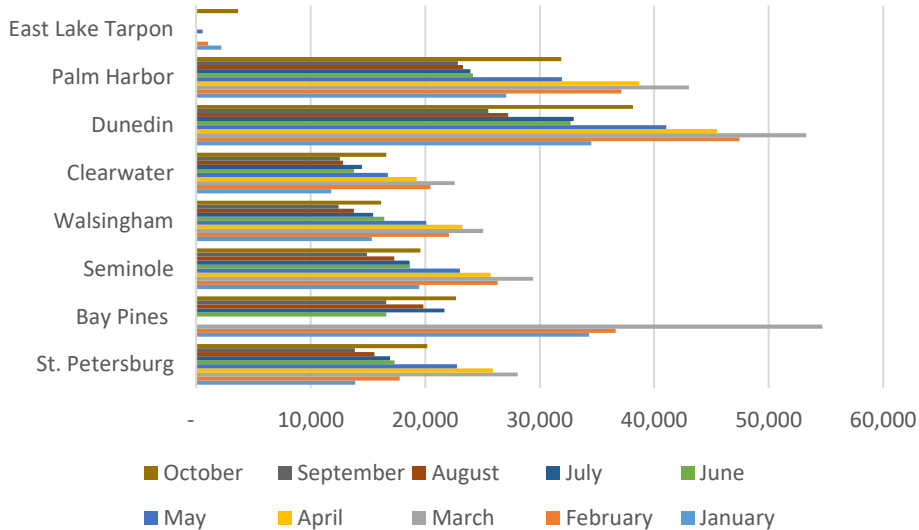


Jan-October 2022 Total Count:
1,659,585*

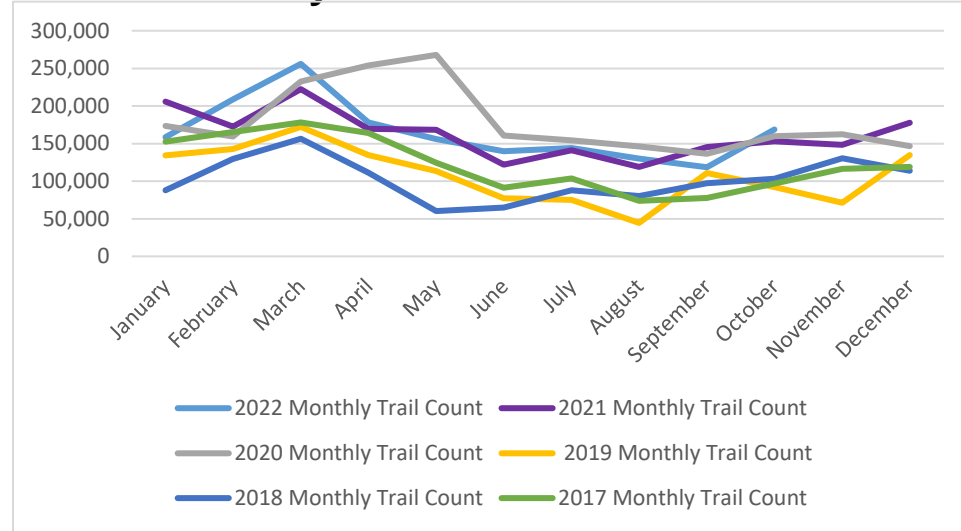
**Technical issues with East Lake / Tarpon counter beginning in Feb 2022; data not included in March-April or June 1 - October 5, 2022*

**Technical issues with Bay Pines counter; not included in April –May, June 1-6 2022*

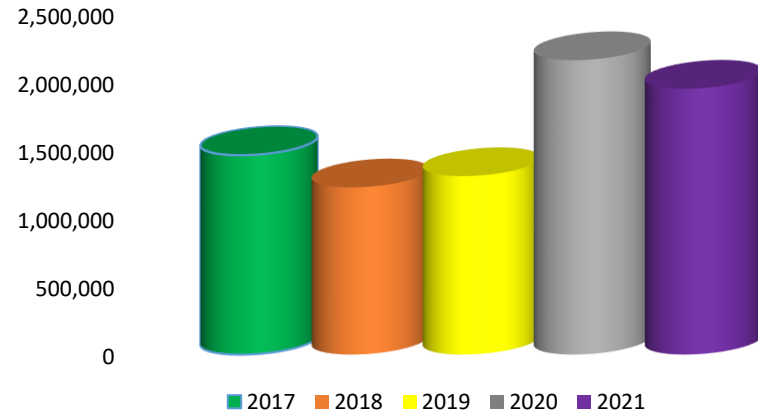
Year to Date Data Per Location



Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2022



Pinellas Trail Use 2017 – 2021



**Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.*

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection Period:
November 1st-30th (30 days)

