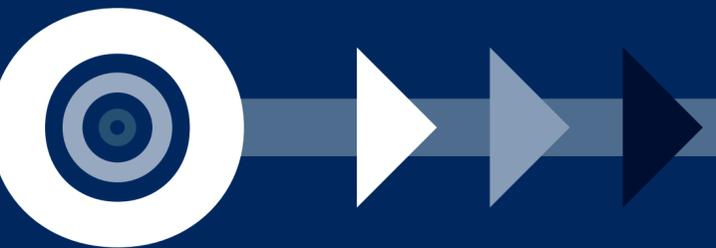


DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Quarter 1 • 2024

City of Gainesville

VISION ZERO



Information &
Project Update

VISION ZERO WORKGROUP

The City Commission adopted a Vision Zero Resolution to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries in the City of Gainesville by 2040. A multidisciplinary Vision Zero Workgroup was formed to help lead and consolidate the Vision Zero efforts. The **VZ Workgroup** is comprised of diverse disciplines including transportation planners, traffic engineers, emergency response personnel from police, fire rescue, and public health and communications experts.

Multiple agencies collaborate in this effort including the:

- [City of Gainesville](#)
- [Alachua County](#)
- [Florida Dept of Transportation](#)
- [University of Florida](#)
- [Santa Fe College](#)
- [Gainesville Police Department](#)

The collaborative focus seeks to advance a common goal and interest in enhancing the safety of the transportation system and all of its users.

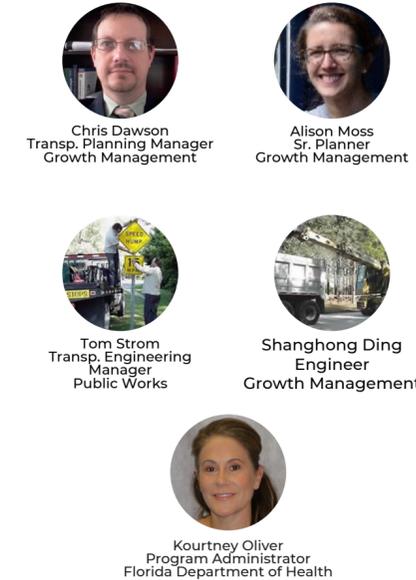
COG TRANSPORTATION



COG PARTNER DEPARTMENTS



ALACHUA COUNTY PARTNERS



STATE PARTNERS





Photographer: Graham Glover

Sgt. Lynne Valdes

City of Gainesville Police Department

Lynne Valdes is a Sergeant over the Traffic Safety Team with the Gainesville Police Department. She has worked for the department for 13 years. In that time, she has been assigned to Patrol Operations, the Training Bureau, and the Traffic Safety Team.

In her latest assignment, she works to educate everyone: pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists of their role when it comes to safely traveling the streets of Gainesville. Through her role on the Traffic Safety Team she works to enforce traffic laws to create safer streets, while also investigating serious/fatal crashes as a Traffic Homicide Investigator for the department. In 2023, Sgt. Valdes collaborated with several local agencies (FDOT, Alachua Co. Health Promotion

& Wellness Coalition, UFPD, ASO, FHP, APD, GFR, UF Health-Trauma injury Prevention & Peds Trauma Prevention) to host numerous traffic and educational details around the city. In the coming year, Sgt. Valdes will also manage the \$249,000 in FDOT sub grants received for the 2024 year, while applying for 2025 sub grants. The 2024 sub grants include: Impaired Driving, Occupant Protection, Distracted Driving, and Scooter/Motorcycle Safety.

Sergeant Valdes' previous notable experiences include: graduating with a doctorate in Higher Education Administration from the University of Florida in 2021, being the first female to make the SWAT Team at the Gainesville Police Department.

VISION ZERO IN THE NEWS

Bike & Roll to School Day

FALL 2023

The city of Gainesville's Vision Zero Workgroup and Partners celebrated National Pedestrian Safety Month in October 2023. Bike & Roll to School Day involved several schools in Gainesville, city staff and partners joining the students in riding a bicycle / scooter / roller blades up & down the sidewalk (with helmets on of course!), to promote inclusion / motivate participation.

