

What Makes a “Good” Potential Safety Project for FDOT Safety Funding?

The following is presented to give those working with Community Traffic Safety Teams an idea of what the District Safety Office requires in order to consider a project for the Florida Department of Transportation Safety Work Program.

- ✓ Safety Projects address a specific crash related issue or potential safety problem. Safety Projects must have predictable expectations of preventing or reducing injuries and fatalities.
- ✓ Safety Projects are normally accomplished in a relatively short time frame. The Florida Department of Transportation's goal is “concept to construction” in three years or less. It is not the purpose of the Safety Program to address major construction or reconstruction issues. Major issues that require significant right of way or environmental mitigation are best left to local Metropolitan Planning Organizations or County Commissions.
- ✓ Safety Projects are normally low cost (less than \$500,000), with a goal of saving the citizens of Florida \$2 in crash related cost for every \$1 spent on the safety improvement.
- ✓ In addition to the state road system, Safety Projects can be considered for any city street or county road. These are generally identified by data used in the analysis of Community Traffic Safety Team issues.
- ✓ Examples of past Safety Projects are: adding left turn lanes to reduce rear end crashes, adding traffic signals to reduce angle crashes, installing sidewalks to give pedestrians and school children an alternative from walking in the roadway, street lighting and adding raised reflective pavement markers to help with night driving, resurfacing to correct slippery pavement, adding paved shoulders to help reduce run off the road crashes, and removing fixed object hazards. This is not intended to be a complete list. Any concept that has the potential to reduce crashes can be considered.
- ✓ All projects have to be prioritized by the Florida Department of Transportation District Safety Office in light of other safety projects being considered. Each project will be judged on a case-by-case basis based on its merits.
- ✓ Since all projects are competing for very limited safety funds, sometimes not every location can be accommodated in this program. Local jurisdictions will still have to fund their own projects in many cases.