

## CAC Members

In order to conduct our meetings correctly in accordance with Sunshine law, there must be a physical quorum present at the meeting in order for the committee to vote and take any official actions. Specifically, we require a total of **9** - members in-person, not to include Forward Pinellas staff. If **9** members attend in person, we will be able to allow for virtual participation and voting by members not able to physically attend. **As such, please email me ([mkelly@forwardpinellas.org](mailto:mkelly@forwardpinellas.org)) directly to indicate if you will be joining the CAC meeting in-person or if you will attend virtually.** If we do not have a physical quorum present, we are unable to vote in the room and are also unable to offer voting to Zoom participants. As a reminder, we will utilize social-distancing, masks and provide hand sanitizer for in-person participants. (Zoom information below)

The in-person meeting will be held once again at 7:00 pm at **310 Court Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Clearwater.** I will need confirmation from those of you who will be attending in person, so that a quorum can be confirmed. If you confirm and cannot make it, please reach out to her so that a back-up can be found. Without a quorum, we cannot vote to allow participation by the Zoom attendees.

If you will be attending by Zoom, here is the Zoom meeting information:

Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Time: Mar 25, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89113718890?pwd=WHAzZWZoT2dCRTJOZGgrVXFxK2s2Zz09>

**Meeting ID: 891 1371 8890**

**Passcode: 372762**

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**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
(CAC) AGENDA**

**March 25, 2021 – 7:00pm**

**310 Court Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conf. Room  
Clearwater, FL 33756**

**THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY**

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The actions of the CAC are guided by its vision of “*a community-driven, modern transportation system that is safe, provides equitable access, and efficient mobility options in support of a sustainable, healthy, livable, and economically vibrant region.*”

**FACE MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED**

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS** (7:00 - 7:05)
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (7:05 - 7:10)
3. **FORWARD PINELLAS ACTIONS** (7:10 - 7:15)
4. **TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AMENDMENTS** (7:15 - 7:30) –  
Presenter: Jensen Hackett, FDOT Staff
5. **18<sup>TH</sup> AVE SOUTH COMPLETE STREETS** (7:30 – 7:45) – Presenter: Cheryl Stacks,  
City of St. Pete Staff
6. **INNOVATION TRANSIT TECHNOLOGIES FEASIBILITY STUDY PRESENTATION**  
(7:45 – 8:00) – Presenter – Brian Pessaro, TBARTA Staff
7. **TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS OF COVID-19** (8:00 – 8:20) – Presenter: Angela  
Ryan, Forward Pinellas Staff
8. **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING**  
(8:20 – 8:40) – Presenter: Chelsea Favero, Forward Pinellas Staff
9. **OTHER BUSINESS** (8:40 – 9:00)
  - A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update
  - B. TBARTA Update
  - C. Traffic Fatalities Map
  - D. Tentative Future Agenda Items
  - E. Member Interests/Discussion Topic
  - F. Public Comments
  - G. Upcoming Events
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING – APRIL 22, 2021**

*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 seven 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.*

**Citizens Advisory Committee – March 25, 2021**

**2. Approval of Meeting Summary**



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**SUMMARY**

The meeting summary for the February 25, 2021 meeting is attached for review and approval.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** CAC Meeting Summary for February 25, 2021

**ACTION:** Approval of Meeting Summary

**PINELLAS COUNTY MPO  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES – MEETING OF FEBRUARY 25, 2021**

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization met at 310 Court Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Clearwater, FL on Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tammy Vrana ( <i>Chair</i> )	City of Oldsmar/Safety Harbor/Tarpon Springs
Gary Benjamin – by Zoom	At Large Representative
Dylan Carlson	City of St. Petersburg
Axl David (Vice-Chair)	At Large Representative
Dyllan Furness – by Zoom	City of St. Petersburg
Steve Graber	City of Oldsmar/Safety Harbor/Tarpon Springs
Bob Henion – by Zoom	At Large Representative
Brandon Huskins – By Zoom	City of St. Petersburg Guest
Bill Jonson	City of Clearwater
Gloria Lepik-Corrigan – by Zoom	At Large Representative
Karen Mullins – by Zoom	City of Dunedin
Terri Novitsky	Beaches Representative
Caron Schwartz	City of Gulfport & Inland Communities
Tracey Schofield	At Large Representative
Brian Scott	City of Pinellas Park/Mid-County
Luis Serna	City of Clearwater
Loretta Statsick	City of Largo Representative
Paul Wallace	City of Largo
Geneva Waters – by Zoom	City of Pinellas Park/Mid-County

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kimberly Connor-Savoretti	City of St. Petersburg
Alayna Delgado	At Large Representative
Matthew Foster	At Large Representative
Tommy Frain	At Large Representative
Dimitri Karides	Beaches Representative
Duncan Kovar	TRAC Representative
Michael Mannino	At Large Representative
Anthony Stillo	At Large Representative

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jensen Hackett - Zoom	FDOT – District 7
Lauren Matzke - Zoom	City of Clearwater
Chris Jadick - Zoom	TBARTA
Wrights Mac - Zoom	Guest
Kayla McDonald - Zoom	SPC Student Guest
Kathy Smith - Zoom	Guest
Johnny Boykins - Zoom	Pinellas Park Guest
George Thurlow – Zoom	Gulfport Guest
Aron Bryce - Zoom	Belleair Guest
Amy Elmore - Zoom	Forward Pinellas Staff
Sarah Caper - Zoom	Forward Pinellas Staff
Angela Ryan - Zoom	Forward Pinellas Staff

Whit Blanton - Zoom	Forward Pinellas Staff
Chelsea Favero	Forward Pinellas Staff
Robert Feigel	Forward Pinellas Staff
Maria Kelly	Forward Pinellas Staff