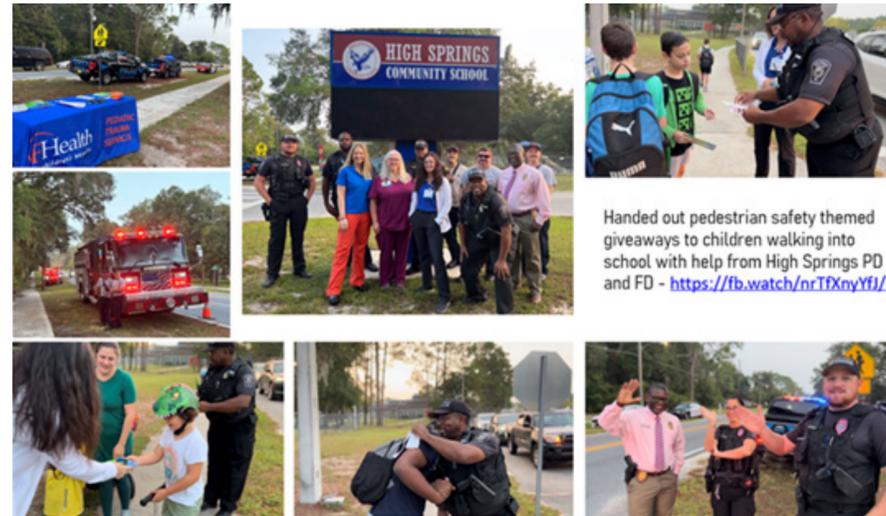
October Walk to School Day events were so fun and engage the community on Vision Zero Goals.

SPRING 2024 (Tentative May 8, 2024)

This spring, Littlewood Elementary is coordinating with GPD to host its own Bike & Roll to School Day. It is supported by the same organization as Walk & Ride to School Day, except the spring event will only promote bike, scooter, and roller blade riders. Littlewood Elementary was very motivated to help organize the event with Sgt. Lynne Valdes of the the GPD team.

SAFETY RESOURCES

- [Ped Motion Graphics: Driving Safely](#)
- [NHTSA Pedestrian Safety](#)



Handed out pedestrian safety themed giveaways to children walking into school with help from High Springs PD and FD - <https://fb.watch/nrTFXnyYfi/>



Handed out pedestrian safety themed giveaways to children walking from school with help from Shandscair, GFR, GPD, and FTS



• Provided "be aware, move with care" bracelets, helmet tattoos, and "Safety Rules at Home, School, and Around the Neighborhood" educational books to students walking into school with help from ASO officers



Handed out pedestrian safety themed giveaways to children walking into school with help from Shandscair, GPD, FDOT, and FTS - [Alachua County students 'walk or roll' to school in effort to learn about road safety \(wctb.com\)](#)



VISION ZERO IN THE NEWS

Bike Helmet Certification Training

The Pedestrian and Bicycling Safety Resource Center (PedBike SRC) is Florida's online store for free educational materials and resources to address the many causes of pedestrian and bicycle crashes, injuries, and fatalities and to promote safe pedestrian and bicycling activities for residents of all ages.

The PedBike SRC coordinator, Paul Simpson, provides helmet fitter training and certification courses. Certified helmet fitters are eligible to receive free bike helmets and other bike safety materials for distribution to the community. The training focuses on the proper use and fit of bike helmets, laws regarding bike helmets, and how to educate about use in the community.

Gainesville Fire Rescue, Gainesville Department of Transportation, and Alachua County had 8 staff participate in bike helmet certification training.

Learn more at:

