

ZER@ING IN

KEEPING YOU IN THE KNOW ABOUT VISION ZERO



Statewide Vision Zero Workshop Provides Valuable Insight into Lifesaving Efforts

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), Federal Highway Administration, and the Vision Zero Network hosted a statewide Vision Zero and Long-Range Visioning workshop in Jacksonville, Florida in June. There were over 200 attendees ranging from FDOT district secretaries and their staff to City and County Vision Zero leaders, researchers, and implementers. The two-day workshop provided a great forum for learning more about Vision Zero efforts underway and discussing how we can advance Vision Zero in Florida by identifying new and innovative strategies and reinforcing our commitment to Vision Zero. As a demonstration of a successful partnership, Josette Severyn, the City's Vision Zero Coordinator, was invited to deliver a presentation together with Mark Plass, FDOT Traffic Operations Manager, about managing speed for safety. The Long-Range Vision session touched on risk in transportation, trends and disruptors, and regional perspectives.



Texting and Driving Becomes a Primary Offense

On May 17, 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis signed Senate Bill 76 / House Bill 107 into law. Until then,

Florida was one of four states with text messaging distracted driving legislation in place, though it wasn't recognized as a primary offense. The new legislation is a text messaging ban, prohibiting a person from manually typing on a wireless communications device while driving. IT also prohibits drivers from using a wireless communications device in a handheld manner while in a work zone or school zone. Effective since July 1, 2019, the law makes texting and driving a primary, enforceable offense. There will be an educational warning period until December 31, 2019 and citations will be issued

beginning January 1, 2020. Additionally, starting in February 2020, the bill requires law enforcement agencies to record the race and ethnicity of each person they cite for these violations to monitor for trends in citation distribution among race and ethnicity.

2019 Transportation Summit Brings Innovation and Technology Experts to the City



Fort Lauderdale has a vision of being a city with safe, livable, connected, and sustainable streets for people of all ages and abilities. We hosted the 8th Annual Transportation Summit on May 17, 2019 at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. This premier transportation event, organized by the Transportation & Mobility Department with assistance from other City departments and local partners, brought transportation experts to Fort Lauderdale for discussions about trending topics, emerging technology, and opportunities for innovation. Presentations included the following topics:

- ➔ A discussion on what the recently approved 'Penny Tax' means for the future of our regional transportation network
- ➔ Lessons learned about how innovation and technology have helped transportation authorities improve their local transit service
- ➔ National trends in the use of technology to solve everyday parking and mobility issues
- ➔ Regional trends on data usage to help improve the level of service for many modes of transportation



Fort Lauderdale Vision Zero Represented at FDOT Intermodal Expo

FDOT's District 4 hosted their annual Intermodal Expo during Florida Bike Month on March 28, 2019 to educate staff about available resources and the latest planning and engineering practices being implemented for intermodal transportation. This event, which emphasizes transportation alternatives to single occupancy vehicles and included a bike ride through the motor pool, brought together representatives from 19 agencies, who each shared initiatives and resources. With over 100 attendees, this year's expo had the highest attendance to date. We look forward to participating in future FDOT events, including Mobility Week in the fall.

Learning from our Vision Zero Partners in Hillsborough County



On May 13, 2019, The Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) coordinated a Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) to assist local governments in the implementation of Complete Streets initiatives. Presentations focused on providing insights into the Safe Routes to School Program, Mockingbird Trail, and Vision Zero strategies, with a special guest speaker from the Hillsborough County MPO to highlight the Vision Zero efforts that comprehensively address transportation safety. Gena Torres, Hillsborough's Vision Zero Program Manager, outlined a comprehensive approach to reducing fatalities and serious injuries centered on supporting initiatives and action strategies from the Hillsborough Vision Zero Action Plan. The presentation highlighted stakeholders and partnership collaboration, roadmap and action tracks, public engagement activities, data-driven analysis tools, goals, and performance measures.