**1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE TO FLAG/INTRODUCTIONS**

Tammy Vrana, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Attendees in the room introduced themselves. At this time, Robert Feigel, Forward Pinellas staff, advised the committee that Florida law requires a quorum of the CAC to be physically present to conduct business. However, the law provides an exception for some members to participate by non-physical means if a quorum is physically present and if the physical quorum present decides that there are extenuating circumstances. At this time, Chair Vrana read a statement regarding allowing committee members present to make a motion to allow those members participating by Zoom (all names identified above) to participate and vote due to extenuating circumstances existing making it impossible for some committee members to attend in person. A motion was made by Caron Schwartz that due to Covid-19; extenuating circumstances exist preventing members from joining in person, therefore they will be allowed to participate and vote by phone since a quorum is represented in person. This was seconded by Bill Jonson and passed with a unanimous vote.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Luis Serna pointed out a correction to the October 22, 2020 minutes; item three, under Forward Pinellas Actions, the misspelling of Waterborne, in Waterborne Transportation. Brian Scott made a motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2020, with one correction. It was seconded by Loretta Statsick and passed with a unanimous vote. Axl David made a correction to the January 28, 2021 minutes, the miss showing of his name, should have reflected Axl David, instead of David Axl. Tracey Schofield made a motion to approve the January 28, 2021 minutes with one correction. Karen Mullins seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

**3. FORWARD PINELLAS ACTIONS**

Mr. Feigel reviewed the highlights of the Forward Pinellas Board meeting for February 10, 2021. The Board approved modifications to the FY 20/21 – 24/25 Transportation Improvement Program. The Board also approved the Memorandum of Understanding for the I-4 Coalition. The Board also approved the Performance Measures and Targets associated with the FHWA targets set by the federal government for the safety of transportation network. The Board approved the Amendment to the 58<sup>th</sup> Street Truck Route Plan. The Board approved an amendment to the Countywide Plan. Other items discussed include PSTA's activities on its Sustainable Strategic Plan to establish goals for sustainability metrics. TBARTA topics included a bill filed in the Florida Senate to dissolve TBARTA as a regional transit entity. Forward Pinellas Executive Director Whit Blanton addressed the impact of the bill and how it may affect regional collaboration on a range of issues. He also addressed the importance of continuing efforts of regional transportation in Tampa Bay.

**4. FY 2019/20 – FY 2023/24 TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP)**

Mr. Jensen Hackett, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), shared information regarding a proposed modification to the currently adopted Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The amendment is for the purchase of new electric buses and a new depot charging station to allow PSTA to continue its electric bus expansion program and improve the safety and reliability of the system. Total cost of the project is \$1,239,710 and will not affect any current project in the FY 2020/21-2024/25 TIP. Questions were taken and appropriately answered. Bill Jonson made a motion to recommend approval by the Board for the TIP Amendment. It was seconded by Caron Schwartz and approved with a vote of 17-1.

**5. SAFE STREETS PINELLAS ACTION PLAN**

Ms. Sarah Caper, Forward Pinellas staff, shared a presentation with the committee regarding the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan and the Plan's next steps. Over the past year, efforts to develop a Safe Streets Action Plan, which is the Forward Pinellas Vision Zero Effort, have been underway. The Action Plan includes collision data analysis, the identification of a High Injury Network (HIN), engineering and non-engineering countermeasures and implementable strategies to move towards zero deaths and serious injuries on Pinellas roadways. A 16-member taskforce with a representative from each of the advisory committees was instrumental in putting together this Action Plan through demonstration projects, community outreach projects and workshops. The Action Plan will be updated once all the demonstration projects are completed and is intended to be evaluated on a regular basis so adjustments can be made as needed.

Paul Wallace inquired about speed limit reductions and if they will be recommended in this project and what type of remediation will be implemented to reduce right-turn-on-red accidents and pedestrian fatalities caused by this action. Ms. Caper acknowledged that speed is a problem on the high injury network. Forward Pinellas will be working with its partners who have the ability to control the speeds to identify some strategies to reduce this type of fatality. Right-turn-on-red pedestrian crashes, compared to other pedestrian crashes are not as big a problem as other areas, however Forward Pinellas does intend to keep this problem as a focus area to find counter measures for prevention.

Ms. Caper noted that the purpose of this plan is to have a set of actions that we as Forward Pinellas can take so that we can help our communities to get to zero deaths and zero injuries. Things that Forward Pinellas can do to help get to zero deaths and injuries, include prioritizing projects for transportation funding, providing incentives to our partners to encourage projects and programs that help reduce deaths and injuries, and by providing support, resources and education. The adoption of this Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan will provide a foundation for local governments to identify roadways that present a safety problem and adopt counter measures to improve the safety of that roadway.

Geneva Waters inquired about what numbers are being recognized regarding crashes and fatalities in minority communities and where projects in these communities are on the priority list. Crash data is provided by law enforcement completed crash reports, notating in which community each crash has happened. The high injury network provides location information on where a disproportionate number of crashes have occurred. About 32% of Pinellas County is listed as an area of concern (including low income and minority

communities) and 73% of our high injury network crashes happens in an area of concern, which is where the focus is. This is a priority that will be focused upon as the plan is implemented, because the low income and minority communities are severely impacted by these fatal crashes, more so than the rest of the county.

Axl David articulated his objection to this plan and why. Mr David stated that that pedestrians and bicyclists make a lot of mistakes, but all of this is predicated on that motorists are at fault at all times and he disagrees with that. Mr. David pointed out that another component of Vision Zero is the reduction of lanes on arterial routes. Reducing lanes on arterial routes creates vehicle backup, especially when attempting to evacuate. He is opposing because he feels there are no straight answers to the questions regarding “what is the plan?” and he feels like it is all political, also noting that non-supporting this is like supporting serious injuries and deaths.

