

**West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team**  
**August 13, 2003 Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Steve Diez called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Introductions were made and the minutes of the July 9, 2003 meeting were approved.

Vernon Waldron was introduced as a new Child Passenger Safety Technician in Hernando County. Katrena West is new to the Citrus County Bike Safety program. Kim Herrmann, of the Florida Traffic Safety Resource Center also attended. Welcome, Vern, Katrena, and Kim !

**OLD BUSINESS**

Hernando County is willing to investigate the use of the white lights to help stop red light running. The engineering dept. needed to know what law enforcement wanted. Citrus County engineering has not yet accepted the installation of the white lights. More discussion is needed. Jeanette provided the dates of Red Light Running Week, which starts August 30.

**EVENT REPORTS (This is a new monthly addition to the agenda and minutes. Please report any events and activities from your agency at monthly meetings. This gives an accurate record of events for our CTST.)**

1. During Hernando County Bike Week, Steve taught a one-day session on bike safety and repaired bikes, gave out helmets for 20 kids who attended.
2. Steve and Kris attended a 3-day Statewide Bike Ped conference in Clearwater.
3. Kris provided bike safety instructions at 2 weeklong camps. at the Boys and Girls Club in Crystal River and at a camp held at the Auditorium.
4. Sue attended a meeting of NOCA (Network of Citrus Agencies) and provided an update on the Citrus County Child Passenger Safety Program for 30 members.
5. Kris did a 4 min. PSA on Key TV to demonstrate bike helmet use and bike safety.
6. Sue did a 30 min interview on Key TV to promote booster seat use for kids 40 to 80 lbs. And explain the Citrus County Child Passenger Safety Program at the Health Dept.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Steve and Jeanette discussed starting a bike ped program and she said that she is looking to begin with 3 schools. Kris recommended providing a "core" of helmets free to each of these schools. When schools sell helmets at a low cost, the extra funding from sales can be used to purchase additional bike safety materials needed for the school.

Kris will have a 3<sup>rd</sup> bike trailer this year and an additional set of bikes for a total of 92 bikes, including 2 adaptive bikes. She has distributed over 4,000 helmets through her grant program plus those ordered by each participating school.

Peter encouraged law enforcement officers and local traffic engineers to refer unsafe and problem locations to the DOT. There is an additional \$5 million in construction dollars available through DOT. This funding is available for city, county and state roads. The funding must be used for construction and to improve areas where crashes have occurred.

The 402 safety grants from DOT are focused on public outreach and education.

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

Kris reported that the bike safety programs will be back in the Citrus County Schools after Labor Day. Katrena West will be assisting Kris with the Bike Safety program.

Tracy DiMuro asked if there was a source to find the number of Florida drivers who are insured or uninsured. This data is hard to validate as too many drivers get insurance and drop it after one or two premiums are paid. In Dist. 2 there will be safety checks for insurance violations. Steve Diez reported on the Road II class in Madison, FL. This class is designed to teach many bike repair techniques, like how to fix chains, etc. Bike Fest 2003 will be October 16-19 in Madison. This is a national bike rally with workshops, clinics and meetings on bicycling.

The National Walk to School Day is Oct 2. Kris will have one participating school in Citrus County. Steve will try to get a school to participate in Hernando County.

Tracy starts teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> graders a classroom-based bike safety class. It is a 3-week program in all elementary schools. The Hernando deputies are teaching the hands-on portion of bike safety.

### **OPEN FORUM**

Steve brought up the issue of crossing guard training. In Hernando County, they are certified civilians. The Sheriff's Office retrains them every year. In Citrus County, the civilian guards are trained by the SO and also Crystal River PD and Inverness PD train the guards for their communities.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) training is a 40 hour course. It is used by communities in developing safe buildings through lighting, roadway design, height of shrubs and trees, etc. Safety issues are determined prior to construction. Tracy DiMuro is taking this class for Hernando County. It is offered through the Attorney General's office. Tracy can also go into homes FREE of charge and do a security check. This service is offered through the SO. Engineering departments can include elements of the CPTED program.

Steve explained that older drivers get their license renewed for 7 years, and only have their eyes checked for acuity. He would like to see larger, clearer signs to assist older drivers. There is some training available to senior drivers through AARP and the Sheriff's Office.

Kim Herrmann of the Florida Traffic Safety Resource Center offered materials available on their web site at [www.kidseat.org](http://www.kidseat.org). Brochures are available on child passenger safety, teen drivers, and bike, ped safety. Information is available in English, Spanish, and Creole for most topics. She also told us that AAA would no longer be the certifying body for Child Passenger Safety technicians as of Dec. 31, 2003. Another as yet unnamed agency will take over from AAA.

Chad Doyle of Inverness PD would like to know when the flashing light at Inverness middle school will start working, since school has already started. Peter will check on it.

Steve will check on SLOW signs on Coronado Street at J D Floyd Elementary School.

There was no other business. The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Littnan  
Secretary

The next meeting is on Wednesday, September 10, 2003  
Citrus County Government Center  
1:00 PM

Bring a co-worker or interested member of the community

Members Present:

Sgt. Lanny Corlew	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Chris Culbertson	Inverness Police Department	352-726-2121
Steven Diez	Hernando County Planning	352-754-4057x126
Tracy DiMuro	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Chad Doyle	Inverness Police Department	352-726-2121
George Drobina	VFW Post 10209	352-688-8244
Gloria Fribley	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Bill Geiger	City of Brooksville	352-544-5430
Terry Hensley	District 7 Law Enforcement Liaison	727-367-9633

Peter Hsu	FL Dept of Transportation	813-975-6251
Sue Littnan	Citrus Health Department	352-726-1731x242
Paulette Murrin	Hernando Co Health Department	352-754-4067x107
Kristen Reinhard	Citrus Co Environmental Health	352-527-5293
Jeanette Rouse	FL Department of Transportation	813-975-6256
Vernon Weldon	We Remember, Inc.	352-596-6200
Katrena West	Citrus Co Health Department	352-527-0068x227
Scott Bierwiler	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830x402
Kim Herrmann	FL Traffic Safety Resource Center	1-800-KIDSEAT