

## West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Chair Steve Diez at 1:10 pm at the Hernando County Sheriff's office. The minutes were approved and introductions were made.

### OLD BUSINESS

Steve is working on a letter to send to those who have not attended a meeting of the CTST in the past 6 months or more. Jeanette will clean out names of persons who no longer attend. Joe Palminteri of Citrus SO discussed attendance at the CTST with Doug Dodd. They will work on a letter which will be endorsed by Sheriff Dawsey to be sent to engineering, traffic, and civic groups to encourage them to attend.



### PROBLEM LOCATIONS

1. US 98 and 491—No date set for flashing beacon. No realignment at this time.
2. Elgin Blvd—Signal will be on in a week or two. Road and signs at Challenger School not complete at entrance.
3. Elgin and Landover—need speed zone signs changed. Perhaps need a request from superintendent of schools to get this done, and also at California St.
4. Wellington and Mariner—Plans are 90% complete.
5. Turner Camp Road in Citrus—Citizen request for help with speeding. Joe P. indicated that speed limit is 35 mph. He will respond to citizen.
6. Northcliff and Landover—Going E. on Northcliff, it is difficult to make a turn onto Landover. Road on Northcliff has similar striping to Deltona.
7. Gospel Island Bridge—Reported on by Marian Scorza, PIO of the DOT. No temporary bridge. DOT will work with the EMS and SO for response times. School transportation will also be considered. The road will only be closed about 8 months. Construction to start maybe June or July 2006. There will be a public meeting Nov. 3 from 5pm to 7pm at Citrus Auditorium in Inverness—Hwy 41.

Representative Dean suggested having a temporary EMS station during construction. Sgt. Joe P. suggested priority one calls for the SO, structure fires, and Delta and Echo EMS calls be given priority.



### SEPTEMBER EVENTS REPORT

Peter will work with Citrus SO on bike helmet brochure. DOT will help produce for county.

Sgt. Joe P. reported on the TRACS meeting at SO office. The program will be installed and working as of today for in-house services. Data from 2004 and previous 2005 data will be added later.

Deputy Walker of Hernando SO had a four hour training in TRACS for all deputies. The program is up and running in cars too. They can scan Drivers License and print citations and warnings.

The Car Seat Safety Program received the 2006 DOT grant to provide 400 safety seats for children in the community. They are for financially eligible families at a cost of \$15.

A car seat safety class was provided for 6 students in the Teen Parent Program at WTI.

Sue also taught a technician certification class for Alachua County with Shands hospital staff.

- Peter is sending his emails to the new Secretary of the Department of Health, Mr. Francois. He will hope to coordinate efforts between the DOT and the DOH to reduce injury.
- Hernando SO provided a special enforcement campaign for "Put the Brakes on Fatalities" Oct. 10 - 14. Deputies will look for red light violators, speeders, aggressive drivers and seat belt infractions at the most dangerous intersections..

Traffic Initiatives for September included the following:

Traffic stops	1039
Citations	1093
Accident reports	143
DUI Arrests	20
Arrests-other	62
Traffic Enforcement	9
Written warnings	77

Hernando County SO --Child Passenger Safety activities for September included:

Safety Day at Walgreen's	Sept. 9
Traffic Safety for Preschoolers	Sept. 8
Kiwanis Kids Day / Ped Safety	Sept 10

- Kris Reinhard of Citrus SO reported on bike safety events of the month.

Crest School	118 students for bike safety education program
Safety Expo	100 participants
Inverness Primary	now 700 students in program
C.R. Middle	750 kids—

Kris used lollipops as an incentive for following the program. She related bike safety to car safety. If a student receives 3 citations while riding his bike, he can get held back from getting his drivers license until age 21.

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Kris worked with several groups already in Oct., ranging from 4 yr. olds in day care to 80 yr. olds for pedestrian safety. She had a request from the 55 Alive Driver Improvement instructors for the type of bike safety information they should teach. The high school bike curriculum has elements that can be used.

10-6	Upstate NY Club—Senior Pedestrian Safety—30 people
10-7	Small World Daycare—4 year olds—30 students
10-8	Inverness Christian School—pre-K to 12 <sup>th</sup> grade—80 students
10-10 to 14	Seven Rivers Christian School—Bike and Ped Safety Kgtn-8 <sup>th</sup> grade 280 students
10-15	Homosassa Wal-Mart-Bike rodeo for 50 kids
10-17	Citrus Spgs. Middle School bike safety for 6 <sup>th</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> graders—250 kids
10-22	Wal-Mart Super Center Inverness—Bike Rodeo 50 kids
10-27	North Oak Baptist –Bike Rodeo for 6-12 yr olds---60 kids
10-31to11-19	Forest Ridge Elementary K through 5 <sup>th</sup> grade Bike and Ped Safety -100 kids

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In Citrus County, the SO will work with the School Transportation Department for National School Bus Safety Week in Oct. Deputies will follow school buses to check on problem situations. They will also check drivers for red light running. Any violation will suspend the driver. A citation for red light running will cost a driver \$183.50 and 4 points as of Oct. 1, 2005.

Terry asked about drivers stopping for a school bus on a 4 way road. Sgt. Joe P. said that they must stop on roads without a raised median or barrier.

Jeanette reported on the statewide CTST Coalition meeting held in Sanford on Oct. 10th. There was a press conference for "Put the Brakes on Fatalities" day. Bookmarks are being developed for teen drivers with the new law changes, with an emphasis on the seat belt law.

Paulette Murrin reported for the "Step UP Florida" event, scheduled for Saturday, Feb 4, 2006. The flag will travel from Pasco County to the Citrus County line by way of the Suncoast Trail. Call Karen Gidden at the Health Department to participate.

Peter gave the fatality report for this year to date. Hernando and Citrus Counties are way below the fatality numbers of 2004. Hernando is 11 below and Citrus is 5 below the 2004 amount at this same time last year.

The "Safe Routes to School" effort needs community involvement and the help of parents to ensure there are safe ways for a child to walk to school. We need to overcome the idea that there are too many safety issues to permit kids to walk to school. Perhaps having one parent walk with a group or several children would help promote this effort.

Sgt. Joe P. also asked about the 5 – way intersection near Homosassa Elementary School. Kids come through all 5 streets to get to school. Need to check out this area.

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Littnan  
Secretary

**The next meeting is Wednesday, November 9, 2005  
At the Government Center in Lecanto.**



**Members Present:**

Mary Ann Blow	School System	352-666-0019
David Carr	FDOT Brooksville	352-754-6767
Steve Diez	Hernando Co Planning	352-754-4057
George Drobina	VFW 10209	352-527-5446
Bill Geiger	City of Brooksville	352-544-5430
Terry Hensley	FDOT, TIM	813-975-6259
Peter Hsu	FDOT, Safety	813-975-6251
Paulette Murrin	Hernando Co Health Dept	352-540-6800
Joe Palminteri	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488 x242
Kristen Reinhard	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Jeanette Rouse	FDOT, Safety	813-975-6256
James Walker	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Marian Scorza	FDOT,Public Information	813-975-6038