Additional questions were taken and appropriately answered. Ms. Caper stated that staff is seeking a recommendation that the Forward Pinellas Board approve committing to zero deaths and serious injuries by 2045 and approve the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan. A motion was made by Luis Serna recommending approval of the action plan. It was seconded by Loretta Statsick and passed with a vote of 17-1.

## **6. FT. HARRISON COMPLETE STREETS**

Ms. Lauren Matzke shared a presentation with the committee on the status of the Complete Streets Concept Plan for the Fort Harrison Avenue corridor from Belleair Road to the south, to Myrtle Avenue/Alt. 19 to the north, 3.2 miles, funded by a grant from provided by Forward Pinellas. The project connects three major destinations, Morton Plant Hospital Campus, the future Imagine Clearwater waterfront redevelopment and the North Marina Area. The city’s primary goal was to develop a Complete Streets Concept Plan that would enhance safety, mobility and accessibility while also considering the land use contexts and character surrounding the corridor. As part of the outreach to the community, pre-Covid, a walk-shop was completed, consisting of business owners, residents, local agencies and city staff, observing existing conditions and discussing potential design strategies and preliminary concepts. This project provided a variety of design strategies that each bring their own unique benefits to enhancing a street. There were also many opportunities to do demonstration projects to learn from in advance of permanent installation. A previous study by FDOT on US Alt-19 included a roundabout, which they will keep in the plan and noted FDOT’s support for that project. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

## **7. BIKE YOUR CITY 2021**

Ms. Angela Ryan shared a presentation with the committee announcing the kick-off to this year’s Bike Your City event to be held in for the whole month of March, in conjunction with celebrating Florida Bicycle Month. Last year’s scavenger hunt was such a huge success, Forward Pinellas is planning another virtual Bike Your City event. The Bike Your City event will be a virtual scavenger hunt offered to cyclists throughout Pinellas County. Beginning on March 1<sup>st</sup> and running through March 31<sup>st</sup>, registered participants will receive a set of instructions and list of 20 scavenger hunt destinations. Participants will discover transportation related treasures throughout their own communities as well as receive safety information on walking and biking safely. Forward Pinellas has developed an online



platform for participants to upload images of themselves, or their bikes, at each of the scavenger hunt destinations. Prizes will be awarded on a weekly basis to individuals partaking in the scavenger hunt and in a Forward Pinellas "Tuesday Trivia". Special thanks were sent out to our participating partners Safety Harbor Art and Music Center (SHAMC), Florida Bicycle Association, Suncoast APA, Kafe Racer, Beach & Trail Bike Shop and Bike/Walk Tampa Bay. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

#### **8. OUTREACH ANALYSIS AND WEBSITE TOUR**

Ms. Amy Elmore, Forward Pinellas staff, shared a presentation on the 2020 Communications & Outreach Analysis that Forward Pinellas provides in the communications report presented to the Forward Pinellas Board each month. This analysis includes tracking target analytics, website hits, blog views and social media reach. This update provided a look back at the goals set for the year and noted the progress that Forward Pinellas made towards achieving the targets set. Forward Pinellas continues to excel in communications and outreach and has developed a new website. A brief tour of the new website was shared with the committee. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

#### **9. MULTIMODAL PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

Ms. Chelsea Favero addressed the committee regarding the draft of the Multimodal Priority List Recommendations. Forward Pinellas adopts project priority lists for its Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on an annual basis. Review of the Forward Pinellas priority lists occurs on an annual basis prior to the transmittal of the project priorities to FDOT for consideration in the development of their next five-year work program. Since the last update of the multimodal list in 2020, two projects were allocated funding for implementation, including one complete streets construction project, and three new projects are proposed for addition to the list that had applied for funding through the Multimodal Priority List Call for Projects. The project changes were reviewed, and it was announced that this item will come back to the committees at a later date when it has been finalized. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

#### **10. TD TAMPA BAY**

Mr. Chris Jadick, with Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA), shared a presentation with the committee on the new service providing the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) services within the TBARTA five-county service area of Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco and Pinellas Counties, in addition to local services. The new service provides regional connectivity via cross-county trips to include evening and weekends for eligible transportation disadvantaged individuals. Funded with a grant from the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) and through partnerships between TBARTA, UZURV and PSTA, TD Tampa Bay increases access for the transportation disadvantaged to job training, employment, health care and other life-sustaining services in the Tampa Bay region. Riders can call or use a rider app to schedule services both cross-county, weekend and evenings trips. Cross-county trips are the biggest need for transportation disadvantaged individuals, to doctor's appointments and employment. Questions were taken and appropriately answered.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update**

Ms. Favero updated the committee. Regarding the Gateway Area Master Plan, the Memorandum of Understanding was adopted by all members. A series of performance measures is currently being developed, to help gauge the effectiveness of the plan moving forward. Regarding US Highway 19, the Frontage Road study is continuing to move forward, as well as the evaluation of the interchanges by FDOT. Regarding Enhancing Beach Access, the Forward Pinellas Board established a Waterborne Transportation subcommittee. They have met twice in the last few months and is investigating the expansion of waterborne transportation throughout Pinellas County.

### **B. TBARTA Update**

Bill Johnson gave a report on TBARTA. TBARTA met on the February 10, 2021 and the main topic of discussion was on the Bus Rapid Transit Project. The completion of the project is likely to be 10 years, due to its dependence on other road projects already scheduled.

### **C. Traffic Fatalities Map**

A traffic fatalities map was included in the agenda packet.

### **D. Tentative Future Agenda Items**

Caron Schwartz suggested a look into and discussion on the Transportation Tax in Hillsborough, that was just declared unconstitutional.

### **E. Future Agenda Item Requests from Committee Members**

### **F. Public Comments**

Karen Mullins and Caron Schwartz were reaffirmed as the CAC TBARTA representatives for Forward Pinellas.

