

TRAFFIC CRASH ANALYSIS THIRD QUARTER 2020

In order to be pro-active with reducing the number of crashes that occur yearly, the Punta Gorda Police Department conducts a quarterly crash analysis. Therefore, the Accident Report by Intersection report, Accident Report by Zone report, Injury and Property Damage Analysis report, Accident Report by Parking Lot report and the Accident Report by Non-Intersection report generated in the OSSI accident module along with Monthly Activity Reports, CAD Directed Patrol Traffic report and CAD Traffic Stop report are utilized as resources for data presentation in the identification of problem areas (if any), and recommendations toward public education and/or enforcement action(s).

The data for the third quarter of 2020 (July 1st through September 30th) was reviewed and analyzed and indicated there were 128 total crashes within the City, with 46 occurring at intersections and another 82 occurring upon a roadway other than at an intersection. Parking lot crashes (36) are included in the total crash number, however, are not broken down by location, due to these crashes being attributed to design issues related to the parking lots themselves.

Of the 128 total crashes that occurred within the third quarter of 2020, 2 crashes involved bicyclists with one non-incapacitating injury reported. There were no crashes reported during the third quarter of 2020 involving motorcycles or pedestrians. One crash involving a bicyclist occurred when a motorist who did not observe the bicyclist made a wide turn into the entrance of a parking lot and the other crash occurred when the bicyclist experiencing a medical emergency merged into the roadway in front of a moving vehicle without signaling.

There was an increase of 6 total crashes in the third quarter of 2020 from the third quarter of 2019 (this includes a decrease of 5 parking lot crashes).

Data Presentation

Top Intersections

Rank	Location	No. of Crashes
1.	West Olympia Avenue at Cross Street	4

2.	East Marion Avenue at Tamiami Trail Tamiami Trail at Carmalita Street Tamiami Trail at East Olympia Avenue	3
3.	Cooper Street at Carmalita Street Tamiami Trail at East McKenzie Street Tamiami Trail at West Marion Avenue West Marion Avenue at Shreve Street West Retta Esplanade at Cross Street	2

- There were a total of 23 intersections in which one crash occurred.
- Of the 4 crashes that occurred at the intersection of West Olympia Avenue and Cross Street, 3 were a result of vehicles on Cross Street failing to stop for a red light at the intersection of West Olympia Avenue and the other one was a result of a vehicle pulling a trailer conducting an improper lane change. Of the 4 crashes there were 4 possible injuries reported and 2 crashes reported substantial damage while the other 2 reported minor damage.

Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes

Injuries	Zone/Amount
Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes	Zone 1 - 10
	Zone 3 - 0
	Zone 5 - 2
	Total - 12

- Of the 12 total injuries, 9 injuries were non-incapacitating injuries and 3 injuries were incapacitating. There was an increase of 1 injury in the third quarter of 2020 from the third quarter of 2019.

Identification of Problem Areas

Zone Breakdown (Including Parking Lots)	Number
Zone 1	92
Zone 3	12

Zone 5	24
Total Crashes	128

- Zone 1 represents 71.87 percent of the 128 city-wide crashes which is a decrease of 4.36 percent from the third quarter of 2019.

Response to 2020 First Quarter Analysis

Lieutenant Kelvin Jimenez and Delta Squad were tasked with assessing and addressing the information contained within the second quarter of 2020 Traffic Crash Analysis report. During the third quarter of 2020, Patrol focused enforcement on Tamiami Trail (northbound and southbound) primarily in the downtown Punta Gorda area of West/East Marion Avenues and West/East Olympia Avenues. This enforcement extended to the intersections of East Olympia Avenue at Mary Street and Aqui Esta Drive at Palm Drive. During the third quarter of 2020, Patrol conducted the following enforcement:

- A total of 298 Directed Traffic Patrols were conducted, 181 of which were in zone 1 and 23 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 656 traffic stops were initiated, 388 of which were in zone 1 and 19 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 189 Uniformed Traffic Citations and 606 Written Warnings were issued during the third quarter of 2020.
- A “Dummy” car was deployed intermittently at problematic intersections.
- The message board and radar trailer were also utilized throughout the city limits to assist with traffic complaints received during the third quarter of 2020. Combined they were placed at 7 separate locations throughout the quarter.
- The Community Engagement Unit was deployed as a traffic enforcement measure to combat complaints of speeders and other traffic violators throughout the City.
- The Punta Gorda Police Motor Unit, when available was assigned to the problem intersections to conduct extra traffic patrols.

During the second quarter of 2020, 75.5 percent of the crashes occurred in zone 1. During the third quarter of 2020, 60.6 percent of all written warnings and citations were issued in zone 1.

This information was documented in a memorandum composed by Lieutenant Kelvin Jimenez, which was filed in the source file.

Recommendations toward Public Education and/or Enforcement Action(s)

The information contained within the memorandum is meant to be used as a tool, not only for enforcement related activity but for educational purposes as well. As it is the objective to gain voluntary compliance of Florida State Statutes from the motoring public, members of the agency have a number of resources at their disposal to help the agency meet the aforementioned goal. Included in the resources available to members of the agency are: the uses of unmanned line vehicles, unmarked patrol units, two speed radar trailers, the message board and directed traffic patrols.

