



February 12, 2014

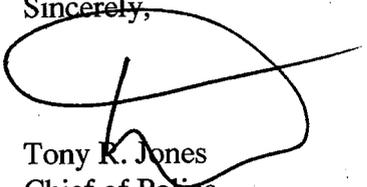
Kenneth L Ellis  
Traffic Safety Administrator  
Florida Department of Transportation  
605 Suwannee Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Dear Mr. Ellis,

The Gainesville Police Department and the City of Gainesville are very pleased to be afforded the opportunity to participate in the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Aggressive Driving initiative. We look forward to addressing traffic safety priority areas that are covered by this project including community outreach activities.

We look forward to working with FDOT toward accomplishing the goals of this project.

Sincerely,

  
Tony R. Jones  
Chief of Police

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
**HIGHWAY SAFETY CONCEPT PAPER**

500-085-17  
SAFETY  
12/08

Agency: City of Gainesville

Concept Paper Title: GPD Speed and Aggressive Driving Grant

Amount Requested: \$71,011.30

**Priority Area for Concept Paper:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Traffic Safety                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Police Traffic Services             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Impaired Driving                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Roadway Safety                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycle Safety                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Speed/Aggressive Driving |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Occupant Protection/Child Passenger Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Traffic Records                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pedestrian/Bicycle Safety                  |  |

**Type of Request:**

- Initial       Continuation

**Type of Project:**

- Local       Statewide

**Head of Agency:**

Name: Tony Jones

Title: Chief

Address: 413 NW 8th Ave

Gainesville, Florida 32601

Phone: (352) 393-7502 Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: jonestr@cityofgainesville.org

**Project Contact:**

Name: Joe Raulerson

Title: Sergeant

Address: 413 NW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Gainesville, Florida 32602

Phone: (352) 393-7743 Extension: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: (352) 334-3207

E-Mail: Raulersojh@cityofgainesville.org

**FDOT USE ONLY:**

Concept Paper Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Assigned Module: \_\_\_\_\_

Postmark Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Planner Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Assigned: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered Into Database: \_\_\_\_\_

Planner Received: \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement of the Problem:** (Give details about the traffic safety problem that you want to correct. Include at least three years of crash, injury, fatality, and citation data to show the extent of the problem.)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) ranks the State of Florida as having the third highest number of traffic fatalities in the nation. The City of Gainesville ranks #6 in the Aggressive Driving City Matrix for the State of Florida. The Gainesville Police Department actively enforces violations of traffic laws including those identified in Florida State Statute 316.1923, titled Aggressive Careless Driving. The City of Gainesville also ranks #4 on motorcycle matrix.

The National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) in a February 2009 report stated in 2007, about 31 percent of all fatal crashes were speeding related resulting in 13,040 fatalities. The economic cost to society of speeding-related crashes is estimated by NHTSA to be \$40.4 billion a year. In 2011 over 3,331 people were killed in distracted driving crashes increasing from the previous year. Gainesville and Alachua County are not isolated from this issue being a regional hub with numerous state roads and limited access highways. Gainesville is a sports destination bringing in 100,000 people for gator nationals and tens of thousands to the University of Florida for various events. In 2013, the city of Gainesville had 509 distracted driving crashes and 2 fatal crashes involving speed. In 2012, the Gainesville Police Department wrote 17,065 moving citations, of these 57 percent, 9731 were for speed related offenses. Statistics show that aggressive drivers which includes speeding, improperly changing lanes, running red lights, following too closely and driving careless contribute more to crashes more than any other cause. The City of Gainesville is committed to reducing aggressive driving related offenses and the amount of injuries and fatal crashes that result in this type of driving behavior.

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Traffic Crashes	4493	5192	5113	4361	5121
Traffic Injuries	677	640	666	1437	1384
Traffic Fatalities	6	5	7	7	9
County Fatalities	29	21	27	37	34

In 2009, the City of Gainesville was #7 with Cities population of 100,000 or greater in crashes per population.

Traffic Safety Facts 2007: Speeding (October 2008). DOT HS 810 998. Washington, DC :National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
<http://www.flhsmv.gov/hsmvdocs/CS2009.pdf>  
<http://www.distraction.gov/>

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Traffic Safety Facts 2007: Speeding (October 2008). DOT HS 810 998. Washington, DC :National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
<http://www.flhsmv.gov/hsmvdocs/CS2009.pdf>  
<http://www.walkfriendly.org/communities/index.cfm?st=FL#state-info>

**Proposed Solution:** (Explain the countermeasures that you plan to implement to correct the problem and how the funding that you have requested will support those countermeasures.)

This program aims to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries by implementing enforcement campaigns targeting speed and aggressive driving infractions. Gainesville Police will utilize resources to conduct high-visibility, zero-tolerance enforcement operations at locations identified by the Project Director as having a high frequency of traffic crashes and/or fatalities to supplement existing traffic operations. The Project Director will collect and retain this data for the purpose of Safety Office inspections and reports. The primary focus for operations will be to identify the violators of speed and aggressive driving laws.

An existing speed trailer and message boards will be utilized to discourage drivers from poor driving behavior during the grant period and will be located in the designated areas with high crash rates.

The Project Director will be responsible for the allocation of personnel resources to this enforcement effort in order to achieve the greatest impact on speeding and aggressive driving in the community. The Project Director will coordinate these enforcement campaigns at least once per week, and will ensure that the day/time of enforcement is alternated from week to week. The intent of this measure is to prevent motorists from determining that this enforcement is conducted on specific days in the agency's jurisdiction and to adjust their attention to the law accordingly. In addition, the Project Director will ensure that these funds are used in a prudent and conservative manner, in order to allow these funds to be used throughout the fiscal grant year. Every person that performs under this grant will complete the FDOT Safety Office Daily Activity Log. These logs will be submitted to the agency's Project Director, who will ensure that copies are attached to each claim for reimbursement.

The Gainesville Police Department plans to purchase tablets and printers for electronic traffic citations for Police motorcycle officers. This dedicated traffic enforcement group issued 53% of the agencies 23000 citations. The Alachua County Clerk of Court submits citations using TCATS and would aid in the timely submission and accuracy of citations. We plan on utilizing the previously purchased laser speed measuring devices to aggressively target speed violators. These devices will allow the enforcement of following too close on major roadways. Improper following distance is a common cause of motor vehicle crashes with the majority being rear end type crashes on roadways.

In order to facilitate the delivery of this traffic safety message, agencies will 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:** (List the short term goals that you have for the project. Some should be quantifiable, such as, "To reduce the number of people killed and injured in crashes by 5% compared to last year's statistics.")

Working toward the stated goal the Gainesville Police Department will:

Reduce traffic crashes.

Reduce speed-related traffic crashes by 5%.

Reduce speed-related traffic fatalities by 5%.

Reduce injuries in traffic crashes by 5%.

Reduce speed-related traffic injuries by 5%.

Increase safety belt compliance by 2%.

Use Police Beat and other Social networking tools to raise awareness to the Public about aggressive driving.

Increase Following to Close citations by 5%.

Develop a "Top 10" list of high crash and/or fatality locations and conduct Wolfpack Operations each week at problem locations.

**Evaluation:** (Explain how you will determine if the project is a success.)

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.

Conduct weekly "Tactical Breifing" sessions for the Traffic safety Team (similar to Compstat)

Record the number of total stops, speed UTC, seatbelt UTC, child safety seat UTC, Total UTC, aggressive driving UTC, DUI arrests and total arrests.

Record the number of Public demonstrations conducted by the aggressive driving project and total number of people reached at those events.

Record the total number of presentations to include local schools and the total number of college and high school students reached.



