

West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team
Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 PM by Chair Steve Diez. Introductions were made and the minutes of the August meeting were approved. Steve will compose a letter to re-invite past members to attend the monthly meetings.

PROBLEM LOCATIONS

1. Hwy 98 and 491—No date set to install flashing beacon.
2. Elgin Blvd.—Turn lane is almost done. Signal to activate by 10/12/05
3. Elgin and Landover at Challenger School- location needs to have speed limits changed.
4. California and Powell Ave. has 2 schools in vicinity, but no school zone signs and no beacon. This may be because most kids are dropped off or bused. Steve will check as this is very dangerous with kids crossing this street.
5. Wellington and Mariner—Asked about the possibility of a signal at this location. The signal on Quality may be too close to have another one in this area.

ACTIVITIES OF AUGUST 2005

Steve Burch of Crystal River PD reported on the Aug 10 School Zone enforcement campaign. After a month of school, officers have issued 121 citations for speeding or failing to slow down in a school zone.

Sue reported on the results of the car seat inspections at the Early Head Start site. Twenty-eight seats were inspected during the 3-day check up. Only 3 seats were installed or used correctly. Of the 25 remaining seats, 9 had to be replaced as they were too old or damaged, or incorrect for the child's weight.

Sue provided a car seat safety class for 18 expectant parents at the prenatal class at Citrus Memorial Hospital. She also provided materials and "I Buckle Up" bracelets at the Back to School Safety event at Whispering Pines Park for 35 children.

Kris provided a bike safety program during the Back to School Safety event. Helmets were fit and the 35 kids got to practice safe bike riding.

Aug 16	Bike safety for 17- 4 & 5 year olds at United Methodist Church
Aug.23	New Testament Christian School
Aug 24	86 K-12 students participated in a bike safety program at Floral Park

The Hernando Sheriff's Office had a DUI checkpoint on Aug 26 during the Labor Day Enforcement wave with the following results:

- 153 stopped for inspection
- 51 diverted for enforcement
- 8 DUI investigations
- 2 DUI arrests
- 11 traffic citations
- 3 criminal traffic citations

For the monthly “10th of the month” initiative, the Hernando Sheriff’s Office conducted School Bus stop enforcement and School zone enforcement.

65 traffic stops	38 traffic stops
51 citations	29 citations
7 written warnings	1 written warning
6 verbal warnings	7 verbal warnings

New trading cards are available for the Crystal River PD and Hernando SO. Peter also offered to bring safety educational flyers, book marks, etc for CTST agencies.

Due to Hurricane Katrina, the Buckle Up Florida awards banquet was cancelled. Pinellas County CTST won the award for the CTST of the Year. Out of the 57 CTSTs in the state, only 7 applied for this award. Hernando County SO won 3rd place for their size department!!

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Steve Burch of Crystal River PD reported on a DOT grant obtained by his department for DUI enforcement.

Terry Hensley of DOT reported on the Traffic Incident Management Teams (TIMS). The goal of the team is to clear roads as quickly as possible after a crash. He also explained that if there is no injury in a crash, the vehicles should move off the roadway. There is an upcoming advertising promotion to get the word out. There will be billboards, and ads at airports, motels etc. advising motorists to “Move Over.”

Peter explained a crash data tracking program available for Sheriff’s Offices and Police Departments. They have real time traffic data. The TRACS system makes traffic enforcement more efficient and provides quick information for SOs and PDs. He also told agencies that there is money available for PSAs and other safety promotion during the duration of a highway safety construction project, such as lighting on US 19. Money is available for construction, signals etc. to improve crash reduction if crash data is provided.

Lt. Doug Dodd of Citrus Sheriff’s Office gave an update on Safety Town. The Board of County Commissioners gave approval to find a site. There are three potential parcels of 15 acres each that would be suitable. He estimated about 18 months before the project is completed. The Child Advocacy Center has partnered with the SO, and will be housed at the same location. Donors are providing funds for the buildings, such as a bank, Home Depot, etc., that will be built to scale.

Sue is assisting with a 4 day certification class for new child passenger safety technicians in Alachua County. There are 25 students including the Tax Collector and 4 of his staff. She invited the Citrus SO and Hernando SO to work together to offer a joint class for their agencies. Staff from the Hernando Health Department or other agencies are welcome to participate. As of now, Citrus County has 5 active technicians who are currently certified. Sue will be sending out the date of the one day refresher course for any previously certified technician who would like to be recertified and active.

Kris provided the following locations for her September bike safety classes and events.

- 9-6 & 7 15 Crystal River Middle school - free helmets to kids and helmet fitting.
- 9-7 Crystal River Primary- one free helmet to each child riding to school. Also, Kris was on the morning show with Deputy Scott Farmer, taking about the new helmet law.
- 9-8 Free helmets for 50 K-10th graders.
- 9-13 Crystal River United Methodist - 11 three year olds.
- 9-19 - 9-23 Crest School - 80 students
- 9-24 Safety Expo at Crystal River Mall
- 9-26 -10-28 Inverness Primary School - 700 students
- 9-27 - 10-5 Crystal River Middle school for 150 students

There was no further business. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Littnan
Secretary

The next meeting is at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, October 12 at the Hernando County Sheriff's Office

Members Present:

Mary Ann Blow	School System	352-666-0019
Steven Burch	Crystal River PD	352-795-4241
David Carr	FDOT, Brooksville	352-797-5700
Ralph Cotier	WCFL Driver Improvement	352-726-8862
Shirlee Cox	AAA Auto Club South	352-683-3446
Corey Davidson	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-736-4488
Steven Diez	Hernando Co Planning	352-754-4057
Tracy DiMuro	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
George Drobina	VFW 10209	352-666-0019
Karen Gidden	Hernando Co Health Dept	352-540-6800
Terry Hensley	FDOT Traffic Incident Mgmt	813-975-6259
Peter Hsu	FDOT Safety	813-975-6251
Doug Dodd	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Sue Littnan	Citrus Co Health Dept	352-726-1731x242
Joe Palminteri	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Kristen Reinhard	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Stephen Rinaldi	Citrus Co Fire Services	352-527-5406
Herman Sinemus	AARP 55 Alive	352-344-1901
James Walker	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Charles Lucente	AARP	352-726-0753