



Florida Department of Transportation

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605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

KEVIN J. THIBAUT, P.E.
SECRETARY

September 16, 2020

Tony Jones, Chief of Police
Gainesville Police Department
545 NW 8th Ave
Gainesville, Florida 32601

RE: City of Gainesville Motorcycle/Scooter Safety and Education Program
CPG-2021-Gainesvill-00238

Dear Tony Jones:

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) State Safety Office is pleased to inform you that your agency has been selected to receive subgrant funding for the 2021 Federal fiscal year, which begins October 1, 2020. The following concept paper has been accepted and included in the FDOT FY2021 Highway Safety Plan (HSP) with the following project number, title, and funding levels below:

Original Amount Requested	Subgrant Funding Awarded
\$65,000.00	\$50,000.00
FY2021 HSP Project Number	
MC-2021-00238	
FY2021 HSP Project Title	
Motorcycle/Scooter Safety and Education Program	

Based upon funding levels awarded to the State of Florida for the Federal fiscal year by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), subgrant awards may not be the same as the amount requested in your concept paper and the award does not mean that everything listed in the concept paper, including any equipment requests, were approved and/or funded.

Subgrant Application forms are now accessible in the FDOT Traffic Safety Subgrant Management System and include guidance and FDOT program manager notes regarding anything that was unallowable or restricted. Step by step instructions can also be found in the system under "Training Materials".

We look forward to working with you on this project. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me by email at chris.craig@dot.state.fl.us. Additional information can also be found on our website at: <http://www.dot.state.fl.us/safety/3-Grants/Grants-Home.shtm>.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Chris Craig

BB7DFADA607C4E4

Chris Craig, CPM, FCCM
Traffic Safety Administrator
Florida Department of Transportation

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY SAFETY CONCEPT PAPER
Concept Paper Summary

Applicant Information

Applicant Agency:	City of Gainesville
Implementing Agency:	Gainesville Police Department
Concept Paper Title:	City of Gainesville Motorcycle/Scooter Safety and Education Program
Priority Area for Concept Paper:	Motorcycle Safety
Amount Requested:	\$65,000.00
Type of Project:	Local
Type of Request:	Continuation - 2020
Previous Year's Project Number (if Continuation):	MC-20-10-06

Head of Agency

Name:	Tony Jones	State:	
Title:	Chief of Police	Zip:	32601
Address 1:	545 NW 8th Ave	Phone:	(352) 393-7500
Address 2:		Extension:	
City:	Gainesville	Email:	jonestr@cityofgainesville.org

Project Contact

Name:	Summer Hallett Kerkau	State:	Florida
Title:	Sergeant	Zip:	32601
Address 1:	545 NW 8th Ave	Phone:	(352) 393-7741
Address 2:		Extension:	
City:	Gainesville	Email:	kerkauns@cityofgainesville.org

Statement of the Problem:

Motorcycle related fatalities, serious injuries, and crashes are a serious concern in the State of Florida. In 2019 alone, the State of Florida encountered 10,426 motorcycle crashes and 510 fatalities according to Signal 4 Analytics. Gainesville ranks 9 out of 33 cities on the 2021 Highway Safety Matrix Ranking of Florida cities for fatal and injury motorcycle crashes for populations of 75,000 and above. NHTSA 2017 data shows that 4,990 motorcyclists were killed in motor vehicle accidents. The State of Florida continues to see a large amount of motorcycle riders killed.

More recent FIRES stats show that from 2017 to 2019 the City of Gainesville has seen a consistent decrease

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in motorcycle crashes with 12% for 2017-2018 and 14% for 2018-2019. Motorcycle crashes with injuries also steadily decreased over the same time period. Unfortunately for this same time period Gainesville Police saw a slight rise in the number of motorcycle fatalities (2017-1, 2018-3, 2019-4). In the time period of 2017-2018, there was a slight increase in scooter crashes with 18% however 2018-2019 saw a reduction of 14%. Scooter crashes with injuries increased by 10% for 2017-2018 but then dropped 10% for 2018-2019. The City of Gainesville was fortunate to see zero scooter fatalities for the 2017-2019 time period.

