

**West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team
February 9, 2005 Meeting Minutes**

Chairperson Steve Diez called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM. Introductions were made and the minutes of the January meeting were approved as submitted.

PROBLEM LOCATIONS

- 1) There still is no posted speed signage on Spring Hill Dr. and Sun Coast Parkway.
- 2) Tracy said that a resident is asking for a flashing beacon at Cedar Lane and Powell. They are starting a crime watch program there.
- 3) Peter said that DOT can fund street lighting for a local road if at least 1/3 of the crashes are at night.
- 4) Citrus Way and Hwy. 98—The design is complete for the flashing beacon.
- 5) Mondon Hill Road—The shoulder and embankment being worked on to improve curve with work being done by Hernando County staff.

JANUARY EVENTS

- 1) Kris postponed the cub scout pack bike program until later this month.
- 2) Sue reported that 17 adults attended car seat safety classes in Jan. and 13 safety seats and boosters were provided. A car seat safety class was conducted for 15 people in the OB prenatal class at Citrus Memorial Hospital.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve reported that there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand opening of the SR 50 Trailhead. It will be on Saturday, Feb. 19, at 10:00 am. A casual bike ride will follow. He also reported that Hillsborough County now has 2 full time bike deputies to patrol the trail and conduct community policing around the area.

Karen reported that the Hernando County Health Department is involved in the Feb. 22 relay for "Step Up Florida" along with the Sheriff's Office, bike clubs, JROTC, students, and fire rescue personnel. They will hand off the flag to a Citrus County team at Hwy 98 trailhead for this wellness effort. The Citrus County Health Department will have a "Step Up" celebration on Feb. 23 in Floral City Park.

Kris reported on upcoming bike safety / education classes for February.

2-3	Comm. Patrol #6 – Senior Ped. Safety	Crystal Glen	25 - Adults
2-19	Cub Scout Pack #571	Dunnellon	60 – 1 st to 5 th Graders
2-14	Grace Bible/Awana Bicycle Safety Activities	Homosassa	30 – youth group- asst ages

2-15 /17	Lecanto Middle	Lecanto	100 – 6 th , 7 th , & 8 th Graders
2-17	Explorers Post #331 PT/Bicycle Safety	Lecanto	10 – High School
2-22	Koala Tee Academy	Floral City	20 – 4 year olds
2-23	Step Up Florida Koala Tee – 2 mile leg	Floral City	13 – 4 year olds
2-24	Epilepsy Foundation Annual Meeting	Tampa	25 – Adults
2-26	Grace Bible Church Rodeo	Homosassa	30 – youth group

Sue provided the following activities for Child Passenger Safety Week—Feb. 13-19. 2,500 letters went out to all families of children in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and First Grade in Citrus County Schools, reminding them to have their child's safety seat inspected and to use a booster seat for kids who weigh 40 to about 80 pounds. An article in the Citrus Chronicle also informs parents of the need for a booster seat. A picture of a 5 year old in a booster accompanied the article for Child passenger Safety Week.

Carlo Daleo reported that he and Sue will be guests on radio station WWJB on Wednesday, Feb. 16, at 1:00 to answer questions on car seat safety. He also is involved in an enforcement effort targeting red light running and tailgating.

Dick Poling asked if the CTST would like to get involved with the "Put the Brakes on Fatalities" Program. Oct. 10 is the national observance. He would like to see the 10th of each month used to promote the program instead of only once a year. Ideas for promotion are PSAs aired on the 10th of the month, and distribution of literature at the fair. The kick-off is April 10th at the fair. Hernando would be the only county doing a monthly campaign. Jeanette proposed the CTST doing an event.

Peggy Brooks is a new crime analyst with the Hernando SO. Her project is collecting traffic data. The DOT could work with Hernando County to assist her with this project.

The Hernando Sheriff's Office will now do traffic as global rather than district. The 15 traffic officers are supervised by one commander. Formerly, they were under 3 commanders.

Peter ordered 250 additional white enforcement lights for distribution. Tracy said that Highway 19 and Spring Hill Drive still needs them installed at that intersection.

Peter reported that DOT has dollars to help fix curves in roadways where there have been run off the road crashes. Counties need to ask for assistance. He also showed crash related data for both counties for year to year totals of alcohol related crashes, right of way crashes and others.

Tracy talked about the kick-off for the CAT training, which is Collision Avoidance Training for teen drivers. Staff from the SO will attend training as instructors by a private company. This program will be free for teens. She is looking toward 2 classes of 8 to 12 students per month. There will be one night of classroom work and a day on the road. It will teach teen drivers how to react with poor road conditions, etc.

Peter has the trading cards ready for the Crystal River PD. The Fire Dept and EMS will be done in the next photo shoot.

Peter and Jeanette reminded members that the DOT 402 safety grants are available for 2006. The application for the concept paper is available online through www.ctst.org with instructions. The concept paper is due on or before March 31, 2005.

Incident management teams are formed for recovery from traffic back ups that occur after a crash or spill or other highway incident. Traffic Management Centers (TMCs) are being developed for quicker response and to help reduce secondary crashes that occur when traffic is backed up at a crash scene.

Sgt. Joe Palminteri thanked the DOT for use of message boards in Citrus County.

AARP provides training in their classes for vision/reaction time for older drivers. Students in AARP classes are reminded that if they have LASIKS surgery and no longer require glasses for driving, they need to have their vision retested at the motor vehicle office and have the restriction removed. Also, snowbirds need to be sure their drivers license is valid and doesn't need renewal while they are here in Florida.

Peter offered to produce a flyer or bookmark with driving tips to educate drivers who have vision issues. It would be a good community project. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Littnan
Secretary

The next meeting is on March 9
at the Citrus County Health Department in Lecanto.
It is in the main floor conference room.

Members Present:

William Boettger	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Cristi Brown	Hernando Co Risk Management	352-754-4429
David Carr	FDOT, Brooksville	352-797-5700
Ralph Cotier	WCFL Driver Improvement	352-726-8862
Purce Dahlin	AARP	352-799-3658
Carlo Daleo	Hernando County Sheriff's Office	352-754-6850
Steven Diez	Hernando County Planning	352-754-4057x126
Tracy DiMuro	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Bill Geiger	City of Brooksville	352-544-5430
Karen Gidden	Hernando Co Health Department	352-754-4067x149
Terry Hensley	Law Enforcement Liaison	727-367-9633
Peter Hsu	FDOT Safety	813-975-6251
Sue Littnan	Citrus Co Health Department	352-726-1731x242
Joe Palminteri	Citrus Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Denny Pedrick	Traffic Incident Management	813-975-6259
Kristen Reinhard	Citrus County Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Jeanette Rouse	FDOT Safety	813-975-6256
Herman Sinemus	AARP 55 Alive	352-344-1901
Patrick Taylor	Hernando County Fire	352-540-4353
Richard Poling	Florida Engineering Society	352-686-7451
Peggy Brooks	Hernando County Sheriff's Office	352-688-5000
James Walker	Hernando County Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830