<https://www.pedbikesrc.ce.ufl.edu/pedbike/default.asp>



VISION ZERO IN THE NEWS

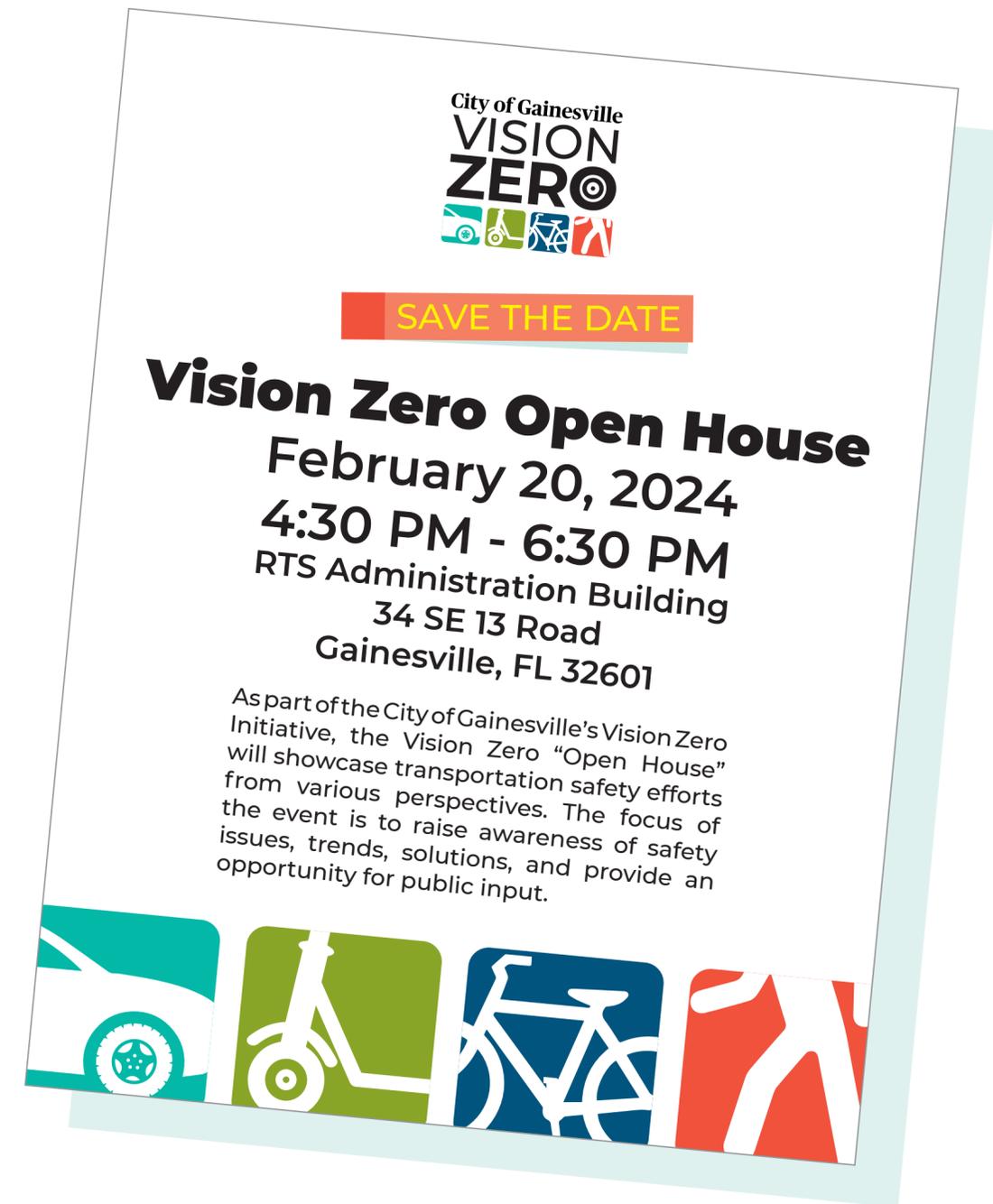
Vision Zero “Open House”

As part of the City of Gainesville’s Vision Zero Initiative, the Vision Zero “Open House” will showcase transportation safety efforts from various perspectives. Guest speakers from the City, County and State will present current findings and hold question and answer sessions for the public.

The focus of the event is to raise awareness of safety issues, trends, solutions, and provide an opportunity for public input.

The event is supported by City leadership with participation from several city departments and partner organizations linked to transportation, health, and emergency response.

Learn more about Vision Zero initiatives at [City of Gainesville Vision Zero](#).



GAINESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT: Grant Awards

The City of Gainesville Motorcycle/Scooter Safety and Education Program

\$72,000

The City of Gainesville Motorcycle/Scooter Safety and Education Program is a proactive traffic enforcement and education project with a focus on motorcycle and scooter infractions. The grant also funds a minimum of four to six-hour Safe Motorcycle and Rider Techniques (SMART) courses to train riders in real-world scenarios to help reduce the number of crashes and fatalities within the city.

The City of Gainesville Distracted Driver Program

\$45,000

The City of Gainesville Distracted Driver Program is a proactive traffic enforcement and education project with a focus on reducing distracted driving behaviors, such as sending a text message, talking on a cell phone, using a navigation system, and eating while [driving].

