

West Central Florida Community Traffic Safety Team Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2003

Kris Reinhard called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM. Introductions were made and the minutes of the previous meeting approved.

Kris showed the bike safety PSA done at the Key Training Center TV station. Rucell Nesmith of Hernando Schools Transportation Dept reported that crashes have occurred with school buses due to people running red lights.

PROBLEM LOCATIONS

Peter reported that the intersection of Highway 19 and Suffolk Terrace in Citrus County has had fatalities. A traffic count showed that the volume is not high enough to warrant a signal. According to Sgt. Joe Palminteri, most crashes are from the median, as a violation of right of way and human error. There is the possibility of closing the median break and sending traffic to McKinley for a U turn.

Rucell asked why the 35 mph speed at the Elem School was now back up to 55 mph after school started. According to the SO, there is no pedestrian traffic and only temporary vehicle traffic at the start and end of the school day.

A question was raised about the 2 lane only road at J.D. Floyd School on Coronado in Hernando County. The school board would not add lanes to ease traffic as it would be at their expense and too costly.

Peter has an order for white enforcement lights at 20 locations in Hernando County. The sheriff's office in Citrus County will approach the highway dept. to discuss the installation in Citrus County. The SO does want the lights. Peter suggested that one light be installed as a test or pilot project to show the Citrus Highway dept. how it works.

REPORT ON EVENTS

1. Kris provided the bike safety class for 300 students at Rock Crusher Elementary and 300 at Citrus Springs Elem. She trained 15 volunteers at a bike rodeo. October 2 was Walk to School Day. Kris highlighted bike, ped, and Halloween safety for a 3 week period during Oct. as there are no walkers at her present school location.
2. The "NO ZONE" truck from Commercial Carrier was provided for 300 students in high school driver ed. classes, teaching them that truck drivers cannot see a vehicle on the left or right side that is in the driver's blind spot or No Zone.
3. Sue provided a car seat safety awareness class for 6 grandparents who are raising their grandchildren.

NEW BUSINESS

Tracy DiMuro asked for literature on any changes in driving laws for elder drivers. Peter and Jeanette referred her to the NHTSA.dot.gov website for information. Brochures can be ordered free of charge.

Citrus County has hired a consultant to study county highway improvements. Peter would like to refer the consultant to Sgt. Joe Palminteri of the Citrus SO and Sgt. Dave DeCarlis of the Crystal River PD for crash reports.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Terry Hensley, Law Enforcement Liaison, reported that Nov 21 through Dec 31 is a combined seat belt enforcement and impaired driving effort. If a law enforcement agency is already scheduling an event within this time frame, please promote it with the name of this combined WAVE and report statistics. Other counties can contact the DOT to use message boards to promote events.
2. Sue is providing a demonstration at the new Wal-Mart on Oct 9 to promote car seat safety and participating in a safety fair on Oct. 11 with the Citrus SO.
3. Kris is going to Madison, FL for Bike Fest 2003 on Oct 15-19. She will receive a DOT award as the Bike Safety Educator of the Year. Congratulations, Kris !
4. Rucell mentioned the upcoming School Bus Safety Week where students will practice evacuations and have bus safety programs in their classrooms.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / OPEN FORUM

1. Sgt. Lanny Corlew said that a local TV channel is showing a PSA clip on the Move Over Law. It is also being shown at movie theatres and announced on radio stations.
2. Kris will receive a \$97,000 grant for bike ped safety education in Citrus County from the DOT. This is the 3rd year of her bike safety grant.
3. Sgt. Palminteri reported on the "Drive Danger Free" program from the Citrus SO. The program is in the 3rd quarter of the yearlong project, and has exceeded the goal of reducing crashes by 10% for the year.
4. Jeanette reminded everyone about projectiles in vehicles. Any item that is sitting on the seat, dashboard or floor of a vehicle is a possible projectile in a crash. Secure loose objects in a bag or in the trunk.

5. Peter said a 6-month study on red light running showed the effects of the enforcement light reduced red light running by 50%.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Littnan
Secretary

The next meeting is Wed. November 12, 2003
at the Citrus County Government Center.
1:00 PM

Members Present:

Sgt. Lanny Corlew	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
Ralph Cotier	WCFL Driver Improvement	352-726-8862
David DeCarlis	Crystal River Police Dept	352-795-4241
Tracy DiMuro	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-754-6830
George Drobina	VFW 10209	352-688-8244
Bill Geiger	City of Brooksville	352-544-5430
Terry Hensley	District 7 - Law Enforcement Liaison	727-367-9633
Peter Hsu	FDOT, Safety	813-975-6251
Sue Littnan	Citrus Co Health Department	352-726-1731x242
Paulette Murrin	Hernando Co Health Department	352-754-4067x107
Bob Morel	Commercial Carrier Corp	352-796-5145
Rucell Nesmith	Hernando Co Bus Transportation	352-797-7003
Bala Padmanabhan	Greenhorne & O'Mara	727-576-0402
Joe Paliminteri	Citrus Co Sheriff's Office	352-726-4488
Kristen Reinhard	Citrus Co Environmental Health	352-527-5293
Jeanette Rouse	FDOT, Safety	813-975-6256
Katrena West	Citrus Co Health Department	352-527-5406
George Smith	Hernando Co Sheriff's Office	352-688-5000
Donald Gregory	Commercial Carrier Corp	352-796-5145