



TPO Board Safety Action Plan Workshop
Marion County Growth Services Building Training Room
2710 E. Silver Springs Boulevard, Ocala, FL 34471

September 27, 2021
1:30 PM

AGENDA

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PROOF OF PUBLICATION**
- 4. SAFETY ACTION PLAN OVERVIEW**
 - A. [Project Summary – Page 2](#)**
 - B. [Partnership List – Page 15](#)**
- 5. FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (FDOT)
OFFICE OF SAFETY**
- 6. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limited to 2 minutes)**
- 7. BOARD MEMBER PARTNERSHIP DISCUSSION**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

All meetings are open to the public, the TPO does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability and family status. Anyone requiring special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or requiring language assistance (free of charge) should contact Liz Mitchell, Title VI/Nondiscrimination Coordinator at (352) 438-2634 or liz.mitchell@marioncountyfl.org forty-eight (48) hours in advance, so proper accommodations can be made.

Pursuant to Chapter 286.0105, Florida Statutes, please be advised that if any person wishes to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the above meeting, they will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.



TO: Board Members

FROM: Rob Balmes, Director

RE: Safety Action Plan Workshop

Summary

The TPO is planning to invest in the development of a Safety Action Plan to serve as a resource to improving transportation safety throughout Marion County. The Action Plan is envisioned as a collaborative process involving citizens and stakeholders, private and public partners, and state agencies. The title of the Action Plan is **Commitment to Zero: An Action Plan for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion**.

The purpose of **Commitment to Zero** is to bring together the Ocala Marion community and collaborate in the development of an Action Plan to improve the safety of our transportation system. The Action Plan will be focused on four key areas:

- Education and Awareness
- Public and Partner Engagement
- Safety Analysis
- Action Planning

A short overview of the Action Plan major components will be shared at the workshop meeting prior to the board member discussion regarding public and partner engagement.

If you have any questions, please contact me at: 438-2631.



A transportation system that supports growth, mobility, and safety through leadership and planning
Marion County • City of Belleview • City of Dunnellon • City of Ocala



COMMITMENT TO ZERO



An Action Plan  for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion



An Action Plan >>> for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion

Commitment to Zero Cornerstones

- Education and Awareness
- Public and Partner Engagement
- Safety Analysis
- Action Planning


**COMMITMENT
TO ZERO**



An Action Plan  for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion

Education and Awareness

- The Safety Story of Ocala/Marion County

Safety is a vital component to our lives and to how we get around Marion County, whether by car, truck, motorcycle, bus, scooter, wheelchair, foot or bike.

The benefits realized from greater safety on our transportation network translate to safer roadways and intersections, reduced fatalities and injuries, improved mobility and less stressful travel experiences.

In Marion County In 2020, there were a total of...¹

8,425 Crashes	108 Fatalities	300 Serious Injuries
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Of the **8,425** crashes, **377** resulted in property damage² of over **\$25,000**¹

What Can We Do To Improve Safety?

1. Don't Drive Distracted



In 2020, there were 557 distracted driver crashes in Marion County. During that same year, there were over 48,000 across the state of Florida.⁵

2. Don't Drive Drowsy



Driving after going more than 20 hours without sleep is the equivalent of driving with a blood-alcohol concentration of 0.08% - the U.S. legal limit⁶

3. Obey All Speed Limits



In 2017, speeding was a contributing factor in 26% of all traffic fatalities in the U.S.⁷

4. Wear Your Seat Belt



Among drivers and front-seat passengers, seat belts reduce the risk of death by 45%⁸

Human behavior
(error or poor choice)
accounts for **94%**
of all traffic
crashes⁴

5. Cross At Crosswalks



On average, a pedestrian was killed every 88 minutes in traffic crashes in 2017 in the U.S.