The information contained within this analysis identifies that there was an increase in the number of crashes within the City (a total increase of 42 crashes) since the second quarter of 2020. Part of the increase in the number of crashes may be attributed to the seasonal residents returning to their Florida homes, Executive Orders issued by Governor Ron DeSantis re-opening the State of Florida during the COVID-19 pandemic and the increase of construction on the US 41 corridor.

In response to this analysis, supervisors are requested and encouraged to continue their diligent traffic enforcement related activities. Lieutenant Chris Salsman and Bravo Squad will lead the response to this quarter's analysis and the subsequent completion of the SCARS report.

Please use this data for the appropriate education and enforcement by you and your squads in the target areas mentioned above. Feel free to use the full resources of the department. Remember, the objective is for enforcement action taken to correlate with a reduction of overall crashes for the next quarter and at the above listed locations.

Finally, the raw data reports used for this analysis can be viewed via the 'P' drive under Operations/Uniform Patrol Section/Traffic/Traffic Analysis Report/2020/3rd Quarter.

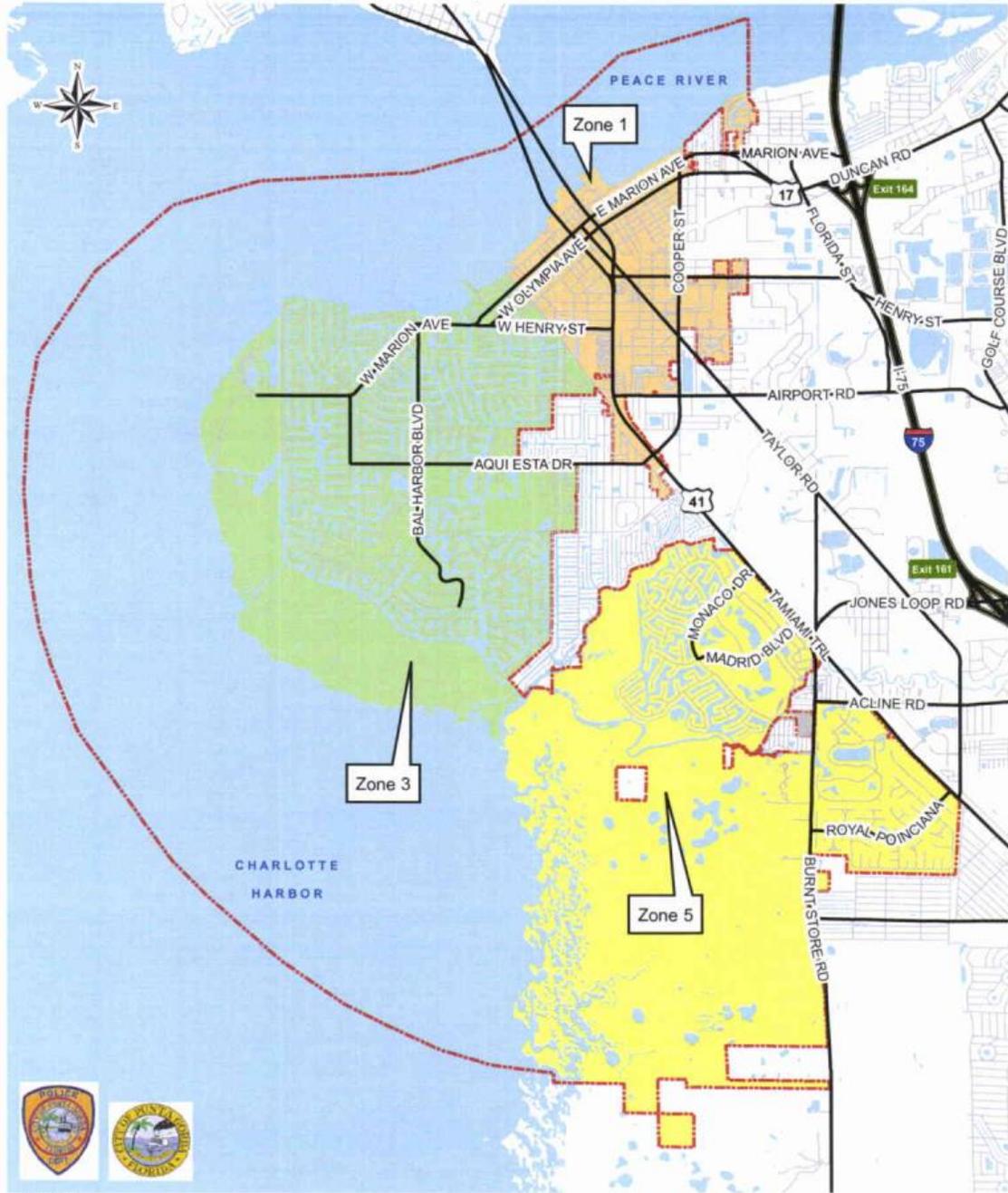
Resources:

Injury and Property Damage Analysis Report
Accident Report by Intersection Report
Accident Report by Zone Report
Accident Report by Parking Lot Report

Accident Report by Non-Intersection Report
Monthly Activity Reports
CAD Directed Patrol – Traffic Report
CAD Traffic Stop Report

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Police Zones - City of Punta Gorda



- Legend**
- City Limits
 - Zone 1
 - Zone 3
 - Zone 5
 - I-75
 - Major Road
 - Street



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