In the first year of offering the program (2016), GPD saw 70 people attend the SMART course. In 2017, the Gainesville Police Department was able to host 8 SMART classes with over 90 attendees. In 2018, GPD and contract personnel conducted eight SMART classes with a total of 94 participants. In 2019, there were 118 participants that completed the SMART course and gave it excellent reviews

During the course of any given year, Gainesville attracts hundreds of thousands of sports fans, including but not limited to over 100,000 people for NHRA Gatornationals event and tens of thousands to the University of Florida for various collegiate events. Gainesville is centrally located and like most of Florida has an extremely large number of motorcycle enthusiast events. Every year, hundreds of motorcyclists make their way through Gainesville on their way to Bike Week and Biketober Fest on the east coast. Gainesville has also seen an increase in the number of students riding scooters/moped to and from school. Motorcyclists are considered vulnerable road users in the State of Florida and are separated in the Strategic Highway Safety Plan as an emphasis area. This population deserves education and skills that could likely save them from personal injury and or property damage commonly sustained in traffic crashes.

Supporting Data:

Supporting Data

Year 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019

Traffic Crashes 4,361 5,121 2,350 2,919 3,624 6,371 6,299 6,070

Motorcycle crashes 99 107 73 92 127 106 98 84

Motorcycle injuries 78 82 59 62 85 72 62 62

Scooter crashes 95 68 79 95 90 86 108 86

Scooter injuries 82 56 62 68 65 68 77 66

Traffic Fatalities 7 9 8 12 16 15 12 16

Motorcycle/scooter Fatal 1 2 2 1 7 1 3 5

County Fatalities 37 34 30 37 46 49 52 53

Data obtained by Signal Four Analytics, Gainesville Police Department Records Management System (RMS) and <https://firesportal.com>

Proposed Solution:

Motorcycle rider education and training continues to be identified by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) as being in the top 10 emphasis areas of the 2017 Florida Strategic Highway Safety

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Plan. To address the growing problem of motorcycle crashes, fatalities, and injuries, the Gainesville Police Department seeks to implement the Safe Motorcycle and Rider Techniques (SMART) training program similar to the original program from Osceola County. This six hour course was developed by the Osceola County Sheriff's Office in 2011 and is highly supported by the University of South Florida's Center for Urban Transportation Research.

The program was designed around skill sets taken from the Basic Police Motorcycle Operators Course. The instructor ratio is no less than 1-6 with one lead instructor. Each class will hold a maximum of 24 students in an effort to maximize saddle time and course repetition without creating undue fatigue. There are six stations that emphasize fundamental principles and that have real world applications. Each station is 45 minutes long with a 15 minute break in between stations. During each break there will be an additional five minutes of instruction on a relevant motorcycle operation topic. The breaks are designed as a working break in which questions and additional comments can be addressed.

The objectives stress four areas that can be applied to virtually any and all aspects of motorcycle riding:

- To demonstrate the proper use of head and eyes when turning
- To demonstrate the ability to dip the motorcycle in order to facilitate transitioning
- To demonstrate the proper manipulation of clutch, throttle, and break in order to work in the gray area
- To demonstrate the importance of leaning the bike in order to make a tighter turn

The course stresses fundamental principles by putting them into action and practice. The student will learn the following:

- 2X4 Board Drill and Figure Eight
- Offset
- U-turn
- Intersection (Iron Cross)
- Curve Negotiation
- Brake and Escape

There are five minute group classes which will consist of:

- Picking up motorcycle
- T-CLOCK (Tires, Cables, Lights, Oil, Chassis, Kickstand)
- Importance of head and eyes
- Group riding
- Pulling up to a red light

The course is designed to build great relationships with motorcyclists while improving riding skills for real life situations in order to reduce motorcycle crashes, fatalities, and injuries. The difference in riding skill is measurable and immediate by the end of the day. Upon receiving group and individual safe riding instruction, the student will be able to demonstrate safe motorcycle riding techniques by negotiating commonly found street riding situations in a controlled and skill oriented manner.

The Gainesville Police Department will also use grant funds to conduct high visibility motorcycle/scooter enforcement operations per month. The details will focus on helmet use and other traffic infractions concentrating on motorcycle and scooter safety. During these enforcement activities officers will also distribute

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educational materials promoting helmet use and safe riding techniques.

