



▶ 2009 TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

▶ 2010 TPO ELECTION RESULTS



▶ NO TEXTING WHILE DRIVING

▶ TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND CLIMATE CHANGE

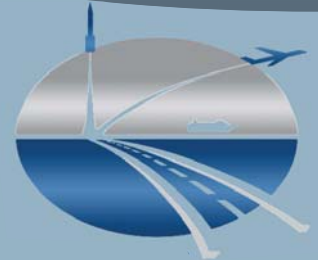


▶ BPTAC ANNUAL SAFETY AWARDS

▶ OUR READERS ASK

ISSUE IV | MARCH 2010

On the Go With Your TPO



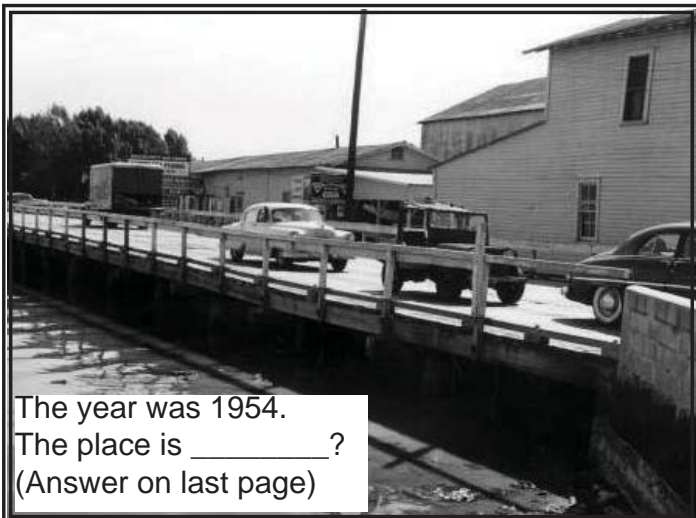
A PUBLICATION OF THE SPACE COAST TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Prioritizing Projects

Throughout the year, TPO staff, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and local governments collect and share roadway network data. This information is evaluated using performance measures (such as safety and congestion) to identify overall mobility trends and locate and rank corridors. Findings are compiled and presented in the annual State of the System Report. Using this report's list of ranked projects for technical guidance, the TPO submits a prioritized list of projects for implementation to FDOT. These priorities are used by FDOT to program State and Federal transportation funds in Brevard County. Programming commitments made by FDOT are included in its Five-Year Work Program and the TPO's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The 2009 Project Priorities was adopted by the TPO on September 10, 2009.

TPO Staff are currently in the process of soliciting Candidate Projects for 2010 Priorities.

Picture Trivia



The year was 1954.
The place is _____ ?
(Answer on last page)

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE STATE ARCHIVES OF FLORIDA

TPO CERTIFICATION REVIEW

The Transportation Planning Organization planning process will be reviewed by federal agencies on April 6-8, 2010. The Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration and the Florida Department of Transportation representatives conduct the review every three years. The purpose is to certify the Space Coast TPO planning program meets all federal and state requirements.

The review agencies will hold a **PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION** on the effectiveness of the TPO's planning process at 11:15 AM following the April 8 TPO Board meeting. The meeting will be on the Third Floor, Building C, Brevard County Government Center, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera.

For your convenience, a public input form is available on the Space Coast TPO website: www.spacecoasttpo.com. Look in the right hand column under TPO Info and Updates and click on the link "Federal TPO Certification Survey".

JOIN OUR E-NEWS!

Recently the Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization began sending out an electronic newsletter. *Space Coast TPO E-News* highlights transportation issues, upcoming meetings and other transportation related information. Please visit our website: www.spacecoasttpo.com to sign up.

2010 Election Results:

At the first meeting of the calendar year, the TPO Board elects voting members to serve as officers. The election results from the February 11, 2010 meeting are: Chair - Rockledge Mayor Larry Schultz; Vice-Chair - Palm Bay City Councilman Milo Zonka; and, Secretary - Melbourne City Councilwoman Kathy Meehan.