The City of Gainesville Safe Gator Program

\$72,000

The City of Gainesville Safe Gator program is a proactive traffic enforcement and education project targeting driving under the influence (DUI) of drugs, alcohol, and similar substances that affect motor capabilities and aggressive driving behaviors to help reduce the number of crashes and fatalities within the city.

The City of Gainesville Occupant Protection Program

\$60,000

The City of Gainesville Occupant Protection Program is a proactive traffic enforcement and education project targeting unrestrained occupants and seat belt education. It includes but is not limited to car seat checks and education to protect children and vehicle occupants other than the drivers to reduce the number of crashes and fatalities within the city.

**Total FDOT grant funds awarded
\$249,000**

The goal of all of the grants funded by the Florida Department of Transportation is a reduction of crashes and crash-related fatalities through education and enforcement. These programs are in line with the City of Gainesville's Vision Zero Action Plan.

GAINESVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT: 2023 Community Events

JANUARY

Jan. 16 MLK Parade Escort
Jan. 24 Newberry HS Criminal Justice Expo

FEBRUARY

Feb. 6 Stepping Stones Community Helper Presentation
Feb. 10 Hosted IPTM HVE Bike/Pedestrian Training for LEO
Feb. 17 Funeral Escort for Alachua County Sheriff's Office
Feb. 18 Escort for LifeSouth Race
Feb. 20 Hosted IPTM HVE Bike/Pedestrian Training for LEO

MARCH

Mar. 6 Attended UF Virtual Traffic Stop Presentation
Mar. 18 Hosted a SMART Motorcycle Training Event
Mar. 18 Conducted an Impaired Driving Education Detail
Mar. 29 Funeral Escort for Gainesville Police Department

APRIL

Apr. 5 St. Patrick's Vehicle Day
Apr. 6 Idlywild Vehicle Day
Apr. 7 Hosted a SMART Motorcycle Training Event
Apr. 14 Talbot Vehicle Day

Apr. 14 Funeral Escort for GPD
Apr. 15 Motorcycle safety w/ Hoggetown Motorcycle Club @ Harley Davidson
Apr. 26 Escort for Law Enforcement Torch Run

MAY

May 5 DUI Impairment Education & Enforcement Detail "Let's TACO bout an Uber"
May 24 FDOT 100 Deadliest Days Kick Off
May 27 Hosted a SMART Motorcycle Training Event

JUNE

Jun. 3 Hosted a SMART Motorcycle Training Event
Jun. 8 Hosted FDLE DUI Trial Prep Training for LEO
Jun. 10 Hosted a SMART Motorcycle Training Event
Jun. 14 Assisted with GPD Junior Police Academy
Jun. 24 Hosted a SMART Motorcycle Training Event
Jun. 28 Assisted with Public Safety Summer Camp

AUGUST

Aug. 10-8 & 15 Distracted Driving School/Zone Detail
Aug. 18 Impaired Driving Detail: "Alcohol Education: 101"
Aug. 25 DUI Detail

SEPTEMBER

Sep. 8 Safety City Demo
Sep. 19 Joint city Commission/UF Senate Meeting Presentation
Sep. 27 Safety City Demo

OCTOBER

Oct. 4 National Walk/Roll to School Event at Talbot & Littlewood
Oct. 5 Exacttech Health Fair
Oct. 6 UF Homecoming Parade
Oct. 23 Vision Zero Pedestrian Safety Update w/ Commission
Oct. 26 "Walk the line detail" for 2600 PHB

NOVEMBER

Nov. 18 Escort for Biker's On Parade

DECEMBER

Dec. 2 Escort for GNV Parade
Dec. 5 DUI Training & Education for COG employees with CDLs
Dec. 9 Escort for Alachua Parade
Dec. 11-12 & 15 Aggressive Driving Joint Detail w/ ASO "Operation Sleighting It"
Dec. 16 Escort for Wreaths Across America
Dec. 18 Escort for Chestnut Funeral
Dec. 19 DUI Training & Education for COG employees with CDLs



VISION ZERO RESOURCES



NHTSA

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-safety>



Vision Zero

<https://www.gainesvillefl.gov/Government-Pages/Government/Departments/Transportation/Vision-Zero>



Vision Zero Network

<https://visionzeronetwork.org/>



Florida Department of Transportation

<https://www.fdot.gov/agencyresources/target-zero>