Bob Henion shared that there is an autonomous vehicle demonstration recently in Dunedin and Clearwater Beach.

Karen Mullins commented that Senator Jeff Brandes has introduced a bill, which does not need sponsorship from the House of Representatives, to eliminate TBARTA. Phone calls to your representatives are needed to support TBARTA. Karen also made a request to change the CAC bylaws to reduce the number needed to make a quorum.

Bill Jonson expressed concern regarding the access to early voting sites, where some sites are only accessible by vehicle, with no other multimodal accessibility. He also mentioned the League of Women Voters is looking into better accessibility to voting sites.

### **G. Upcoming Events**

## **8. ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. The next CAC meeting will be March 25, 2021.

**Citizens Advisory Committee – March 25, 2021**

**3. Forward Pinellas Actions**



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**SUMMARY**

The March 10, 2021 Executive Summary is attached for your information. A staff member will review actions taken by the Forward Pinellas Board.

**ATTACHMENT:** Executive Summary for March 10, 2021. (to be emailed separately)

**ACTION:** None Required, Informational Item

**March 10, 2021**

*Please note that this summary has not been approved as the official minutes of the board.*

### **THE PLANNING COUNCIL AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION FOR PINELLAS COUNTY**

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The Forward Pinellas Board held this public meeting in person on March 10, 2021 at 1 p.m. in the Magnolia Room at Pinellas County Cooperative Extension. Presenters and members of the public also had the opportunity to participate virtually to ensure public safety in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see the following link for more information about virtual meeting [policies and procedures](#).

#### **The board recommended denial of one amendment to the Countywide Plan Map based on staff's recommendation**

- The board recommended denial of CW 21-06 – City of St. Petersburg:
  - An amendment from the City St. Petersburg to amend the property at 1501 72nd Street North from Employment and Target Employment Center to Multimodal Corridor and Target Employment Center to develop a sports tourism facility with a public lagoon and beach area, and an apartment complex. (8-4)
  - This amendment would not provide the desired number of target employment opportunities, the Multimodal Corridor category is inconsistent with the Countywide Rules policies that preserve Industrial, Employment and Target Employment Center lands for high-wage job creation, and would significantly impact the reservation of Industrial land for future target employment needs.

Nousheen Rahman reviewed the proposed land use map amendment citing the rationale for staff's recommendation of denial. Specifically, that the proposed sports tourism facility and apartment complex is inconsistent with the characteristics of the Target Employment Center category and reduces the amount of Industrial/Employment designated land without meeting the balancing criteria. She showed four comparable Employment/Industrial sites of similar size in the county to demonstrate the employment potential of this site under the current category. The proposed use would not generate a comparable number of jobs that pay a wage higher than the countywide average. An industrial use on the site could employ up to 463 workers. A storage, warehouse or distributor could employ up to 214 workers. More specifically, she advised that the estimated average annual wage for jobs under the proposed project would be \$28,220 compared to the average annual income of \$48,901 for workers in Pinellas County. Furthermore, the proposed amendment would significantly impact the Countywide Consideration concerning the reservation of Industrial land, which includes conversion of the Employment and Target Employment Center categories.

Derek Kilborn, City of St. Petersburg staff, gave a presentation on the proposed amendment from the City's perspective and answered a variety of questions from the board members about how the Target Employment Center Overlay is applied at the city level, other possible uses for the site, the length of

time the property has been vacant, the effects of the contaminated soil from prior industrial uses, and the provisions included in the Development Agreement.

Mike Meidel, Pinellas County Economic Development, stated that the property would be better suited to industrial uses. He stated that the site is much more attractive than it was 20 years ago, citing that the remediation project to clean up the contamination is progressing. He also alerted the board members that the County is actively marketing the property for Industrial/Employment uses and is optimistic, that with the new Penny IV employment sites grant program, additional proposals for projects will be forthcoming.

Brian Aungst, Jr. (attorney representative for Porter Development), Robert Pergolizzi (Gulf Coast Consulting) and Eric Sullivan (Sports Facilities Companies) spoke in favor of the proposed amendment. They outlined the employment opportunities that would result from the sports complex and gave specifics about the workforce housing that would be created. They asserted that this type of sports tourism facility would generate an estimated \$17M in direct local revenues, as determined by Visit St. Pete Clearwater. Mr. Sullivan broke down more specifically the job creation numbers, stating that the project would create about 20 management-level jobs, each paying approximately \$50,000 in annual salary. The remaining jobs would be part-time and seasonal positions. Greg Schultz (Cardno) also spoke to address the groundwater remediation occurring on the site.

Two of the three nearby neighborhood associations, the Jungle Terrace Civic Association and the Azalea Neighborhood Association, spoke in favor of the proposed project touting the value it would bring to the community. Citizens from the third association, Crossroads Area Homeowners Association, expressed concerns about traffic, noise, public safety, proximity to the Pinellas Trail, and the remediation of the contaminated soils and groundwater.

There were more than two hours of discussion and deliberation amongst the board members to address a variety of topics including:

- The goals of Target Employment Center Overlay
- The need for high wage jobs in the County
- The need for workforce housing in the County
- Potential Industrial/Employment opportunities for the site
- Balancing the preservation of Industrial/Employment lands with the viability of this site for that type of use
- Community impacts of the proposed project
- The length of time the property has remained vacant

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners will hear the case on April 13, 2021 in its capacity as the Countywide Planning Authority and consider Forward Pinellas' recommendation. A second public hearing is tentatively planned for May before the City of St. Petersburg City Council.