The Technical Advisory Committee officers were elected at their February 8, 2010 meeting. Chair is Palm Bay Deputy City Manager Sue Hann and the Vice-Chair is Melbourne Deputy City Manager Howard Ralls.

The Citizens Advisory Committee officers were also elected at their February 8, 2010 meeting. Chair is John DeVivo and the Vice-Chair is Jim Brown.

Congratulations to all elected officers!



TPO Chair,
Mayor Larry Schultz



TPO Vice Chair,
Councilman Milo Zonka

Brevard Community Traffic Safety Team (CTST) Elects New Officers

The CTST is comprised of individuals from both the private and public sector, representing law enforcement, engineering, emergency medical services, education, transportation planning and the general public. The CTST provides a forum through which members can bring forward traffic safety concerns (i.e. intersection improvements, crosswalks) for FDOT to review. Together, members work on projects holding the ultimate goal of reducing the number of fatalities, injuries and severity of injuries due to crashes on roadways within Brevard County.

At the November 2009 meeting, new officers were elected for the upcoming year: Chair: Lt. Pat Hartselle from the Rockledge Police Department; Vice Chair: Kim Smith, TPO Bicycle/Pedestrian Education Program Coordinator and, Secretary: Diana McCartney, TPO Administrative Secretary.

The CTST is currently recruiting new members. The group generally meets on the third Wednesday of the month at the Brevard County Government Center in Viera. Please visit the TPO's website for meeting dates.



TPO Secretary,
Councilwoman Kathy Meehan



2010 Brevard Community
Traffic Safety Team

New Sample Bill Will Aid States in Banning Texting While Driving

On February 22, 2010, U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood unveiled sample legislation to be used as a starting point for states crafting new laws to prohibit texting while behind-the-wheel. The sample state law includes authorizing law enforcement officers to stop a vehicle and issue a citation to drivers who are texting while driving.



“Texting while driving, like talking on cell phones while driving, is an extremely dangerous and life-threatening practice,” said Secretary LaHood. “This language, which we created with a variety of safety organizations, is another powerful tool in our arsenal to help the states combat this serious threat.”

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration research shows that in 2008, nearly 6,000 people died in crashes involving a distracted or inattentive driver, and more than half a million were injured. Research also shows that the most frequent offenders are the youngest and least-experienced drivers, men and women under 20 years of age.

Currently, nineteen States and the District of Columbia have texting laws covering all drivers. More information is available at www.distraction.gov.

Space Coast TPO Staff Director's Panel Participation:

On September 22 – 23, 2009, the Federal Highway Administration's Florida Division, together with FDOT, held a *Peer Exchange on Addressing Climate Change in the Transportation Planning Process* in Tampa.

Space Coast TPO Staff Director, Bob Kamm, served on a panel of Florida TPO/MPO Executive Directors to discuss some of the best practices and challenges in addressing climate change. In a letter to Chairman Schultz, sponsors pointed out that “Mr. Kamm's willingness to discuss some of the best practices and challenges of the Space Coast TPO in addressing climate change contributed significantly to the discussion and sharing of ideas. The resulting positive feedback shared by participants and organizers is a testament to the benefit of having Mr. Kamm participate and assist in the collaboration process.”



FDOT Announces Near Future Construction Projects

US 192: Construct second westbound left turn lane at Dairy Road intersection.

US 1: Intersection improvements at Barnes Boulevard in Rockledge.

US 192: Replace three east relief bridges at Indian River.

I-95: Asphalt repair along 3.3 miles from south of SR 50 to south of SR 406 (Garden Street).

SR 405: Resurface 4.4 miles from SR 50 to US 1.



