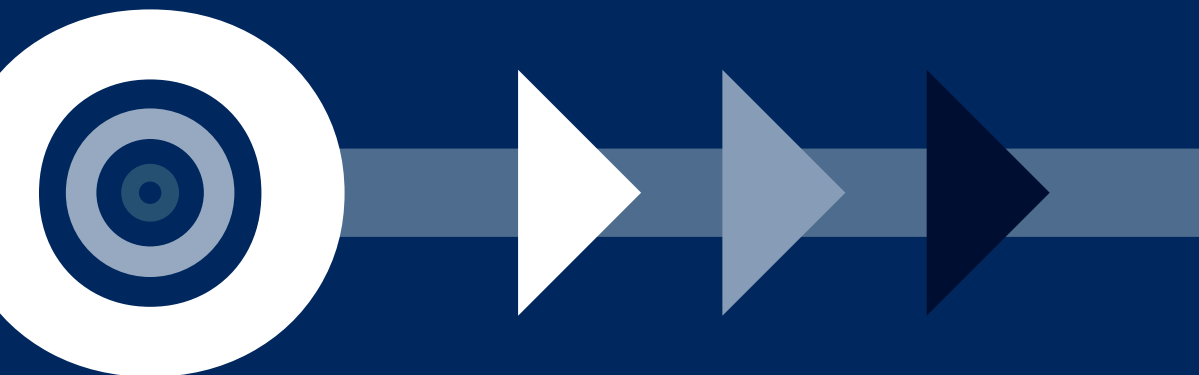


DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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



Jesus Gomez  
Director



Debbie Leistner  
Planning & Parking  
Manager



Karla Rodriguez-Silva  
Vision Zero  
Coordinator



Tom Idoyaga  
RTS Transit  
Community Specialist



Scott Wright  
Planner IV

## COG PARTNER DEPARTMENTS



Asst. Chief  
Stephen Hesson  
Fire Rescue



Sgt. Lynne Valdes  
Police Department



Brian Singleton  
Director  
Public Works



Emmanuel Posadas  
Manager  
Traffic Ops



Brandy Stone  
Director  
Community Health



Capt. Sims  
Sheriff Office



Jennifer Smart  
Director  
Communications and  
Marketing



Juan Castillo  
Planner III  
Sustainable Development

## ALACHUA COUNTY PARTNERS



Chris Dawson  
Transp. Planning Manager  
Growth Management



Alison Moss  
Sr. Planner  
Growth Management



Tom Strom  
Transp. Engineering  
Manager  
Public Works



Shanghong Ding  
Engineer  
Growth Management



Kourtney Oliver  
Program Administrator  
Florida Department of Health

## STATE PARTNERS



Scott Fox  
Director  
UF Transportation  
& Parking



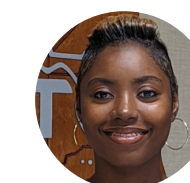
Mable Baker  
Interim Director  
Santa Fe College



Liam McClay  
Vice President  
Public and  
Governmental Affairs  
Santa Fe College



Adam Doyle  
Operations Program  
Engineer  
FDOT



Achaia Brown  
Transportation Planning  
Manager  
FDOT

City of  
**Gainesville**

**UF** UNIVERSITY of  
**FLORIDA**

**SF** SANTA FE  
COLLEGE







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.

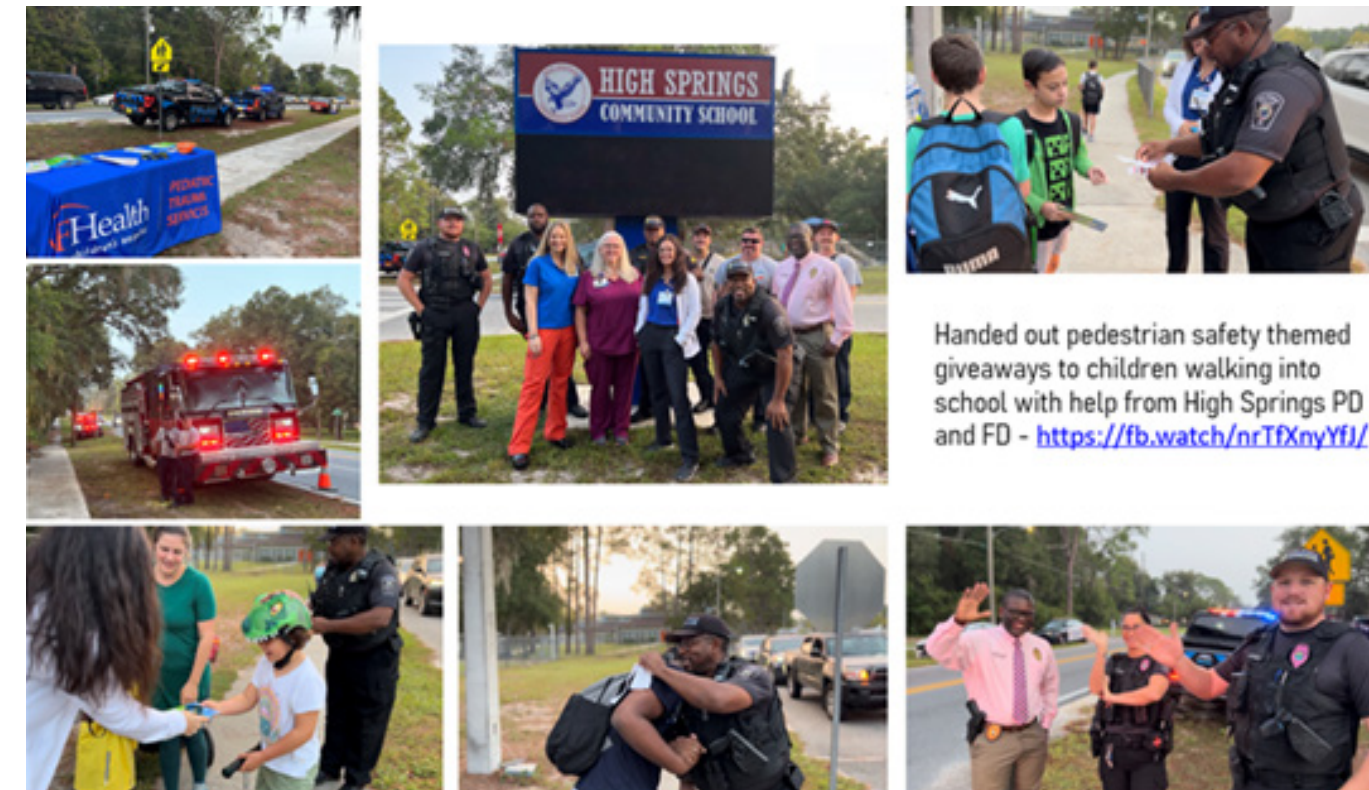
October Walk to School Day events were so fun and engage the community on Vision Zero Goals.

### 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 (wcbj.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 SchoolZone 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 Sleighing 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>