



COMMITMENT TO ZERO 2025 SAFETY REPORT SUMMARY

In November 2022, the TPO Board adopted **Commitment to Zero: An Action Plan for Safer Streets in Ocala Marion**. Commitment to Zero is the TPO’s call to action to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries from the county’s transportation system. It is not just a slogan or effort isolated to the TPO. Commitment to Zero is a comprehensive initiative and how the community talks about, approaches, and addresses traffic safety. **Safety Action Plan:** (<https://ocalamariontpo.org/safety-plan/>).

Commitment to Zero is the TPO’s call to action to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries by 2045

The Commitment to Zero Safety Report includes a five-year summary of safety activities and crash information on the public roadways of Marion County. The report is intended to be a resource for the citizens of Marion County. This report is supplemented by an online **Commitment to Zero Dashboard:** (<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/00fd59b069bf46c5b203a3bb09870f6a/>).

Five-Year Snapshot

A five-year summary of traffic crashes is completed annually by the TPO to ensure consistency with setting federally required safety performance measure targets. **On average** over the past five years, approximately **9,000 crashes, 100 fatalities** and **350 serious injuries** occurred annually on public roadways in Marion County¹.

Five-Year Crash Summary (2020 to 2024)

Safety Performance Measure	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total	Average
Total Crashes	7,828	9,306	9,362	9,577	9,341	45,414	9,083
Crash Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	174.3	203.6	196.7	193.9	177.9	---	189.3
Total Fatalities ²	104	91	109	97	114	515	103
Fatality Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	2.32	1.99	2.29	1.96	2.17	---	2.15
Total Serious Injuries ²	292	250	469	422	302	1,735	347
Serious Injury Rate (Per 100 million VMT)	6.55	5.56	9.85	8.54	5.75	---	7.22
Pedestrian Fatalities	22	18	17	13	21	91	18
Pedestrian Serious Injuries	14	16	15	28	23	96	19
Bicycle Fatalities	2	3	5	5	10	25	5
Bicycle Serious Injuries	12	8	14	9	5	48	10

¹ Crash Data Source: Signal 4 Analytics, <https://signal4analytics.com> (excludes private driveways, parking lots, forest roads, private roads)

² Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) source. A crash is classified as **Fatal** if an injury sustained from the incident results in death within a 30-day period after the event. Serious/Incapacitating injuries resulting from a crash have major impacts such as permanent disability, lost productivity and wages, and ongoing healthcare costs. A **Serious Injury** crash includes: broken or fractured bones; dislocated or distorted limbs; severe lacerations resulting in exposure of organs or tissue or resulting in significant loss of blood; severe burns (second or third-degree over 10 percent or more of the body); skull, spinal, chest, or abdominal injuries; and unconsciousness at/or when taken from the scene.

COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS

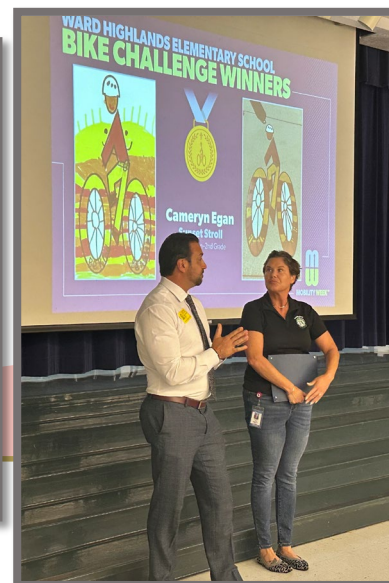


SAFETY MATTERS

Marion County and the TPO launched the Safety Matters initiative to promote roadway safety through community education. Supported by 14 partners, the initiative highlights the shared responsibility of all road users. It received an Outreach Award from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) at the 2025 Safety Summit and a Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its impactful messaging.



Bike Lane Design Contest 2024
Ward Highlands Elementary



Bike Lane Design Contest 2025
Madison Street Academy

Bike Lane Design Contest

The TPO partnered with FDOT for a bike lane design contest at Ward Highlands and Madison Street Elementary Schools. Students showcased their creativity by using a bike lane marking template to create unique designs. The winning entries were installed by the FDOT maintenance crew on the school campus, promoting both artistic expression and bicycle safety.



National Stop on Red Week raises awareness about the dangers of red-light running. To support this effort, the National Coalition for Safer Roads (NCSR), Ocala Marion TPO, and FDOT hosted pop-up events at State Road 40 and NE 25th Avenue in 2024, and at US 301 and US 441 in Belleview in 2025, to educate the public and encourage safer driving behaviors.

COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS



Since 2024, the Best Foot Forward for Pedestrian Safety program has been working successfully in Marion County. With assistance from FDOT's Target Zero initiative, the program has built a strong coalition of stakeholders focused on pedestrian safety.



