

**West Central Community Traffic Safety Team**  
**March 12, 2003 Meeting Minutes**

Vice-chair, Mike Schlaudraff called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM. Introductions were made and the minutes were approved. Steve Diez relieved Mike as Chair.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Problem Locations

Keith met with the principal of Citrus High School regarding students crossing Hwy 44. School representatives attended this meeting to hopefully get a solution to this problem. DOT will not put up a flashing warning light as there is not enough distance to the traffic signal at the intersection on Hwy 44. A sign with an arrow pointing to the crosswalk at the intersection can be installed along with newly painted crosswalk signs. Dave Carr will work on this road sign. Knowing that kids will not follow those rules, the school representatives asked to have the speed lowered on Hwy 41/44. Keith explained the speed study, in which the speed is set by measuring the speed at which 85% of the drivers comfortably drive. If a speed study is done on Hwy 41/44, the speed could end up higher if that is how the flow of 85% of the traffic is measured. For now, the sign and road painted warnings will be the first step in the solution. In checking the speed on Hwy 41/44 near the high school, it slows from 45 to 35 and then to 30. A 10 MPH step down in speed is the maximum allowable at one time. Terry made a motion to have IPD monitor speeders on Hwy 41/44 near Citrus HS subject to resources (SO and FHP), and move the "School" message. It was seconded, voted on and approved.

- Hwy 44 and 486 in Citrus - Peter said the signal timing engineer is coming to the area and will look at 5 or 6 different sites.
- Hwy 50 at Mitchell in Hernando - Southbound signal not working properly.
- Hwy 19 and 98 in Citrus - The state has done a traffic count. Fatalities have occurred there. Mike said that Aero Med uses that area for landing. A signal will be installed there eventually. The area is now being resurfaced. A flashing signal will be upgraded to full signal.
- Hwy 19 and Cypress - In order to correctly check a timing request, the time of day and the direction need to be listed on the request. At each signal there may be 25 different timing areas, depending on time of day and direction of traffic. Timing changes several times a day depending on the amount of traffic.
- Hwy 41 and Lake Lindsey Rd - The broken pavement has been repaired. Radius needs to be widened for large vehicles.

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- Hwy 19 north of 50 - David said this area would be resurfaced maybe in 2005. Patching crews are fixing this area and temporary striping and new reflective markers are being installed.
- Hwy 19 and 495 in Crystal River - According to the SO, the pavement is delaminating. The Southbound center lane has a 4x4 ft. section that is already lifted.

OTHER BUSINESS--Peter is ready to order the white enforcement lights and needs to know how many are needed in each community. Citrus SO got approval from the Sheriff to obtain lights. They need to let Robbie Smith at the County know the locations. The following amounts of lights were requested by the law enforcement agencies.

4 lights—Citrus SO

6 lights—Crystal River PD

4 lights—Inverness PD

Keith said the judges need to buy into the program in order for it to be effective. If possible, take the judge(s) out and show them how it works in order to convince them. The county pays for wiring the light. The cost for DOT per intersection is \$300.00 based on 4 lights per intersection.

It takes 6 weeks to order lights. DOT has no manpower to install the lights. They only need accountability as to where agencies will put lights. Police and engineering in each city know the dangerous intersections.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Sue reported on the CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK event. A car seat check was held on Feb 15 at WTI. Out of 23 safety seats inspected, only 2 were used correctly. Seven needed to be replaced, and the rest needed adjustments. Thanks to the following CPS technicians for help with this event: Cpl. Ian Hay of Crystal River PD, Bill Villanova of the Citrus Schools Transportation Dept. and Mary Crespo, from Sumter Health Dept.

**There is still space in the March 27,28 April 3,4 Child Passenger Safety Class for new Technicians. Contact Sue for information.**

*The Readers Digest* had an excellent article on Hidden Dangers in your vehicle. It referred to all of the loose items in our cars or trucks that can become projectiles in the event of a crash.

Terry attended the Lifesavers Conference in Chicago March 9-11. He was surprised at the number of new child safety seats displayed. He also discussed traffic cameras. He saw a display from ACS Company, the largest supplier of traffic cameras. Installing these cameras in is supposed to save 40% of the enforcement budget. The cameras can also do school zone enforcement. Also discussed was a go-cart like vehicle that simulates impaired driving. It is a \$5,000 teaching tool for schools. Students drive on a course and the vehicle simulates slowed reaction times.

The February wave had 100% participation in Citrus County !! It also had the lowest amount of reported data since the beginning of Wave reporting.

Terry gave awards to Crystal River PD and Inverness PD for Wave participation. !!

Just a reminder---The Safety grant concept papers are due in Tallahassee by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Jeanette showed the Fatal Vision goggles that are available for use. She has the starter kit that has day and night goggles that simulate the various levels of impairment.

The new "move over" law has a fine of \$90. It is a moving violation.

Terry discussed the major enforcement effort with Motor Carrier Compliance in Polk County. They have the authority to pull over trucks and bring them to a checkpoint. They have so much more authority over truckers and are a good resource. Motor Carrier can impound a vehicle. They also have a huge mobile command unit. Troy Thompson is the contact person with MCC.

Sheriff Dawsey is doing PSA's on the zero tolerance for speeders in Citrus County.

Steve gave April 26 as the date for the opening of the Suncoast Trail. All 2-wheel vehicles and inline skates are welcome. He also informed us that in Georgia, the sidewalks are called the auto recovery zone. Trees cannot be planted in the strip between the road and the sidewalk, because they may damage cars.----Strange but true. Steve also mentioned the legislation that will possibly require folks over the age of 80 to have yearly vision testing to keep their driver's license.

As there was no more business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 PM. The next meeting will be Wednesday, April 9, at the Hernando County Sheriff's Office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Littnan  
Secretary

Members Present:

David Carr	FDOT, Brooksville	352-797-5700
Sgt. Lanny Corlew	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Ralph Cotier	WCFL Driver Improvement	352-726-8862
Keith Crawford	FDOT Safety	813-975-6255
Chad Doyle	Inverness Police Department	352-726-2121
Terry Hensley	Law Enforcement Liaison	727-367-9633
Peter Hsu	FDOT Safety	813-975-6251
Michael Junker	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Sue Littnan	Citrus Co Health Department	352-726-1731x242
Paulette Murrin	Hernando Co Health Dept	352-754-4067x107
Rucell Nesmith	Hernando Co Bus Transport.	352-797-7003
Kristen Reinhard	Citrus Co Environ. Health	352-527-5293
Jeanette Rouse	FDOT Safety	813-975-6256
Donna Young	Citrus Co School Board	352-726-1931
Delio Oberlander	Citrus Co Health Dept	352-527-5293
Tom Hall	Florida Highway Patrol	800-500-1240x158
Brian J. Coleman	Crystal River Police Dept	352-795-4241
Phillip Gaffnew	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-2241
Mike Mullen	Citrus High School	352-726-2241
William Villanova	Citrus County School Board	352-746-0681