### **The board approved three amendments to the Countywide Plan Map**

- The board recommended approval of three amendments:

- Case CW 21-02, an amendment from the City of Tarpon Springs to amend the property at Anclote Blvd. and L&R Industrial Blvd. from Residential Low Medium to Public/Semi-Public to allow for the development of a public works/public storage facility. (12-0)
- Case CW 21-05, an amendment from the City of Clearwater to amend the property at 1280 and 1298 Lakeview Road from Residential Medium and Residential Low Medium categories to the Residential Low Medium category to allow for the redevelopment of an administrative office into a clubhouse. (12-0)
- Case CW 21-07, an amendment from Pinellas County to amend 140.46 acres in the Largo Tri-City Area from Retail & Services, Employment, Office, Public/Semi-Public, Residential Low Medium, Recreation/Open Space and Preservation to Activity Center and Multimodal Corridor to the application of the Largo Tri City Special Area Plan (SAP) to parcels in Unincorporated Pinellas County. (12-0)

### **The board unanimously approved amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program**

The board approved an amendment to the FY 2020/21 – 2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) for the purchase of two new electric buses and a new depot charging station. This funding will allow PSTA to continue its electric bus expansion program and improve the safety and reliability of the system. The total cost of the project is \$1,239,710 and, with a federal grant as the funding source, will not affect any current projects in the FY 2020/21-2024/25 TIP.

### **The board unanimously approved and accepted the PPC and MPO Audits**

Each year Forward Pinellas undertakes an independent professional financial audit of its two legal agencies, the Pinellas Planning Council (PPC) and the Pinellas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). After a review of the financial records, it is the auditor’s opinion that the MPO had one material weakness over a financial close process due to a prior period restatement, and both the PPC and MPO have complied in all material respects with applicable financial requirements for the year ended September 30, 2020.

### **Other Items**

- The board recognized March as Florida Bike Month, supporting bike safety and advocacy all year long. To celebrate Florida Bike Month, residents can join our virtual Bike Your City scavenger hunt the entire month of March. For more information, visit [www.forwardpinellas.org/bikeyourcity](http://www.forwardpinellas.org/bikeyourcity)
- The board unanimously approved a resolution to support the Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan. For more information, visit [www.forwardpinellas.org/safestreets](http://www.forwardpinellas.org/safestreets)
- Jensen Hackett, FDOT, updated the board on the addition of temporary delimiters, signage and reflective striping on U.S. 19 at 297<sup>th</sup> Avenue North in response to several serious injury crashes in the vicinity of the intersection of U.S. 19 and Curlew Road. A permanent mobility and safety reconstruction project at this intersection is set to begin construction in February 2022.

- Mr. Blanton noted that Forward Pinellas has requested funding from DOT to address interim improvements on U.S. 19 at Gandy Park Boulevard in coordination with the City of Pinellas Park.
- Mr. Blanton also notes that in response to two Legislative Committee requests, Forward Pinellas will be writing a letter of opposition to HB 1113 concerning the modification or removal of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons, as well as a letter of opposition to House Bill 55, which prohibits design standards for single and duplex housing, creating a barrier to integrating in-fill development.

**The following items were deferred to the next meeting**

- Staff is proposing to remove and add several projects to the [Multimodal Priority List](#). The Multimodal Priority List is not yet final and will be brought back to the board for adoption before July 1, 2021.
- Staff will provide an overview of the research conducted as part of the [TOD Knowledge Exchange Series](#), as well as an update on the status of the SunRunner TOD Strategic Plan.

**Action Sheet**

**March 10, 2021**

At its March meeting, the Forward Pinellas Board took the following official actions:

- **Proclamation affirming March as Florida Bicycle Month**  
Angela Ryan, Forward Pinellas Active Transportation Planner, provided a brief presentation to the board about the virtual Bike Your *Own* City 2021 event being hosted by Forward Pinellas in support of Florida Bicycle Month in March. The board approved a proclamation affirming March as Florida Bicycle Month. (vote: 12-0)
- **Consent Agenda** (vote: 12-0)  
Approved to include the following:
  - A. Approval of Minutes of the February 10, 2021 Meeting
  - B. Approval of Committee Appointments
  - C. Receive and File Community Transportation Coordinator Annual Evaluation
  - D. Approval of 5305 PSTA Joint Participation Agreement
  - E. Approval of Scope and Fees for Waterborne Travel Demand Forecasting
- **Amendment to the FY 2020/21 – FY 2024/25 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**  
Following a presentation by FDOT staff and public hearing, the board, in its role as the metropolitan planning organization, approved the amendment to the TIP which allows PSTA to continue its electric bus expansion program and improve safety and reliability of the system.

(vote: 12-0)

- **Countywide Plan Map Amendment(s)**

Three cases were recommended for approval:

1. **CW 21-02 – City of Tarpon Springs** (vote: 11-0, Commissioner Long had stepped out)
2. **CW 21-05 – City of Clearwater** (vote: 12-0)
3. **CW 21-07 – Pinellas County** (vote: 11-0, Mayor Bujalski had left the meeting)

One case was recommended for denial:

1. **CW 21-06 – City of St. Petersburg** (roll call vote as follows: Mayor Bujalski, Commissioner Long, Vice Mayor Allbritton and Councilmember Gabbard in support with Councilmember Rice, Mayor Kennedy, Commissioner Eggers, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Gerard, Commissioner Seel, Councilmember Noble, and Vice Mayor Merz opposing)

- **PPC and MPO Audits**

Following a presentation by the auditors, the board approved and accepted the audits for both the PPC and the MPO. (vote: 9-0, Councilmember Gabbard, Mayor Bujalski and Councilmember Noble had stepped out)

- **Resolution Supporting Safe Streets Pinellas Action Plan**

Following a presentation by staff member Sarah Caper, the board adopted a resolution in support of the Action Plan. (vote: 8-0, Mayor Kennedy, Councilmember Gabbard, Mayor Bujalski and Councilmember Noble had stepped out)

- **Forward Pinellas Legislative Committee Update**

Following an update by the executive director, the remaining board members (lacking a quorum) consented to allow the Executive Director to draft letters of opposition regarding the bills related to the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (HB 1113 and SB 1412) and the prohibition on building design standards (HB 55 and SB 284) which is in line with the previously adopted policy positions of the board.