CarFit 2025 and Senior Lifestyles & Injury Prevention Program
 In 2025, Marion County Fire Rescue, the Florida Department of Health, Strive! Physical Therapy, and HCA Florida Ocala Hospital hosted a CarFit event to help older adults improve safety and mobility by ensuring their vehicles fit them properly. HCA Florida Ocala Hospital also delivered "On the Right Road" and "Stepping Out Safely" presentations on vehicle and pedestrian safety to large retirement communities across the county.



The Marion County Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST)

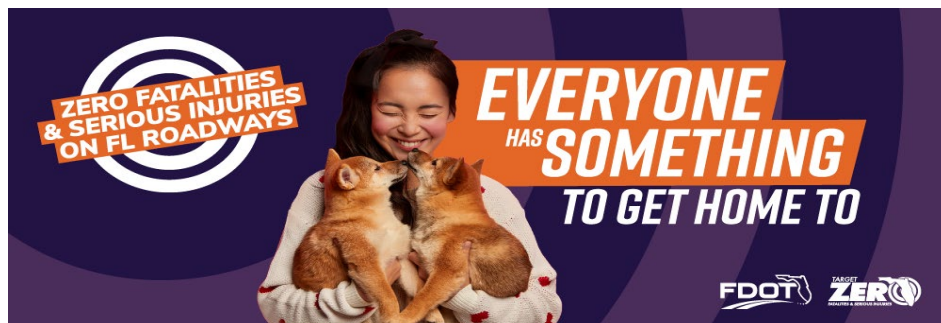
The Marion County CTST is a locally based group of professionals devoted to coordinating the improvement of traffic safety throughout Marion County. Representatives of the CTST come from law enforcement, fire rescue, local, regional and state government, health care, schools and non-profits. The CTST meets monthly to collaborate and help solve local traffic safety problems, and support greater public awareness.



COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS



Marion County Fire Rescue took part in several community safety initiatives, including Back to School Bash events with Safe Kids and Advent across the county and at the World Equestrian Center, where they provided bike helmet fittings and distributed safety materials to children. They also participated in multiple CarFit events for seniors and supported a Safe Kids pedestrian and bicycle safety event at Eighth Street Elementary.



Early. On time. A little late.
JUST GET THERE SAFELY.



FDOT District Five began construction in fall 2024 on S.R. 200/Southwest College Road from east of I-75 to U.S. 301/U.S. 441/South Pine Avenue in Ocala. With Marion County among the nation's fastest-growing areas, traffic along this corridor has surged. To improve safety and operations, FDOT is replacing sections of the center turn lane with a raised median, adding segmented left-turn lanes, and installing three pedestrian hybrid beacons at key crosswalks. These upgrades support FDOT's Target Zero goal of getting everyone home safely.



COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS



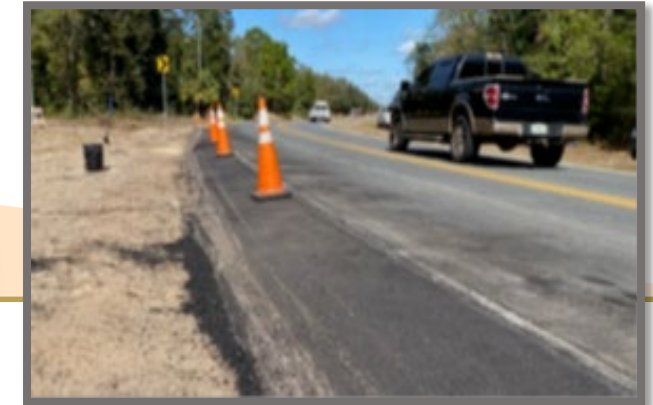
Marion County
FLORIDA

Through a grant award, Marion County is enhancing safety on County Road (CR) 475A. High Friction Surface Treatment and Paved Shoulders with Safety Edge are being installed at curves to reduce lane departure crashes, which account for nearly 50% of incidents on the corridor. The improvements are projected to prevent 6.6 crashes annually, with an estimated yearly savings of \$736,920 and cost-benefit ratio of 4.08 to 1.

CR 475A
Currently



Example of the
completed project



Congresswoman Kat Cammack Announces City Of Ocala Grant To Improve Local Road Safety

January 2, 2024 Press Release

GAINESVILLE, FL — Today, Congresswoman Kat Cammack announced the City of Ocala received a \$104,000 grant from the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.

The City of Ocala will use the grant to conduct supplemental planning to develop a city-wide Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) and a Speed Management Plan targeting safer speeds in residential areas and around schools.

"I'm excited to see the City of Ocala making excellent use of this grant," said Congresswoman Kat Cammack. "Safer roadways are important for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists in Ocala, ensuring everyone makes it to their destination and back home safely. I look forward to seeing the City's thoughtful planning in action."