Crossing at crosswalks reduces the likelihood of being involved in a crash⁹

4 E's of Highway Safety

Engineering:

rumble strips, speed feedback signs and reflective signs

Education:

citizen advocacy groups, educators, CarFit program, WalkWise Initiative;

Emergency Response:

first responders, paramedics, fire, and rescue

Enforcement:

traffic citations, speed limit signs

Crash and Injury Statistics³ (Marion County, 2020)

Hit and Run

Total Crashes: **1,276**
Total Injuries: **391**
Total Fatalities: **4**

Pedestrian

Total Crashes: **143**
Total Fatalities: **22**

Motorcycle

Total Crashes: **190**
Total Fatalities: **13**

Bicycle

Total Crashes: **61**
Total Fatalities: **2**

Vision Zero

Vision Zero is a goal of obtaining zero traffic fatalities and severe injuries for all users. Each year, more than 35,000 people are killed nationally in vehicle-related crashes.

The significant loss of life extends beyond personal loss to deep community impacts, including: personal economic costs and emotional trauma to those suffering; and significant taxpayer spending on emergency response and long-term healthcare costs.¹⁰

Towards Zero Deaths in Florida (TZD)

TZD is a data-driven strategy that focuses on improving highway safety by changing the driving culture, with the ultimate goal of no deaths on the nation's highways.

The TZD initiative relies on data from crashes and police stops, together with the 4 E's of Highway Safety, to determine priority areas and make changes to policies and programs¹¹

The Ocala Marion TPO and its partners work to improve safety throughout Marion County. The TPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) includes specific investment priorities by using a project-prioritization and project-selection process that is based on the anticipated effect of reducing both fatal and serious injury crashes. The TPO also collects and analyzes crash data and trends, which is published in its Traffic Crash Report (TCR).

Other local initiatives aimed at improving safety include the Marion County Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST); Safety Through



An Action Plan >>> for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion

Public and Engagement

- Instrumental to Plan success!



Sample – Hillsborough County MPO





Safety Analysis

- Trends
- Areas of Concern (hotspots)
- System-wide Issues



An Action Plan >>> for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion

Action Planning

- What will we all do individually and collectively to improve safety in Marion County?
- Our Commitments over next 3-5 years


**COMMITMENT
TO ZERO**



An Action Plan  for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion

Timeframe of Plan Development

- Fall 2021 to Summer 2022



COMMITMENT TO ZERO



An Action Plan >>> for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion



COMMITMENT TO ZERO



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Other local initiatives aimed at improving safety include the Marion County Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST); Safety Through Engineering; Education and Responsibility (STEER); the Youth Bike Rodeo; CarFit; Walk Your Kids to School Day; and the Safe Routes to School program.

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Sources: 1- University of Florida, GeoPlan Center, Signal 4 Analytics
2-A traffic fatality is defined as the death of a person as a direct result of a traffic crash within thirty days of the incident. An injury is defined as an incident requiring a person to be transported away from the scene for immediate medical attention. Property Damage is defined as greater than or equal to \$25,000 of damage for all property involved.
3-Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles - Crash Dashboard (Marion County, 2020)
4 - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) - Traffic Safety Facts
5- Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles - Distracted Driving Crash Dashboard (Marion County, 2020)
6 - National Safety Council, Drivers are Falling Asleep Behind the Wheel
7 - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - Speeding
8 - Centers for Disease Control - Policy Impact: Seat Belts
9 - National Highway Traffic Safety Administration - Pedestrian Safety
10 - Vision Zero Network - What is Vision Zero?
11- GCN - Crash Analytics: How Data Can Help Eliminate Highway Deaths

Draft Safety Action Plan – Partners List

This preliminary partners list is to be further refined by the TPO Board and public.

- Residents and visitors of Marion County – all members of the public
- Ocala Marion Transportation Planning Organization (staff, board and committees)
- Community Traffic Safety Team
- City of Belleview
- City of Dunnellon
- City of Ocala (multiple departments invited as recommended)
- Marion County (multiple departments invited as recommended)
- Marion County Public Schools
- Florida Office of Greenways and Trails
- Florida Department of Health in Marion County
- Marion County Sheriff
- Marion County Fire Rescue
- City of Ocala Police Department
- City of Ocala Fire Rescue
- City of Belleview Police Department
- East Central Florida Regional Planning Council
- Florida Highway Patrol
- Florida Department of Transportation, District 5
- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- U.S. Forest Service
- SunTran
- Marion Transit
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Department of Elderly Affairs
- Centers of Independent Living
- Florida Center for the Blind
- Black Bear National Scenic Byway
- ...[add to list]
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