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.
COMMITMENT TO ZERO

An Action Plan for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion
Commitment to Zero Cornerstones

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

• The Safety Story of Ocala/Marion County
Ocala Marion TPO
Transportation Safety

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.

What Can We Do To Improve Safety?

1. Don’t Drive Distracted
In 2020, there were 587 distracted driver crashes in Marion County. During that same year, there were over 60,000 across the state of Florida.

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 limit.

3. Obey All Speed Limits
In 2017, speeding was a contributing factor in 26% of all traffic fatalities in the U.S.

4. Wear Your Seat Belt
Among drivers and front-seat passengers, seat belts reduce the risk of death by 49%.

5. Cross At Crosswalks
On average, a pedestrian was killed every 86 minutes in traffic crashes in 2017 in the U.S.
Creating a crosswalk reduces the likelihood of being involved in a crash.

Human behavior (error or poor choice) accounts for 94% of all traffic crashes.

The Ocala Marion TPO and its partners work to improve safety throughout Marion County. The TPO’s Transportation Improvement Programs (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 (CCTST). The CCTST is a group of stakeholders from various agencies and organizations working together to reduce traffic crashes and fatalities in Marion County.

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.

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 programs.

In Marion County in 2020, there were a total of:

- 8,425 Crashes
- 108 Fatalities
- 300 Serious Injuries
- Of the 8,425 crashes, 377 resulted in property damage of over $25,000.

Crash and Injury Statistics (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
Public and Engagement

• Instrumental to Plan success!
Sample – Hillsborough County MPO
Safety Analysis

• Trends
• Areas of Concern (hotspots)
• System-wide Issues
Action Planning

• What will we all do individually and collectively to improve safety in Marion County?

• Our Commitments over next 3-5 years
Timeframe of Plan Development

- Fall 2021 to Summer 2022
COMMITMENT TO ZERO
An Action Plan for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion
COMMITMENT TO ZERO

An Action Plan for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion
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### 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.

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 limit.

3. **Obey All Speed Limits**
   - In 2017, speeding was a contributing factor in 26% of all traffic fatalities in the U.S.

4. **Wear Your Seat Belt**
   - Among drivers and front-seat passengers, seat belts reduce the risk of death by 45%.

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 crash.

### 4 E's of Highway Safety

- **Engineering:**
  - rumble strips, speed feedback signs, and reflective signs

- **Education:**
  - citizen advocacy groups, educators, CarFit program, WalkWisely Initiative

- **Enforcement:**
  - traffic citations, speed limit signs

### Crash and Injury Statistics

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### Vision Zero

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**Sources:**
1. University of Florida, GeoPlan Center, Signal 4 Analytics
2. Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles - Crash Dashboard (Marion County, 2020)
4. Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles - Distracted Driving Crash Dashboard (Marion County, 2020)
5. National Safety Council, Drivers are Falling Asleep Behind the Wheel
6. Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles - Reckless Driving Crash Dashboard (Marion County, 2020)
8. Centers for Disease Control - Policy Impact: Seat Belts
10. Vision Zero Network - What is Vision Zero?
11. CCN - Crash Analytics: How Data Can Help Eliminate Highway Deaths

### 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 programs.

**Vision Zero and Safety Counts:**

- **In Marion County in 2020, there were a total of...**
  - **8,425 Crashes**
  - **108 Fatalities**
  - **300 Serious Injuries**

  Of the **8,425 crashes**, **377 resulted in property damage** of over **$25,000**.

**Crash and Injury Statistics**

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**Total Crashes:**

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**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]