April	
Alcohol Awareness Month, www.nih.gov	
April 5	TAC/CAC Meeting
April 8	TPO Meeting
April 19-23	National Work Zone Awareness Week, http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov
April 21	CTST Meeting

May	
National Youth Traffic Safety Month, www.noys.org	
Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month, www.nhtsa.gov	
National Bicycle Safety Month, www.bikeleague.org/index.cfm	
May 10	TAC/CAC Meeting
May 13	TPO Meeting
May 14	Bike to Work Day, www.bikeleague.org/indix.cfm
May 17-23	Emergency Medical Services Week, www.acep.org/emswweek
May 19	CTST Meeting
May 24 - June 6	Click it or Ticket Mobilization, www.nhtsa.gov

June	
No TPO or TAC/CAC Meetings	
June 7-13	National Tire Safety Week, www.safercar.gov
June 16	CTST Meeting
June 21	Ride Your Motorcycle to Work Day, www.ridetowork.org

July	
July 6	TAC/CAC Meeting
July 8	TPO Meeting
July 21	CTST Meeting

August	
No TPO or TAC/CAC Meetings	
August 2-8	National Stop on Red Week, http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/intersection/redlight/
August 18	CTST Meeting
August 20 - September 6	Drunk Driving. Over the Limit. Under Arrest. National Crackdown, www.stopimpaireddriving.org

September	
September 7	TAC/CAC Meeting
September 9	TPO Meeting
September 15	CTST Meeting
September 19-25	National Seat Check Saturday and Child Passenger Safety Week, www.nhtsa.gov



PLAN AHEAD!

Did you know that October is International Walk to School Month?

October 8th is Walk to School Day.

Contact TPO staff at 321-690-6890 for assistance in planning events for this day. Additional information can be found at: www.walktoschool.org.



TPO - Transportation Planning Organization
 TAC - Technical Advisory Committee
 CAC - Citizens Advisory Committee
 CTST - Community Traffic Safety Team

BPTAC Annual Safety Awards

The Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization's (TPO) Bicycle Pedestrian and Trails Advisory Committee (BPTAC) presented its annual Safety Awards at the November 12th, 2009, TPO Board meeting. These awards are given to individuals or agencies that have excelled in promoting safe bicycling and walking through Engineering, Enforcement, Education and/or Encouragement. Recipients were:

Educator of The Year

The Space Coast Transportation Planning Organization is proud to announce that staff member Kim Smith (right), Bicycle/ Pedestrian Education Program Coordinator, received the *Educator of the Year Award* from the Florida Bicycle



Association (FBA). Ms. Smith was recognized for her efforts and achievements in helping to inspire and support people and communities throughout Brevard County to enjoy greater freedom and well being through bicycling. The award was presented to Ms. Smith at the FBA Annual meeting on October 10, 2009.



Education-
Heather Ball-
Physical Education
Teacher, Columbia
Elementary, Palm
Bay

Enforcement-

Sgt. Sean Riordan-
Melbourne Police
Department, Traffic
Unit and Deputy Mitch
Boshnack- Brevard
County Sherriff's Office



The Space Coast
TPO and BPTAC
congratulate and salute
all recipients on their
efforts to enhance safe
bicycling and walking in
Brevard County!



**Community
Partner-** Adams'
Distribution &
Storage, Inc.

Lifetime Achievement-

Sally White-
Physical
Education
Teacher, Palm
Bay Elementary



Engineering-
City of
Rockledge-
Barton Blvd.
Improvements/
Stormwater Park



Encouragement-
City of Palm
Bay- Bayfront
Redevelopment



Get on a Trail- John
Harper- Volusia County
Engineering
Susanne Wilde- Volusia
County Parks and
Recreation
For Coordination on
the East Central Florida
Regional Rail Trail

Crossing Guard Appreciation Day

FDOT designated February 5, 2010 as School Crossing Guard Appreciation Day to recognize the hard work and dedication of those who ensure a safe journey to and from school. Five awards were presented, two recipients were from Brevard County:

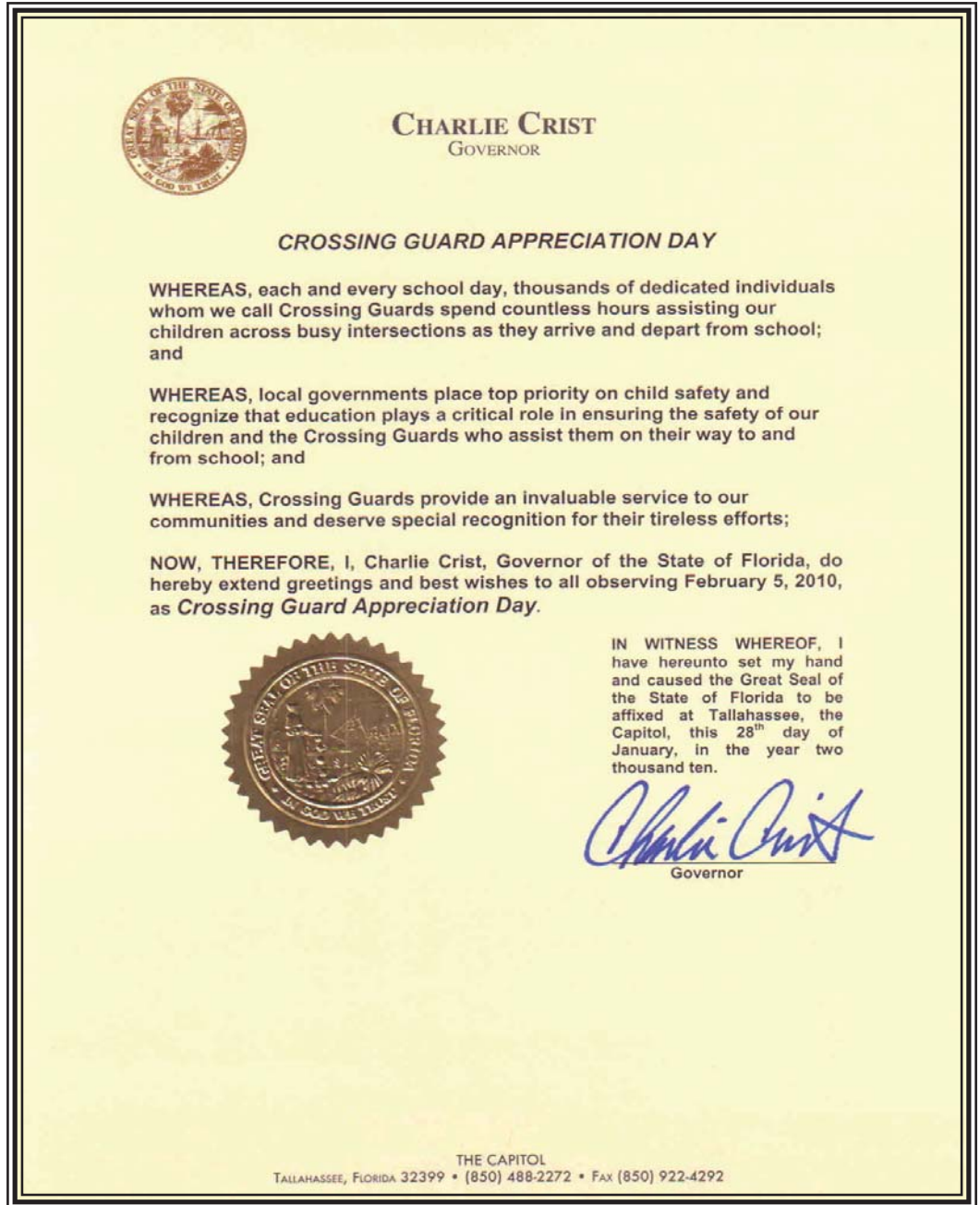
Lt. Patrick Hartselle, Rockledge Police Department – School Crossing Guard Trainer of the Year

Lt. Hartselle developed and implemented an all inclusive crossing guard training program. All Rockledge crossing guards were fully trained, certified and ready for the first day of the Florida school year. FDOT noted that “the support and training received by the Rockledge crossing guards under the management and direction of Lt. Hartselle is second to none.” (Note: Lt. Hartselle is also Chair of the Brevard Community Traffic Safety Program).