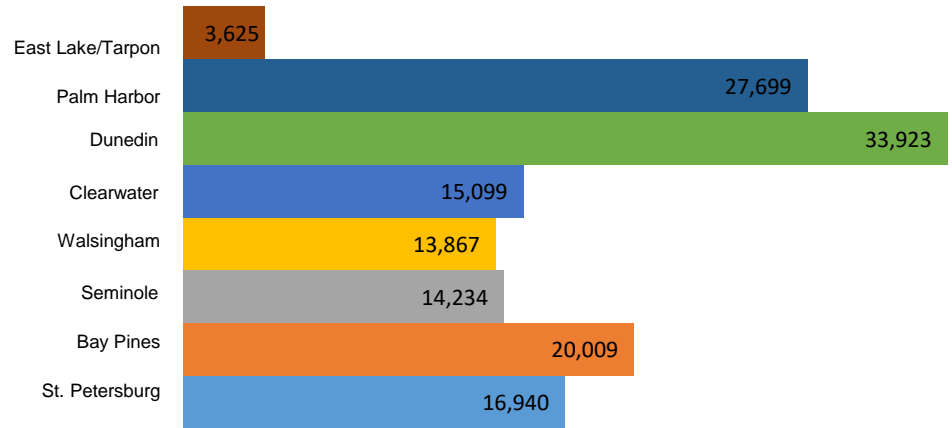
November 2022

30-Day Count Total: 145,396
Daily Average Users: 4,847

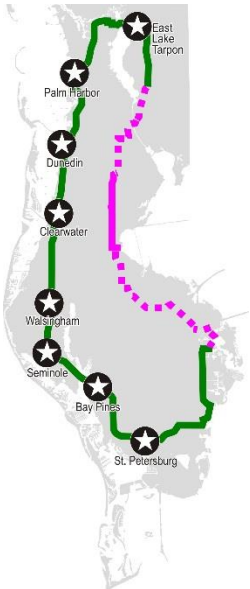
Highest Daily Totals:

- #1 – Saturday, November 12th (Dunedin – 2,341)
- #2 – Saturday, November 12th (Palm Harbor – 1,571)
- #3 – Saturday, November 12th (Bay Pines – 1,207)

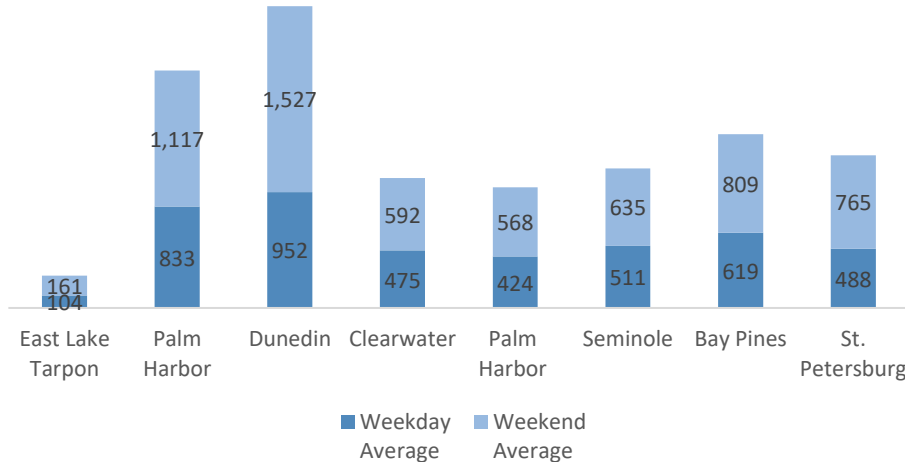
November Trail Users by Counter Location



Counter Locations



Weekday & Weekend Profile



Trail User Mode Split

| Counter Location | Walking (%) | Bicycling (%) |
|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Palm Harbor | 20% | 80% |
| Dunedin | 15% | 85% |
| Clearwater | 21% | 79% |
| Walsingham | 3% | 97% |
| Seminole | 16% | 84% |
| Bay Pines | 11% | 89% |
| St. Petersburg | 13% | 87% |
| East Lake/Tarpon | 1% | 99% |

Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection
 Period: January – November 2022 Data*

