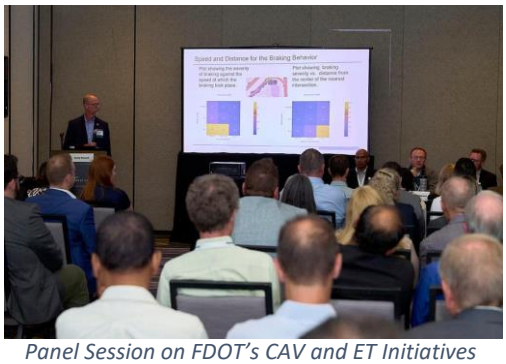
2023 Florida Automated Vehicles (FAV) Summit

- Raj Ponnaluri, PhD, P.E., PTOE, PMP; Manager, Emerging Technologies

The Florida Automated Vehicles (FAV) Summit assembles industry leaders worldwide to address technologies, operations, and policy issues. The FAV Summit's mission is to gain insight into what Florida is doing to create the ideal climate for testing, implementing, and deploying autonomous and connected vehicle technologies.

Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Led Panel Discussions

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) hosted five panel sessions at the 2023 FAV Summit. The panel sessions' topics included Florida's Transportation Technology Labs, FDOT's Connected and Automated Vehicles (CAV) and Emerging Technology (ET) initiatives, Emerging Data, Alternate Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure, and Emerging Multimodal Applications. Panelists included experts from State and local agencies, private entities, and academic institutions.



Panel Session on FDOT's CAV and ET Initiatives

Rudy Powell, FDOT's Director of the State Traffic Engineering & Operations Office, moderated a panel discussion on FDOT's CAV and ET initiatives. Panelists included Raj Ponnaluri (FDOT, CO), Eric Gordin (FDOT, FTE), Jeremy Dilmore (FDOT, District 5), and Sanjay Ranka (University of Florida). The panelists discussed several initiatives the FDOT undertook in deploying CAV and ET projects across the state. Also, the panelists highlighted the importance of adopting technology through the development process of research, testing/pilots, and full-scale deployment.

FDOT's Civil Integrated Management Officer John Krause led a panel discussion on emerging data. The panelists included Monali Shah (Google), Michael Brown (Southwest Research Institute), Bill Schumacher (HERE Technologies), and Sisinnio Concas (University of South Florida). The panelists discussed several types of emerging data and how these data can be used in transportation to improve the mobility and safety of transportation systems. Also, the panelists highlighted how emerging data in the transportation field can be used to draw insight and decisions on transportation systems.

Panel Session on Emerging Data

Panel Session on Florida's Transportation Technology Labs

Trey Tillander, FDOT's Executive Director of Transportation Technology, moderated a panel discussion on Florida's Transportation Technology Labs. The panelists included Rudy Powell (FDOT, CO), Pamela Foster (FDOT, FTE), Sue Zheng (FDOT, SMO), and Lily Elefteriadou (University of Florida). The panelist highlighted the critical role played by Florida's Transportation Technology Labs in testing emerging transportation technologies. Florida's Transportation Technology Labs include Traffic Engineering Research Laboratory (TERL), SunTrax, State Materials Office, and I-STREET.

Raj Ponnaluri, FDOT's Manager of Emerging Technology, moderated a panel discussion on alternate fuel vehicle infrastructure. The panelists included Raj Ponnaluri (FDOT, CO), P.T. Jones (Oak Ridge National Laboratory), Henry Lukasik (Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority), and Stanley E. Young (National Renewable Energy Laboratory). The panelists discussed their agencies' initiatives on the electric vehicle program. Also, the panelists highlighted the critical role of alternative fuel vehicle infrastructure in electrifying the transportation system.

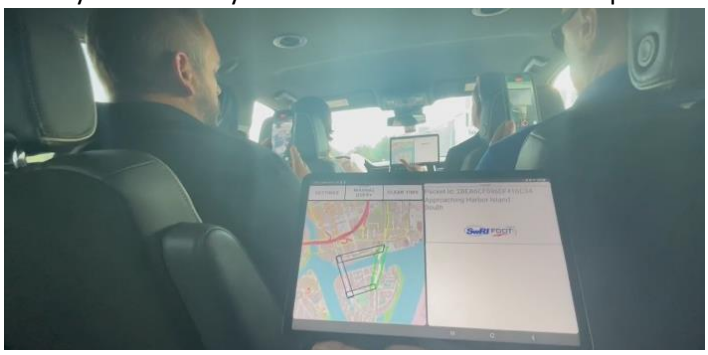
Panel Session on Alternative Fuel Vehicle Infrastructure

Panel Session on Emerging Multimodal Applications

FDOT's Airport Planning Manager, Nixon Harwell, moderated a panel discussion on Emerging Multimodal Applications. The panelists included Peter Vega (FDOT, District 2), Brian Gettinger (Flatiron), Brett Fabbri (Kodiak), and Simon West (Beep). The panelists discussed the different ways of solving congestion through multimodal transportation, including rail, transit, and autonomous trucks and shuttles. The panelists highlighted the role of multimodal transport in improving the mobility of people and goods, and improve safety across Florida's transportation system.

Vehicle-to-Everything Data Exchange Platform (V2X DEP) Workshop

FDOT, in collaboration with the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI), hosted a workshop on FDOT's Vehicle-to-Everything Data Exchange Platform (V2X DEP) at the 2023 FAV Summit. The workshop discussed how FDOT plans to make data available from its CAV and ITS infrastructure with the automobile Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) and third-party navigation service providers. It will provide situational alerts to motorists on the roadways via vehicles' onboard systems or navigation applications. FDOT's goal with the V2X DEP is to improve the safety and mobility of travelers across Florida and provide a starting point for the rest of the country. FDOT's V2X DEP is transforming the future through innovative, cutting-edge technology to improve the transportation experience for all road users. The workshop session was followed by a demonstration of how this information could be shared with motorists through roadways via vehicles' onboard systems or navigation applications.



Participant Riding a Demo Car