Rockledge Police Department – Small Agency School Crossing Guard Program of the Year

The Rockledge Police Department and their guards work together closely to provide the best possible service to the community. In 2009, the guards received training in CPR, bicycle helmet certification, recognizing child abuse and traffic control. FDOT officials noted that “this is a great group of people who perform whatever it takes to get the job done...”

CONGRATULATIONS !





Our Readers Ask.....

Steve B asks:

“Is talking on a cell phone any worse than having a conversation with someone in the car?”

Any activity a driver engages in while driving has the potential to distract the driver from the primary task of driving. There are three main types of distraction: Visual – taking your eyes off the road; Manual – taking your hands off the wheel; and, Cognitive – taking your mind off what you’re doing.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) reports that some research findings comparing cell phone use to passenger conversations while driving show each to be equally risky, while other findings show cell phone use to be more risky. A significant difference between the two is:

- A passenger can monitor the driving situation along with the driver and pause for, or alert the driver to, potential hazards.
- A person on the other end of the phone line is unaware of the roadway situation.

If you are driving out-of-state, it is important to remember that some states and territories have enacted bans on hand-held devices or texting. For a list of states with bans you can visit www.distraction.gov.

Helpful Safety Tip From NHTSA

Actions Consumers Can Take if they Cannot Stop their Vehicle

Recently there has been information in the news about certain vehicles having problems with the accelerator pedal getting stuck or being slow to return under certain conditions. Regardless of the cause, if a consumer is experiencing unintended acceleration in their vehicle, the NHTSA suggests they take the following steps:

- Brake firmly and steadily – do not pump the brake pedal.
- Shift the transmission into Neutral (for vehicles with automatic transmissions and the sport option, familiarize yourself with where Neutral is – the diagram may be misleading).
- Steer to a safe location.
- Shut the engine off (for vehicles with keyless ignition, familiarize yourself with how to turn the vehicle off when it is moving – this may be a different action than turning the vehicle off when it is stationary).
- Call your dealer or repair shop to pick up the vehicle.
- Do not drive the vehicle until it is repaired.

For more information, consumers can contact the NHTSA Hotline at 888-327-4236, or visit www.nhtsa.gov.



National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
Our Mission: Save lives, prevent injuries, reduce vehicle-related crashes

Your Opinion Matters!

“How can we improve our transportation system?”

“What are our transportation priorities for tomorrow?”

“How do we pay for transportation system improvements in the future?”

These are just some of the questions we are looking to address during the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) Update process. This multi-modal Plan needs public involvement to help guide us when prioritizing projects and give us a greater understanding of public needs and expectations. We want to hear your ideas or concerns about transportation; specifically, our highway, bicycle and pedestrian, transit and bridge transportation systems. How can you get involved?

- Visit www.spacecoasttpo and view LRTP Updates.
- Subscribe to E-News (see cover).
- Participate in upcoming public meetings in June (check our website for dates).
- Contact TPO staff through our website “Contact Staff” link or phone – 321-690-6890.

Have You Visited Us Lately?

The Space Coast TPO website is continually being updated with new information. Some of the newest items include: Fiscal Year 2009 Annual Report, 2010 DRAFT Public Participation Plan, and the 2008 State of the System Report. Make sure you add www.spacecoasttpo.com to your list of “favorites”.

Answer to Picture Trivia:
Beginning of the SR 520
Causeway in Cocoa Village.



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Melbourne, Florida 32940

