

**West Central Community Traffic Safety Team
Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2005**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Steve Diez. Introductions were made and the minutes were approved. Welcome to Len McCracken, the new Public Works Director in Citrus County. Congratulations to George Drobina and his bride on their recent marriage. Best Wishes ☺

TEAM BUILDING

Steve is working on a letter that will be sent to those who have not participated in CTST meetings for many months. Steve asked those present to check the list and eliminate names of personnel from their agency who no longer attend.

OLD PROBLEM LOCATIONS

Peter explained that there is now a 50 mph speed advisory sign added to the SCHOOL ENTRANCE sign on SR 44 at Seven Rivers Presbyterian Church. The speed limit on SR 44 is 60 mph in most areas. The church wanted a right turn lane installed, as it is difficult to make a right turn off SR 44 at Maylen Ave, and at the school driveway entrance. There have only been 2 crashes in several years, which do not warrant a turn lane, but the church can construct the turn lane through the permit process at their own expense.

NEW PROBLEM LOCATIONS

- Elgin Blvd – The beacons should be up by December. When the school flashing lights are installed, the speed limit will be reduced.
- Azora and Keysville – New school upgrades on Northcliff – Possibly extend to Landover.
- Landover and Northcliff – This area will be re-striped as part of the intersection improvement.
- California and Powell – Need school zone. The school board is working with the county.
- Chief Burch mentioned that people pulling out of a side street onto SR 44 into a school zone want static signs to warn motorists that they are now in a school zone.
- Gospel Island Bridge. Marian Scorza advised the detour will be put in place while the new bridge is being built. There will be no temporary bridge. People living on Pritchard Island are not happy with that solution, but DOT will work with the school transportation dept., EMS, Fire, and the Citrus SO. There will be about a 20 minute delay in picking up children for school bus routes. The project should take about 8 months. The presentation was made to approx. 150 residents. Many were satisfied that DOT had done well in communicating the plan to all agencies.

REPORT ON EVENTS OF OCTOBER

Sue reported that she completed a 2 hour staff training for the OB department at Seven Rivers Hospital. There were 8 nursing staff members in this CPS awareness class. Ten couples attended the monthly CPS class at Citrus Memorial Hospital. Of those, 4 contacted the Health Department for additional help installing the car seat prior to the birth of their child.

Lt. Doug Dodd of Citrus Sheriff's Office reported that bike helmet safety will be a focus of the Christmas Parade for Inverness. It will be Saturday, Dec. 10. He is in need of small give away items and candy to be given to kids on the parade route.

Kris' report for bike safety programs:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Function</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u># Attended – Age</u>
10-1	Bike Fest 04 Community Training	West Palm Beach	2 - Adults
10-4 to 10-22	Forest Ridge Ele. Ped/Bike/Bus Safety	Beverly Hills	752 – Pre K to 5 th Grade
10-9	Community Rodeo Bike Safety	Beverly Hills Civic	2 - Elementary
10-17	Fire Wellness Fair Bike Safety	Whispering Pines Park	12 – Parents & Children
10-23	Wal-Mart – Rodeo Bike Safety	Homosassa	15 – Elementary
10-28	Seven Rivers Christian Ped/Bike Safety	Lecanto	150 – K to 3 rd Grade
10-31	Halloween Event Pedestrian Safety	Beverly Hills Civic	25 – Parents & Children (958 Students to date)

HERNANDO COUNTY SO ENFORCEMENT REPORT – OCTOBER 2005

Traffic Initiative
Red Light Infraction /
Speed Enforcement
October 4, 2005

“National School Bus Safety Week
Oct. 17 – 21 2005
Daily 0600-1000 & 1300-1600

Response Type	Total
Traffic Citations	27
Verbal Warnings	11
Written Warnings	2
Parking Citations	2
Red Tag	1

Response Type	Total
Traffic Citations	79
Written Warnings	6
Verbal Warnings	18

“Put the Brakes on Fatalities”
October 10 - 14, 2005

Traffic Initiative District 1 Ops Plan 05-1003-4
Speeding Motorcycles
October 23 and October 30, 2005
Traffic Unit Participation

Response Type	Total
Traffic Citations	104
Written Warnings	12
Verbal Warnings	15
DUI Arrests	3

Response Type	Total
Traffic Citations	35
Written Warnings	3

Hernando County SO Activity for CPS

October 7, 2005 Bicycle Safety presentation at Holy Cross Lutheran Church
October 15, 2005 Traffic Safety presentation at Hernando Christian Academy
October 27, 2005 2 Traffic Safety presentations for HCSO Citizen's Academy (70 people)

Totals for October 2005

Response Type	Total
Traffic Stops	1087
Citations	1215
Accident Reports	152
DUI Arrests	30
Arrests - Other	54
Traffic Enforcement	26
Written Warnings	62

NEW BUSINESS

Peter Hsu distributed a handout on what makes a good safety project. He explained that the funding from the DOT can be used on city and county roadways for engineering, design, street lighting, adding paved shoulders, and turn lanes.