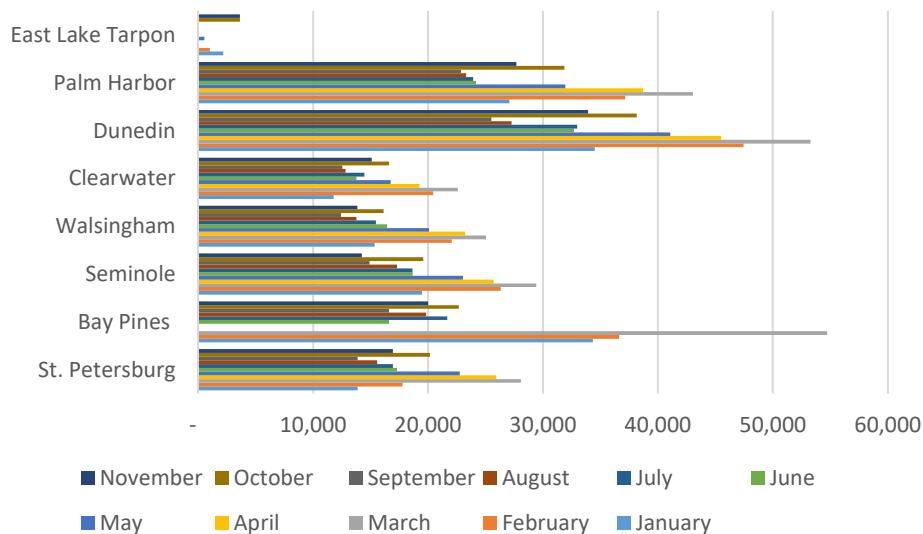


Jan-November 2022 Total Count:
1,804,981*

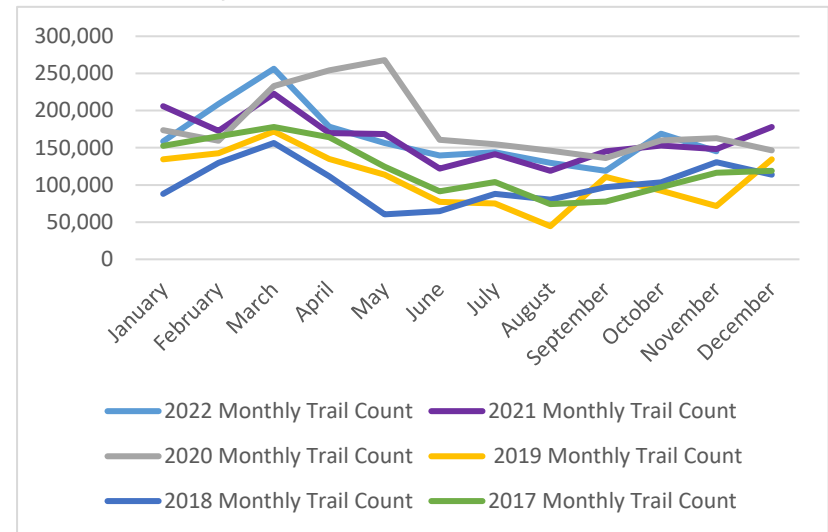
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**Technical issues with Bay Pines counter; not included in April –May, June 1-6 2022*