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**SUMMARY**

There are no proposed TIP amendments scheduled for this meeting. However, if the need for a TIP amendment(s) arises following the mailing of the agenda packet, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will present the proposed amendment(s) under this agenda item.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** (Any proposed TIP amendment forms will be provided at the meeting)

**ACTION:** Provide a recommendation to the Board for TIP amendments (if any)

**5. 18<sup>th</sup> Ave S Complete Streets**

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**SUMMARY**

Partially funded by a grant provided by Forward Pinellas, the City of St. Petersburg developed a Complete Streets Concept Plan for the 18<sup>th</sup> Ave South corridor from 34<sup>th</sup> St. to 16<sup>th</sup> St. The study built upon the work of the 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Health Impact Assessment and identified conceptual plans to reallocate the street spaces so that it is shared equitable among all users and transportation modes.

City staff will provide a presentation on the development of the Concept Plan and the final recommendations for the corridor.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None

**ACTION:** None required; informational item

**6. Innovation Transit Technologies Feasibility Study  
Presentation**

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**SUMMARY**

In 2019, the Florida Legislature appropriated an additional \$1 million to Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) specifically for the study and development of future technologies. With this funding, TBARTA launched the Innovative Transit Technologies Feasibility Study, which concluded in July 2020. The study examined the technical, financial and regulatory issues of three transportation systems, including hyperloop, air taxis and aerial gondolas. The current state of each technology, future potential, route types, corridor profiles, travel demand, safety and environmental issues and funding options were among the issues considered in the study.

A representative from TBARTA will provide an overview of the Innovative Transit Technologies Feasibility Study and respond to questions for the committee.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None

**ACTION:** None required; informational item

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**SUMMARY**

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic impact on the way people get around the county. This has been reflected in recent trends of local trail usage, vehicular traffic volumes on major roadways, the number of transit riders, and even on the number and severity of crashes countywide. Forward Pinellas staff will provide an overview of the recently observed impacts to the county's transportation system and provide an overview of results from a nationwide survey on anticipated future impacts to the way people travel.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** Pinellas Trail Annual Usage Report for Jan-Dec 2020

**ACTION:** None required; informational item

# Pinellas Trail User Count Data Summary

Automated Trail Counter Data Collection

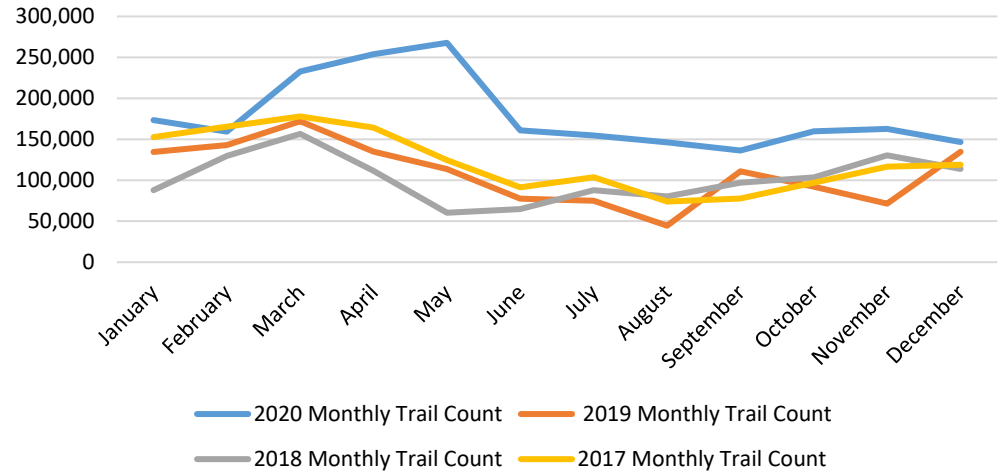
Period: 2020 Data\*



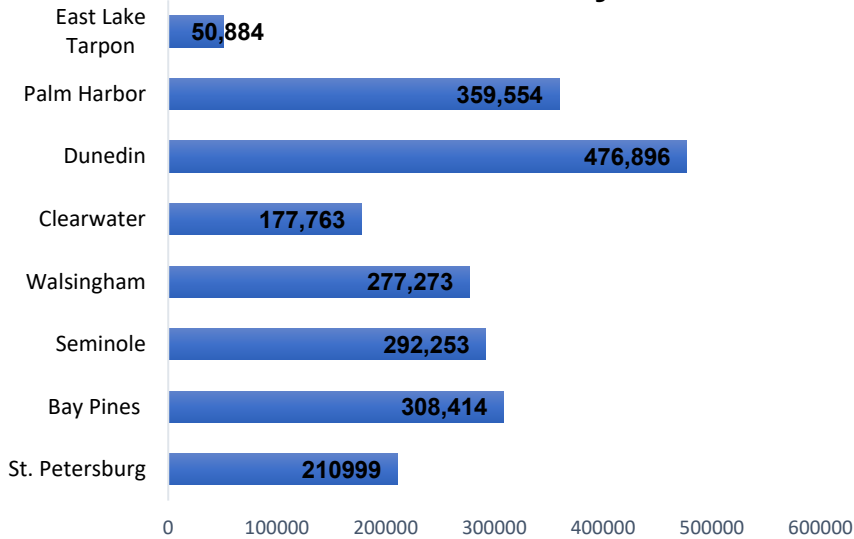
**Jan-Dec 2020 Total Count:  
2,154,036**