The Safe Routes to School program was discussed. There is an average of \$5,500,000 per year for the improvement of Safe Routes to School in Florida. 70% to 90% shall be used for infrastructure projects that will improve the ability to safely walk and bicycle to school. Ten (10% - 30 %) of these funds shall be used for non-infrastructure activities to encourage walking and bicycling to school. These funds will be distributed to the districts based on the relative share of enrollment in kindergarten through 8th grade. The CTSTs will gather information and make recommendations for prioritization of potential projects within their area. The prioritization should document and take into consideration the following:

1. Proximity to K thru 8 school (s)
2. History of pedestrian and or bicycle crashes along route.
3. Number of students walking or cycling to school along proposed routes without facilities.
4. Potential number of students who could walk or cycle to school if the route had facilities.
5. Locations that are actively participating in the statewide "Safe Ways to School" program, administered by the Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education at the University of Florida.
6. Adequate existing facilities (wide outside travel lanes vs designated bike lanes, narrow vs. wide sidewalks, traffic and pedestrian signal).
7. Proximity to other locations such as high schools, parks and play grounds or community centers.
8. Construction constraints need to be considered in prioritization, like availability of right-of-way, drainage, and utility conflicts.

Non-infrastructure related activities to encourage walking and bicycling to school include public awareness campaigns and outreach to press and community leaders, traffic education and

enforcement in the vicinity of schools, student sessions on bicycle and pedestrian safety, health and environment and funding for training, volunteers, and managers of safe routes to school programs.

Steve added that the Safe Ways to School projects using enhancement monies have to mitigate an existing problem.

Demian Miller with Tindale and Oliver gave a presentation on the Citrus County crash management system. Crystal River PD is using the TRACS program to make crash data available more efficiently to enforcement. It allows them to be able to retrieve crash reports to see what happened at a specific location. It shows patterns occurring such as the number of night time crashes or the red light running at an intersection. Hernando County is also using this system.

George asked who monitors the school bus drivers for traffic violations such as speeding. Bus drivers must follow the same traffic laws as for any other vehicle. Chief Burch stated that his agency does ticket bus drivers as they would ticket any other driver, and that the drivers are personally responsible for the citation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jeanette showed a sample copy of the "Recipes for the Road" booklet. It will be available by December for distribution. It contains recipes for non-alcoholic beverages from various restaurants in the 5 counties in our FDOT district.

Sue is providing a Renewal class for Child Passenger Safety technicians on Friday, Nov. 18 .It will be at the new Environmental Health Building in Lecanto from 8 am to 5 pm. It is for techs who have had their certification lapse, and wish to renew it.

Car seat safety awareness classes will start this month at Seven Rivers Hospital for the childbirth class. It is a half hour class once a month. Both hospitals in Citrus County are now participating in Child Passenger Safety education for parents-to-be from the Health Department.

Chief Burch has added a new DUI position at the Crystal River PD. He already has made 45 arrests this year. The department is providing a violator with their citation in an envelope addressed to the clerk of courts. The fine is listed on the front. He asked for DOT educational information such as the DUI or the red light running bookmarks. Any member who has traffic safety educational information should get it to Chief Burch to be included in the envelopes.

Steve discussed the problems that have been reported in the media regarding elderly drivers, and asked if the CTSTs should take a stand on this issue. Chief Burch said that all CTSTs need to have a unified approach. The law now says that after age 70, a vision test is required every 5 years, but no other testing is required. This issue will be brought up at the Jan. 9 statewide CTST meeting in Pinellas County. The legislative subcommittee can address the problem. Chief Burch said there is a need for programs for the elderly to improve driving skills, and operate a vehicle safely. Alternate transportation needs also need to be available for individuals who no longer drive, or they will continue to drive without a license.

There was discussion on the Printing of Traffic Reference Guide and the listing of Traffic School Providers. One vendor was chosen for the printing.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 2:35

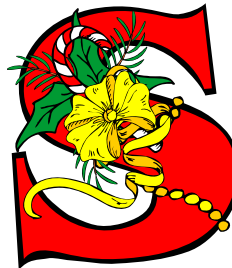
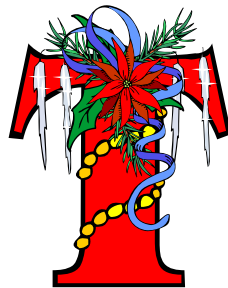
Respectfully submitted,
Sue Littnan
Secretary



The Next Meeting will be a Holiday Luncheon
at My Fair Lady Tea Room

5175 Mariner Blvd.
Spring Hill

Wednesday, December 14, 2005
12:30 pm



Please R.S.V.P. by Dec. 12th to Steve Diez – Hernando Co Planning – 352-754-4057, stevend@co.hernando.fl.us

Sue Littnan, Citrus Co Health Dept. – 352-726-1731 x 242,
susan_littnan@doh.state.fl.us

Or Jeanette Rouse – FDOT – 813-975-6256, jeanette.rouse@dot.state.fl.us