The CSAC is a multidisciplinary group (comprised of municipal and partner agency staff, representatives from non-profit groups, and advocacy groups) focused on guiding the Broward MPO Complete Streets Initiative. Meetings like this one provide an opportunity for members to exchange ideas and learn from each other's best practices. For more information about the Broward Complete Streets Advisory Committee's efforts, visit www.browardmpo.org/index.php/csac.

First Bike to Work Day FTL Event Inspires a Break from Commuting by Car



On March 8, 2019, over 200 people joined the City of Fort Lauderdale as we celebrated our first Bike to Work Day during a month-long statewide recognition of biking as a viable, fun, and healthy form of transportation. The event was aligned with Vision Zero and encouraged bicycling for commuting and generated awareness of bicyclists. Bike to Work Day FTL was spearheaded by the Transportation and Mobility Department (TAM) in partnership with Parks & Recreation and the Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) along with support from local partners. There were nine pit stops located throughout Fort Lauderdale:

- ➔ Huizenga Plaza
- ➔ Snyder Park
- ➔ Tri-Rail Station – Broward Boulevard
- ➔ Sistrunk (corner of NW 22nd Avenue and Sistrunk Boulevard)
- ➔ Carter Park
- ➔ Brightline Station
- ➔ Holiday Park
- ➔ George English Park
- ➔ Las Olas and A1A

Staff at each of the pit stops provided snacks and bicycle-themed gear, including safety giveaways such as bike lights. Some locations included bicycle tune-ups from partners including Conte's Bike Shop, Downtown Bicycles, and Recyclable Bicycle Exchange. TAM also partnered with a number of local and regional organizations including South Florida Commuter Services, Fort Lauderdale Downtown Development Authority, Broward County's Parks and Recreation Division, Lime, AvMed Bikes, Tri-Rail, and Brightline.



FDOT Talks Transportation Safety at Walk Like MADD & MADD Dash

Walk Like Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) and MADD Dash are, collectively, MADD's signature fundraising event to help raise awareness and funds to eliminate drunk and drugged driving. As a regular sponsor of the event, FDOT was designated as the State Safety Champion. Mark Plass gave a warm speech on behalf of FDOT about the department's commitment to safety and the need to make Florida's roads safe, not only to drive, but also to walk and bike, for people of all ages and abilities.



FLPD and the Parking Division Come Together for Drunk Driving Awareness Campaign

In March, the Police Department and the Parking Division teamed up to expand drunk driving awareness. FLPD wrapped their community outreach vehicle in Vision Zero messaging reminding onlookers to, "Choose Safety. Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving." To complement FLPD's Vision Zero community outreach, City staff in Parking and Transportation coordinated with the City's parking payment app, PayByPhone, to remind people to drink responsibly and discourage drunk driving. During the month of March, the PayByPhone app advised drivers to remember that *Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving*.



Move Over Month Enforcement Campaign Generates Awareness

January is Move Over Awareness month in Florida. According to Florida Statutes, Section 316.126, Florida law requires drivers to move over a lane — when they can safely do so — for stopped law enforcement, emergency, sanitation, utility service vehicles, and tow trucks or wreckers. If drivers can't move over — or when on a two-lane road — the law requires drivers to slow to a speed that is 20 mph less than the posted speed limit, or slow down to 5 mph when the posted speed limit is 20 mph or less. Violating the Move Over law will result in a fine, fees, and points on your driving record.

During the month of January, FLPD's Motors Unit led a two-week Move Over enforcement campaign. During the first week, the Unit concentrated on NW 62nd Street, a designated Vision Zero enforcement area and issued 156 traffic citations in which the Move Over law was the primary offense. During the second week of the campaign, the Unit conducted enforcement concerning both the Move Over law and Failing to Yield to an Emergency Vehicle. Despite the end of Move Over Month, the Unit plans to conduct a similar enforcement operation in the future.