Utilize social media networking tools monthly to raise awareness with the public about motorcycle and scooter laws using the ride smart program model,

Distribute educational material during operations educating riders on safe riding and promote helmet use.

Sustainability:

The Gainesville Police Department is committed to reducing the numbers of crashes, fatalities, injuries, and the severity of injuries on the highways, streets and roadways. GPD will continue to have a traffic unit including a dedicated DUI enforcement officer to enforce all traffic laws in the city limits of Gainesville. This dedicated unit allows for dedicated enforcement efforts. The Gainesville Police Department is committed to taking every action to continue to drive down crashes and fatalities associated with motorcycles and scooters. The City of Gainesville in partnership with GPD and other City Departments to work toward Vision Zero using enforcement, education, engineering and evaluation.

The Gainesville Police Department understands the importance of motorcycle and scooter safety. These vulnerable road users will continue to receive education efforts along with high intensity enforcement along the major roadways near the University of Florida campus which sees the largest amount of these type crashes. If funding is not provided the police department would seek other funding to provide the training.

The Gainesville Police Department will continue to partner with local resources such as Community Traffic Safety Teams, and the Florida Department of Transportation Law Enforcement Liaison, community organizations, and local media outlets. The Gainesville Police Department will also participate in all statewide public awareness and enforcement campaigns and law enforcement challenges (Florida Law Enforcement Challenge, Click It or Ticket Challenge) sponsored by the FDOT Safety Office.

Project Objectives:

Through the combined effort of training, education and motorcycle/moped enforcement activities it is the goal of the Gainesville Police Department to:

Conduct a minimum of 12 SMART training courses,

Conduct two of the 12 training courses targeting scooters in partnership with the University of Florida,

Train a minimum of 100 motorcycle riders,

Conduct three high visibility motorcycle/Scooter enforcement operations per month

Reduce the number of motorcycle-related traffic crashes by 2%,

Reduce the number of scooter/moped-related traffic crashes by 2%,

Utilize social media networking tools monthly to raise awareness with the public about motorcycle and scooter laws using the ride smart program model,

Distribute educational material during operations educating riders on safe riding and promote helmet use.

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Utilize social media networking tools monthly to raise awareness with the public about motorcycle and scooter laws using the ride smart program model,
Distribute educational material during operations educating riders on safe riding and promote helmet use.

Evaluation:

Production data for each quarter of the program's calendar year will be measured against data from the corresponding time period of the previous year. Objectives not meeting projections will be prioritized in terms of resource deployment and operational consideration.

Record the total number of motorcycle/moped traffic stops, citations, and arrests.
Record the total number of presentations made by the City of Gainesville Motorcycle/Scooter Safety and Enforcement Program, including but not limited to, local schools and the total number of college and high school students reached.

Training is conducted in a closed course instructed by highly trained law enforcement motor officers using the very same techniques that place them in the top 5% of all riders. Each student receives individualized attention which positively reinforces the skill sets the course tries to improve. The previous year's numbers will be used as a base line to measure the overall effectiveness of the additional enforcement efforts

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Concept Budget Summary**

BUDGET CATEGORY	TOTAL	FEDERAL FUNDING	Match	
			STATE	LOCAL
A. Personnel Services				
Personnel Overtime and Benefits	\$47,000	\$47,000		
Subtotal	\$47,000	\$47,000	\$0	\$0

BUDGET CATEGORY	TOTAL	FEDERAL FUNDING	Match	
			STATE	LOCAL
B. Contractual Services				
Contract SMART Instructors	\$18,000	\$18,000		
Subtotal	\$18,000	\$18,000	\$0	\$0

BUDGET CATEGORY	TOTAL	FEDERAL FUNDING	Match	
			STATE	LOCAL
C. Expenses				
NA	\$0	\$0		
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

BUDGET CATEGORY	TOTAL	FEDERAL FUNDING	Match	
			STATE	LOCAL
D. Equipment Costing \$5,000 or More				
NA	\$0	\$0		
Subtotal	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

BUDGET CATEGORY	TOTAL	FEDERAL FUNDING	Match	
			STATE	LOCAL
E. Indirect Cost:				
NA	\$0	\$0		
Subtotal	\$0	\$0		

Total Cost of Project	\$65,000	\$65,000	\$0	\$0
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