*\* Technical issues with the Clearwater and East Lake / Tarpon Counters resulting in several missing days of data during February, March and June.*

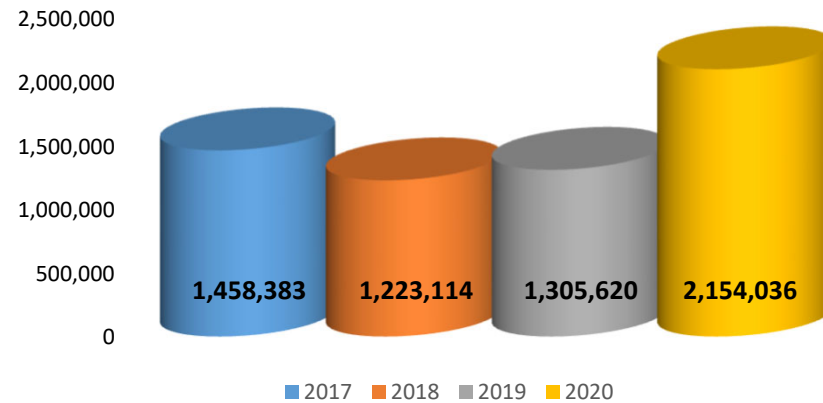
## Monthly Trail Counts 2017-2020



## Counter Data Year to Date by Location



## Pinellas Trail Use 2017 - 2020



\* 2010 – 2016 Survey Data & 2017-2019 Counter Data. Technical issues with several counters in 2019 resulting in several missing days of data during 2019.

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**SUMMARY**

As the metropolitan planning organization for Pinellas County, Forward Pinellas serves an important role in coordinating transportation planning at the regional level.

The West Central Florida Chairs Coordinating Committee (CCC) provides a forum for coordinating transportation planning, and prioritizing roadway and trail projects while ensuring a consistent approach among the member agencies. These agencies include the area's MPOs (Hernando/Citrus, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota/Manatee, Hillsborough and Polk), regional planning councils, FDOT Districts 1 and 7, and Florida Turnpike Enterprise.

The Tampa Bay Transportation Management Area (TMA) includes nearly all of Pinellas County and the urban areas of Hillsborough and Pasco counties. Comprised of three MPO Board members each from Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties, the TMA Leadership Group plays a key role in the coordination of transportation plans and programs in this urban region.

Forward Pinellas staff will provide an overview of these regional transportation planning entities and explain how the coordination undertaken through them helps to advance transportation priorities for the region.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None

**ACTION:** None required; informational item

**A. Pinellas SPOTlight Emphasis Areas Update**

Forward Pinellas staff will provide an update on the SPOTLight Emphasis Areas

**B. TBARTA Update**

A summary of the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority's Citizen Advisory Committee meeting(s), if any, will be provided at this time.

**C. Traffic Fatalities Map**

Forward Pinellas staff is providing the updated Traffic Fatalities Map each month.

**ATTACHMENT:** Traffic Fatalities Map

**D. Tentative Future Agenda Items**

- Forward Pinellas Multimodal Priority List
- Equity Assessment
- New CAC Member Orientation
- TIP Amendment(s) if any

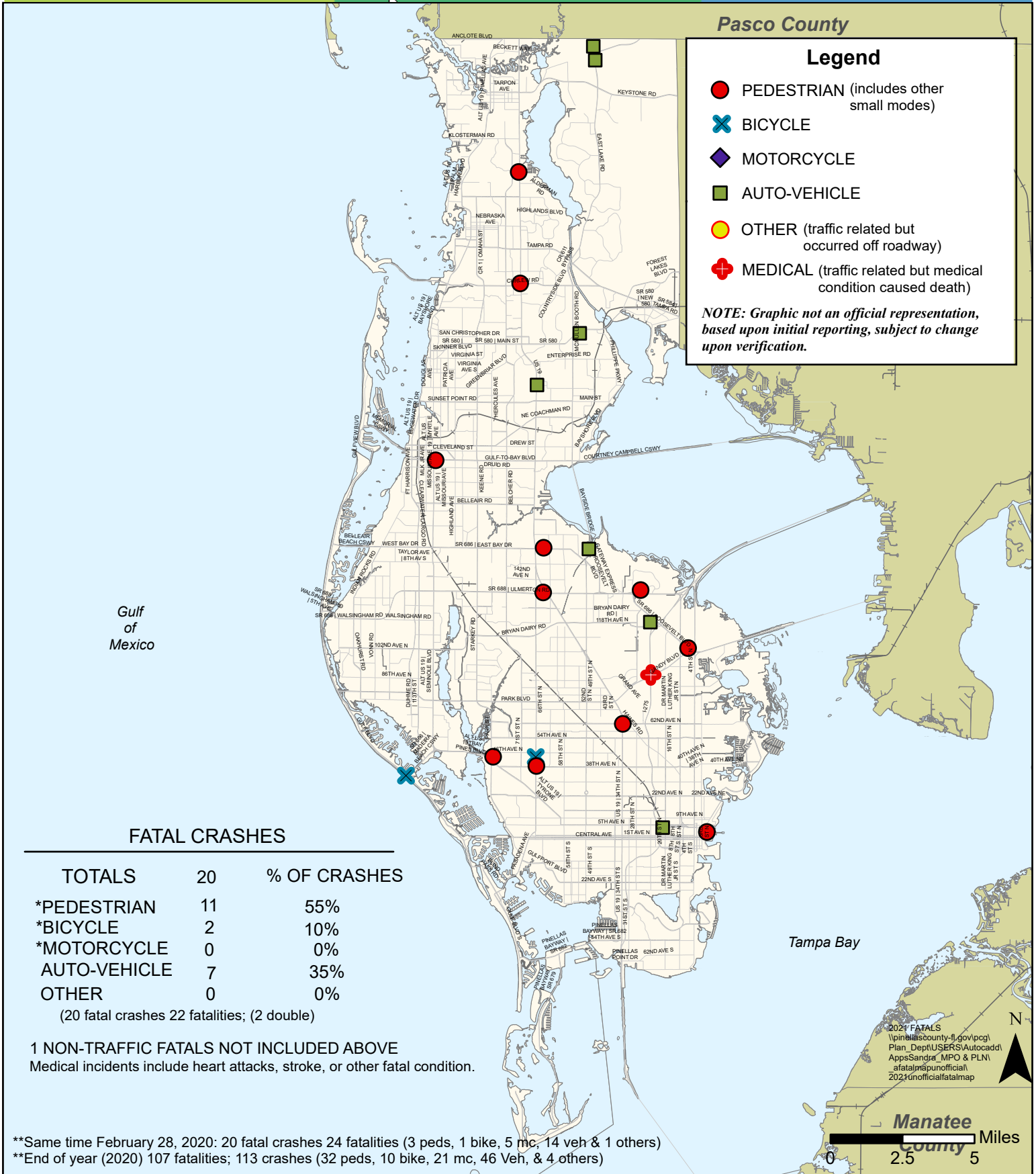
**E. Member Interests/Discussion Topics**