FLPD's Motors Unit Contributes to the Department's Vision Zero Efforts



The Police Department's Motors Unit, which is dedicated to traffic enforcement, is an important component of the City of Fort Lauderdale's Vision Zero team. This year, the Unit has issued 11,113 traffic citations. Of the traffic citations issued in 2019, 3% were classified as criminal, 63% were moving violations, and 34% were non-moving violations.

Criminal traffic violations include, but are not limited to:

- ➔ Reckless Driving
- ➔ Driving While License Suspended
- ➔ Driving Under the Influence
- ➔ Refusal to Submit to Breath Test
- ➔ Habitual Traffic Offender
- ➔ Leaving the Scene of an Accident
- ➔ No Valid Driver's License
- ➔ Expired Driver's License
- ➔ Racing on a Highway
- ➔ Attaching Tag not Assigned
- ➔ Expired Vehicle Registration
- ➔ No Valid Registration
- ➔ Unlawful Use of an Identification Card
- ➔ No Motorcycle Endorsement
- ➔ Unlawful Display of a License
- ➔ Permitting an Unauthorized Person to Drive





Moving violations include any violations that involve the operation of a car such as speeding, running a red light, or disobeying traffic controls. Non-moving violations include violations such as failure to use seat belts, no registration or insurance, equipment violation, or obstructed license plate.

Florida East Coast Rail Quiet Zone Now in Effect

On May 18, 2019, the Florida East Coast (FEC) railroad quiet zone went into effect at midnight! Broward County's quiet zone is the single longest quiet zone in the country. According to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), "A quiet zone is a section of a rail line at least one-half mile in length that contains one or more consecutive public highway-rail grade crossings at which locomotive horns are not routinely sounded when trains are approaching the crossings. The prohibited use of train horns at quiet zones only applies to trains when approaching and entering crossings. Train horns may be sounded in emergency situations or to comply with other railroad or FRA rules even within a quiet zone." Emergency situations may include a perceived threat on or near the tracks, such as a person or vehicle in close proximity to the tracks. In these emergency situations, an engineer may sound the horn for safety, as the engineer is ultimately attempting to avoid a potentially life-threatening situation.



To increase awareness, outreach and safety campaigns have been conducted and additional equipment (e.g., quad gates) has been installed. The City of Fort Lauderdale, in partnership with Operation Lifesaver, implemented See Tracks Think Train sidewalk decals throughout the City to remind pedestrians that nearby railroad tracks are active and should be navigated carefully.

Additionally, the City of Fort Lauderdale's Strategic Communications Office utilized social media to inform the public about quiet zones and when our local quiet zone would go into effect. The Transportation and Mobility Department also coordinated with the City's Office of Neighbor Support to provide the quiet zone updates to Broward County Schools to allow for the schools to conduct outreach and education among their students and parents.

Tarpon River Sidewalk Enhances Neighbors' Quality of Life

A few years ago, the Tarpon River neighborhood worked with City Staff to complete a Neighborhood Mobility Master Plan. The plan identified needed improvements for all forms of transportation with an emphasis on safe mobility. The plan's priority project was recently completed; the construction of a new sidewalk on SW 9th Avenue not only improves safety for pedestrians by providing a safe space to walk, but also encourages daily physical activity and provides more opportunities for healthy, active living.



Decals Show How to Activate New Pedestrian Signals

At NE 3rd Avenue and NE 1st Street and at N Andrews Avenue and NE 2nd Street, purple decals were installed to educate and encourage pedestrians to use the recently installed crosswalk signals. Added in April 2018, crosswalks at these intersections create a safe, designated crossing for pedestrians and increase walkability within Flagler Village. These crosswalks are not at signalized intersections, and instead use rapidly flashing beacons that are activated by pedestrians to advise drivers that someone is or will soon be crossing the street.

GET CONNECTED FORT LAUDERDALE



 @cityoffortlauderdale

 @FTLCityNews

 @cityoffortlauderdale

