



Florida Department of Transportation
District 7
11201 N. McKinley Drive
Tampa, FL 33612-6456

CTST MEETING SCHEDULE:

Hillsborough County CTST - 4th Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
Pasco County CTST - 4th Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.
Pinellas County CTST - 1st Thursday at 9:30 a.m.
West Central Florida CTST - 2nd Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

TRAFFIC SAFETY EVENTS:

Statewide CTST Coalition Meeting –July 11th—Titusville
Summer HEAT Mobilization (Heavy Enforcement of All Traffic)- June 21– August 9th
You Drink & Drive. You Lose. Mobilization.—August 19-Sept. 5th
National Stop on Red Week—August 27-Sept. 2nd
Walk to School Week—October 3-7th
Walk to School Day– October 5th
Drive Safely to Work Week—October 3-7th
Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day—October 10th
Statewide CTST Coalition Meeting—October 10th-AAA Office-Heathrow
School Bus Safety Week—October 16-22nd

**For information on location of meetings /events contact
Jeanette Rouse at 813-975-6256 or jeanette.rouse@dot.state.fl.us**

Christmas in July?

CTST sponsored “Recipes for the Road” during the 2004 holiday season. It was a booklet of non-alcoholic recipes. Local restaurants were contacted to submit their non-alcoholic recipes and the booklets were distributed throughout the community.



Would you like to be part of the 2005 booklet? There are many ways to be involved: 1) Be willing to ask your favorite local restaurants for a non-alcoholic recipe and a company logo (recipe information sheets are available) ; 2) ask large corporations to help sponsor printing costs, and 3) just be willing to spread the word about this amazing booklet of non-alcoholic recipes.



The inaugural booklet focused on Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties. This year we plan to expand, and include recipes from five counties...Hillsborough, Pinellas, Pasco, Hernando and Citrus! In order for this project to be a success, we need YOUR help! It is already July, and the booklets will need to be at the printer by the beginning of November.

If you are willing to help, please contact Jeanette Rouse at 813-975-6256 or jeanette.rouse@dot.state.fl.us and she will gladly give you directions on how you can assist in this holiday project.

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July 2005

Newsletter published by the Community Traffic Safety Teams (CTST), Sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation, District 7.



Local People Solving Local Problems

Inside this issue:

- Safe Kids Summer Bike Rodeos
- Formation of I-4 Corridor Safety Task Force Team
- Pinellas County Schools Has Action Plan in Place
- Tampa Bays 10 Features Summer PSAs
- Radio Disney Promotes Summer Safety for Kids

July 1st - New Seat Belt Law - Standard Enforcement for Persons Under 18

On July 1st, under a new law signed by Gov. Jeb Bush, law enforcement officers will have the power to pull over cars any time they spot a passenger 18 or younger not wearing a seat belt.

Call it Florida’s first foray into “primary” seat belt enforcement, which allows officers to pull someone over after seeing a driver or passenger unbelted. Already practiced in 21 other states and encouraged by the National Highway Safety Traffic Administration, primary enforcement of seat belt usage is up, leading to fewer traffic injuries and fatalities.

Previously, Florida law allowed police to stop a car for a seat belt infraction only if it involved a child under 5 who wasn’t properly restrained in a child seat, or, if age appropriate, a seat belt wasn’t worn. Otherwise, law enforcement officers must observe another traffic violation, such as running a red light, before stopping a car.

Also starting July 1st: Motorists who cause traffic accidents will have to pay trauma centers \$500 for each serious injury and \$1,000 for each fatality they cause. The change is expected to generate as much as \$4.7 million annually for the state’s trauma centers.



KNOW THE FACTS:

- Seat belts reduce the risk of serious injury and death by 40% to 60%.
- Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children.
- About 82% of child safety seats are not used correctly.
- Nationally, approximately 20-25% of children ages 1 through 15 years ride unrestrained. This places them at much greater risk of death and injury than children belted and in child safety seats.
- A study published by the American Academy of Pediatrics showed that when drivers were buckled up, child passengers were restrained 87% of the time. However, when drivers were not buckled up, children were restrained only 24% of the time.



The Bay Area is only one month away from starting school... We need to drive cautiously and be alert!



Tampa Safe Kids and Boys and Girls Clubs Perform Summer Bike Rodeos

St. Joseph's Children's Hospital is the Lead Organization for the Safe Kids Tampa Coalition

Safe Kids and Boys and Girls Clubs of Tampa have teamed together to host summer bike rodeos held at local recreational facilities. Almost 60 Teen Trainers were chosen from the Clubs to train the children - peer to peer. These trainers were paid a stipend of \$250 to work at least 4 rodeos, attend training sessions, and complete 20 community service hours (as arranged by the Boys and Girls Club). The Boys and Girls Clubs also help transport the trainers to the County

Parks and Recreational Centers where the events are held.

Rodeos began on June 6th and will conclude on June 30th. They have conducted 19 rodeos. About 75 to 150 kids a day go through the events. The rodeos begin at 9:00 am and last until 11:00-11:30 AM. Safe Kids provides bikes in a variety of sizes, including some with training wheels.

The rodeos consist of these stations:

1) dangerous driveway - to make sure a car is not backing out; 2) scanning - looking over your shoulder for oncoming vehicles, pedestrians, other bikes that you may share the road with; 3) stop and go - ride on the right side of the road, look left, right, left; and 4) snail race - to teach balance skills and to control the bike. In addition, they all went to helmet fittings and received a free bike helmet that was properly fitted to their head. Safe Kids has given out over 2000 helmets.

This program was FDOT grant funded and this is the last year of their funding. They will be seeking further funding next year to continue the program.

Making a difference in the community---one child at a time.



Helmet fittings are a vital part of the Summer Bicycle Rodeos



FDOT to Kick Off I-4 Corridor Safety Task Force

On July 15th, FDOT is looking for people to attend a brainstorming meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference room. They need your help to address the I-4 Corridor Safety issues. Your input could make all the difference, so please mark your calendar.

Based on the information collected by the Florida Highway Patrol, the 2005 fatal median cross over crashes are all related to "driver errors", which include speeding or lack of attention.

Back in the early 1990's, the FDOT took the lead to work with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's office, FHP and numerous other City/County/State/FHWA agencies to form the I-4 Corridor Safety Task Force Team to address the education, enforcement, and engineering issues along Interstate 4. The crash reduction results from the original I-4 Corridor Safety Task Force Team were excellent.

So, please mark your calendar for July 15th at 9:00 a.m. and come be a part of the I-4 solution!

PINELLAS COUNTY SCHOOLS HAS ACTION PLAN IN PLACE

A sub committee of the District Safety & Security Council (DSSC) along with school board members, met to develop an action plan for the safe passage of students to and from school. This initiative called **Safety First** focuses on the fact that students have to arrive and return from school safely if they are to achieve success in the classroom. The **Safety First** initiative incorporates all forms of student passage: bus, private vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian. It has four distinct objectives:

- Building Partnerships
- Ensuring Accountability
- Community Awareness
- Align Our Curriculum



"A Safer Tampa Bay" Public Service Announcements (PSA) will be featured during the month of July on Tampa Bay's 10. The PSAs will focus on being alert and cautious as a driver, biker or pedestrian. Look for these spots in the morning newscasts and online during the groundbreaking, live streaming, noon newscasts.



BE SURE TO TUNE IN.....

Tune into Radio Disney - AM 1380 to hear our summer public service announcements reminding kids to be safe on their bikes and when walking!