The City of Ocala received a FY 2023 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant to support the TPO Commitment to Zero Safety Action Plan. This grant aims to enhance roadway safety by reducing fatalities and serious injuries through planning and implementation efforts for all road users. The funding will develop a Local Road Safety Plan (LRSP) and a Speed Management Plan to improve safety on local roads, especially in neighborhoods and near schools.



The City of Belleview, in coordination with Marion County, received \$1.1 million of funding from the Florida Department of Transportation to construct a bicycle and pedestrian connection. This project will provide citizens a safe connection from Lake Lillian Park to US 441/301 along SE 52nd Court, and the Cross Florida Greenway at Santos Trailhead.



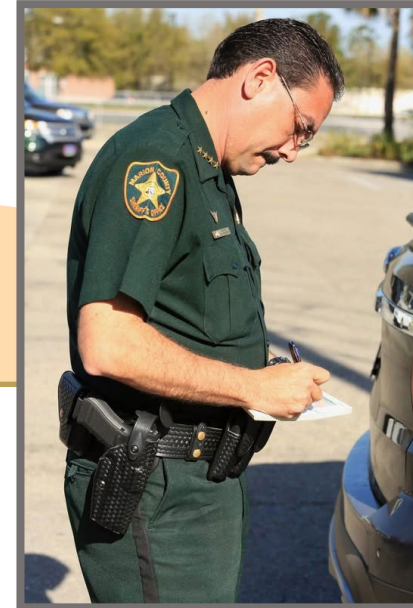
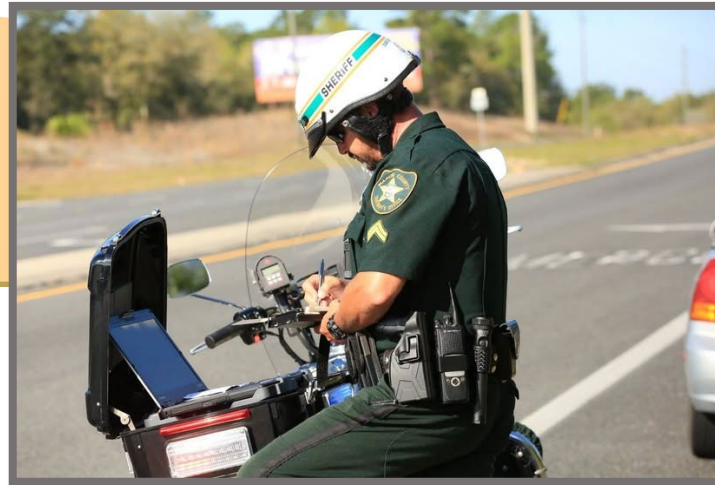
Marion County, in coordination with the City of Dunnellon, is constructing two new crosswalks on County Road 484/ West Pennsylvania Avenue east of Adams Street and east of Palmetto Way. The project also includes a barrier with railing over the Rainbow River Bridge and shared-use path connection on the south side to Blue Run Park.

COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS



The Marion County Sheriff's Office Traffic Unit Enforcement Operations have been making our roads safer in Marion County!

STEER (Safety Through Engineering, Education and Responsibility) in collaboration with Ocala Police Department, Belleview Police Department and Florida Highway Patrol, monthly patrols have been conducted in high-crash, reckless-driving areas using layered enforcement (radar, marked/unmarked units, speed mitigation).



Partnering with the Best Foot Forward Crosswalk Enforcement

Plainclothes "decoy" pedestrians cross while uniformed deputies monitor and stop violators. Crosswalk yield compliance has risen at key locations from 40% to 56% after enforcement

High-Visibility Enforcement (HVE) and Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety

Enforcement took place at locations with a history of pedestrian and bicyclist crashes. Flyers were distributed prior to enforcement to educate motorists on Florida's yield laws. Bicycle lights were also distributed, followed by targeted stops for non-compliance.



COMMUNITY SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS



Since mid 2024, The Ocala Police Department (OPD) is taking an aggressive approach to traffic enforcement. OPD added three more officers to better address traffic concerns and roadways with higher crashes. In the first half of 2025 alone, OPD issued a 94% increase in citations issued on traffic stops from 2024. There was also a 34% increase in overall traffic stops over the first 6 months of 2025 compared to 2024.



HIGH-VISIBILITY ENFORCEMENT
TO REDUCE SPEEDING AND
AGGRESSIVE DRIVING



OBEDY TRAFFIC LAWS
USE CROSSWALKS
DRIVE WITH CARE

ALERT
TODAY.
ALIVE
TOMORROW.



High-Visibility Enforcement (HVE) and Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety

OPD has been a successful recipient of the full use of HVE grants to support enforcement and education contacts in the City of Ocala. Over 865 hours have been logged, 4,479 contacts made and over 240 bike lights distributed to citizens.