No topics noted at this time

**F. Public Comments**

Comments are limited to three minutes per person and should not require presentations or extensive discussion.

**G. Upcoming Events**



Data Source: Forward Pinellas, 2020. Map Produced: March 1, 2021.

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# CRASHES	DATAID	ON STREET	CROSS STREET	MODE	DATE	# FATAL	APPROX TIME	DHSMV	LEO	SEX/AGE
1	002F21	ULMERTON RD	IN FRONT OF 6363 ULMERTON	PED	1/6/2021	1	9:02PM	89358577	LARGO	M/59
1	004F21	34TH ST N	62ND AVE N	PED	1/8/2021	1	6:50AM	88425461	FHP	M/?
1	007F21	PARK ST N	CR 16 (S OF 46TH AVE N)	PED IN WC/DELAY	1/18/2021	1	6:52PM	88430141	FHP	M/68
1	012F21	COURT ST	JUST EAST OF MISSOURI AVE	PED/PED IN WC/DELAY	1/29/2021	2	7:30PM	24304614	CLW	M/37, M/59
1	013F21	ROOSEVELT BLVD/SR686	DODGE ST	PED/DELAY	1/31/2021	1	11:36PM	?	FHP	M/60
1	014F21	38TH AVE N	6600 BLOCK	PED/DELAY	2/5/2021	1	8:27AM	24234848	SP	M/68
1	015F21	1ST ST N	4TH AVE N	PED/WC_SCO/DELAY	2/11/2021	1	?	?	SP	F/85
1	016F21	US HIGHWAY 19	CURLEW RD	PED	2/12/2021	1	8:29PM	?	FHP	M/61
1	019F21	US HIGHWAY 19	INNISBROOK DRIVE	PED	2/14/2021	1	7:57PM	?	FHP	M/65
1	020F21	HERON BLVD	WHISPERWOOD AVE N	PED/DELAY	2/14/2021	1	8:10PM	24235108	SP	M/65
1	021F21	ROOSEVELT BLVD/SR686	10000 BLOCK	PED	2/18/2021	1	7:41PM	2423571	SP	M/63
1	003F21	66TH ST N	42ND AVE N	BIKE	1/7/2021	1	8:17PM	88841439	FHP/KC	M/49
1	005F21	GULF BLVD	JUST N OF 150TH AVE	BIKE	1/14/2021	1	3:08PM	89358615	PCSO/MB	F/54
1	001F21	EAST LAKE RD	S OF TRINITY BLVD	VEH/DR	1/1/2021	1	6:40AM	85150864	FHP	F/22
1	006F21	US HWY 19	JUST N OF MCCORMICK DR	VEH/DR/DELAY	1/17/2021	1	4:22PM	?	CLW	F/75
1	009F21	CR 611	GREY OAKS BLVD	VEH/DR/DELAY	1/23/2021	1	5:22PM	88443104	FHP	F/65
1	010F21	118TH AVE N	IN THE 2200 BLK	VEH/DR/DELAY	1/23/2021	1	11:10PM	24234580	SP	M/31
1	011F21	CR 611/BAYSIDE BRIDGE	N OF ROOSEVELT BLVD/SR 686	VEH/PASS, VEH/DR	1/24/2021	2	11:10PM	88436669	FHP	F/29, M/50
1	017F21	SR 580	JUST E OF MCMULLEN BOOTH	VEH/DR	2/13/2021	1	8:00AM	?	CLW	M/22
1	018F21	SB I 275	EXIT RAMP TO I 375	VEH/DR	2/14/2021	1	4:02PM	?	FHP	M/36
0	008F21	I 275 SB	28TH ST S/MM21	MED/VEH/DR	1/23/2021	0	10:31AM	88410577	FHP	M/51
20						22				
# CRASHES						# FATALS				

2021 (2 doubles, 1 medical)

NOTES:

2020 "unofficial" 107 fatal crashes; 113 fatalities (1 triple, 4 doubles; 32 peds, 10 Bikes, 21 mc, 46 veh, 4 others)

2019 105 fatal crashes; 106 fatalities (1 double; 39 peds, 9 Bikes, 22 mc, 31 veh, 5 others)

2018 120 fatalities 115 crashes (5 doubles) / (39 peds, 8 Bikes, 31 mc, 44 veh)

2017 116 fatalities 110 crashes ( 4 doubles and 1 triple) / (37 peds, 6 bikes, 30 mc, and 43 veh)

2016 117 fatalities 110 crashes (3 triples and 1 double)

2015 104 fatalities 102 crashes