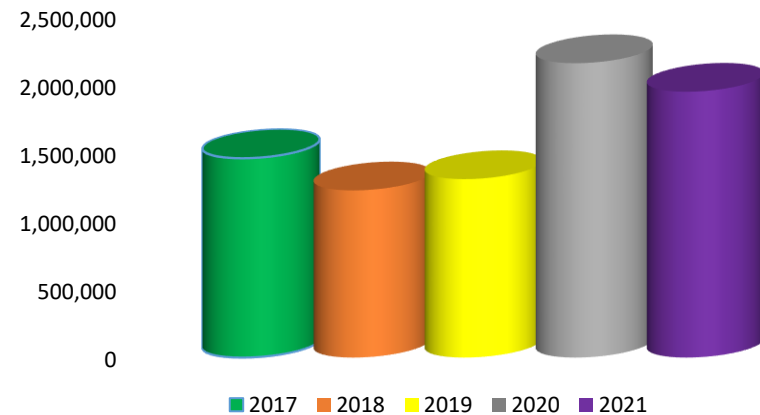
Year to Date Data Per Location



Monthly Trail Counts 2017 - 2022



Pinellas Trail Use 2017 – 2021



**Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.*

Pinellas Trail Security Task Force – January 10, 2023

8. Trail Construction Activity Report



TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS JANUARY 2023

| | |
|--|---|
| Pinellas Trail North Loop Gap Countryside | Enterprise Rd to Chesnut Sr. Park; SUN Trail; Construction underway, Est. Complete Fall 2022 (link) |
| Pinellas Trail South Loop Phase 3 & 4 | Haines Bayshore to Ulmerton Rd to 126th Ave; Segment of South Loop has will receive SUN Trail and FDOT Funding; Design in 2022; Construction 2024 |
| 71st Street Trail Connector | Pinellas Trail to 38th Avenue N; Design 2022, Construction 2024 |
| San Martin Bridge & Trail connection | Bridge Replacement; Design 2022; Construction 2024 |
| Courtney Campbell Trail Overpass | Trail Overpass at S.R. 60/Bayshore Blvd; SUN Trail; Design Underway; Construction 2024 |
| Howard Frankland Bridge Trail | FDOT include trail with new bridge construction; Design-Build Project; Construction underway; Est. late completion 2025 (link) |
| Gandy Bridge Trail | FDOT to include trail with new bridge construction; PD&E Study Underway |
| Harn Boulevard Overpass | Pedestrian Overpass; Construction Underway; Est. Completion 2023 (link) |
| Bayway Trail South | SR 679/Pinellas Bayway from north of Bunces Bridge to north of Madeira Circle. New two-way bicycle lane. Design underway; Est. construction start 2022 |
| Oldsmar Trail Phase 6 | Douglas Rd (Stevens Avenue to Race Track Rd) Design complete; Est. Construction end of 2020; section from Hayes Rd to Stevens Avenue postponed. |

9. Other Business

A. Pinellas Trail Survey

Looking for volunteers

B. Correspondence, Publications, Articles of Interest

Forward Pinellas Committee Meeting Schedule

C. Suggestions for Future Agenda Topics

- Trail Planning
- Trail Operations
- Trail Enhancements

D. Other

If any member has other business to discuss, they may address it under this item.

COMMITTEES MEETING SCHEDULE 2023

| PAC (Planners Advisory Committee) 1:30 pm | CAC (Citizens Advisory Committee) 7:00 pm | TCC (Technical Coordinating Committee) 2:00 pm | BPAC (Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee) 8:30 am | LCB (Local Coordinating Board) 9:15 am | STSC (School Transportation Safety Committee) 9:00 am | PTSTF (Pinellas Trail Security Task Force) at the Pinellas County Public Safety Services Office - 12490 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Rm 130) 9:00 am |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| 01/03/2023 - Tuesday | 01/26/2023 | 01/25/2023 | (4 th Mon) 01/23/2023 | ----- | ----- | 01/10/2023 Meeting Room 130 |
| 01/30/2023 | 02/23/2023 | 02/22/2023 | (4 th Mon) 02/27/2023 | 02/21/2023 | ----- | ----- |
| 02/27/2023 | 03/23/2023 | 03/22/2023 | 03/20/2023 | ----- | 03/01/2023 | ----- |
| 04/03/2023 | 04/27/2023 | 04/26/2023 | 04/17/2023 | ----- | ----- | 04/11/2023 Meeting Room 130 |
| 05/01/2023 | 05/25/2023 | 05/24/2023 | 05/15/2023 | 05/16/2023 | ----- | ----- |
| 06/05/2023 | *06/22/2023 | 06/28/2023 | 06/19/2023 | ----- | 06/07/2023 | ----- |
| 07/03/2023 | *07/27/2023 | *07/26/2023 | *07/17/2023 | ----- | ----- | 07/11/2023 Meeting Room 130 |
| *07/31/2023 | 08/24/2023 | 08/23/2023 | 08/21/2023 | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| 09/05/2023- Tuesday | 09/28/2023 | 09/27/2023 | 09/18/2023 | 09/19/2023 | ----- | ----- |
| 10/02/2023 | 10/26/2023 | 10/25/2023 | 10/16/2023 | ----- | 10/04/2023 | 10/10/2023 Meeting Room 130 |
| 10/30/2023 | Nov/Dec Combined | Nov/Dec Combined | 11/20/2023 | 11/21/2023 | ----- | ----- |
| *11/27/2023 | 12/07/2023 | 12/06/2023 | *12/18/2023 | ----- | ----- | ----- |

(These dates are subject to change)

*Meeting Subject to Cancellation