

TRAFFIC CRASH ANALYSIS SECOND 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 second quarter of 2020 (April 1st through June 30th) was reviewed and analyzed and indicated there were 86 total crashes within the City, with 33 occurring at intersections and another 35 occurring upon a roadway other than at an intersection. Parking lot crashes (18) 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 86 total crashes that occurred within the second quarter of 2020, 2 crashes involved bicyclists with no injuries reported and 2 crashes involved motorcycles with one motorcyclist traveling over the speed limit while attempting to navigate a turn which resulted in a fatality. Both vehicles involved with the crashes involving bicyclists were traveling at a very low rate of speed and failed to yield the right-of-way. The second accident involving a motorcyclist was at an intersection and a vehicle turned in front of him. The motorcyclist was ejected off the motorcycle but did not sustain any injuries.

There was a decrease of 75 total crashes in the second quarter of 2020 from the second quarter of 2019 (this includes a decrease of 23 parking lot crashes). The decrease of total crashes in the second quarter of 2020 from the second quarter of 2019 can be attributed to the Executive Orders issued by Governor Ron DeSantis to stay at home during the COVID-19 pandemic and the closing of food and liquor establishments.

Data Presentation

Top Intersections

Rank	Location	No. of Crashes
1.	East Olympia Avenue at Mary Street	4
2.	Cross Street at West Olympia Avenue Tamiami Trail at West Olympia Avenue	3
3.	Aqui Esta at Palm Drive Cross Street at West Marion Avenue Tamiami Trail at East Marion Avenue	2

- There were a total of 17 intersections in which one crash occurred.
- Of the 4 crashes that occurred at the intersection of East Olympia Avenue and Mary Street, 2 were a result of vehicles on Mary Street not yielding the right of way to vehicles on East Olympia Avenue and the other 2 were a result of vehicles making an improper turn onto Mary Street from the middle lane of East Olympia Avenue. All 4 crashes were minor with 1 crash reporting 4 non-incapacitating injuries.

Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes

Injuries	Zone/Amount
Injuries Related to Roadway Crashes	Zone 1 - 5
	Zone 3 - 2
	Zone 5 - 0
	Total - 7

- Of the 7 total injuries, 5 injuries were non-incapacitating injuries, 1 injury was incapacitating and 1 traffic fatality which was due to a motorcyclist traveling approximately 15 miles per hour over the speed limit and failing to navigate a turn causing him to strike the curbing of the median. There was a decrease of 5 injuries in the second quarter of 2020 from the second quarter of 2019.

Identification of Problem Areas

Zone Breakdown (Including Parking Lots)	Number
Zone 1	65
Zone 3	12
Zone 5	9
Total Crashes	86

- Zone 1 represents 75.5 percent of the 86 city-wide crashes which is an increase of 2.3% from the second quarter of 2019.

Response to 2020 First Quarter Analysis

Lieutenant David Lipker and Echo Squad were tasked with assessing and addressing the information contained within the first quarter of 2020 Traffic Crash Analysis report. During the second quarter of 2020, Patrol focused enforcement on Tamiami Trail (northbound and southbound) primarily in the downtown Punta Gorda area of East Marion and East Olympia Avenues. This enforcement extended to the intersections of Tamiami Trail at Airport Road, East McKenzie Street, and Aqui Esta Drive. Officers also patrolled the intersections of West Olympia Avenue and West Marion Avenue at Maud Street. During the second quarter of 2020, Patrol conducted the following enforcement:

- A total of 512 Directed Traffic Patrols were conducted, 64 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 1,033 traffic stops were initiated, 15 of which were within the identified problematic area.
- A total of 221 Uniformed Traffic Citations and 864 Written Warnings were issued during the second 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 second quarter of 2020. Combined they were placed at 14 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 first quarter of 2020, 67.0 percent of the crashes occurred in zone 1. During the second quarter of 2020, 68.2 percent of all written warnings and citations were issued in zone 1.

This information was documented in a memorandum composed by Lieutenant David Lipker, 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 trailer, the message board and directed traffic patrols.

The information contained within this analysis identifies that there was a decrease in the number of crashes within the City (a total decrease of 99 crashes) since the first quarter of 2020. Part of the decrease in the number of crashes can be attributed to the seasonal residents returning home for the summer sooner than anticipated because of COVID-19, the Executive Orders issued by Governor Ron DeSantis to stay at home and the closure of establishments licensed to sell alcohol and food during the COVID-19 pandemic. During the second quarter of 2020 there was a total of 86 crashes, which is 75 less than the second quarter of 2019.

In response to this analysis, supervisors are requested and encouraged to continue their diligent traffic enforcement related activities. Lieutenant Kelvin Jimenez and Delta 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/2020/2nd 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

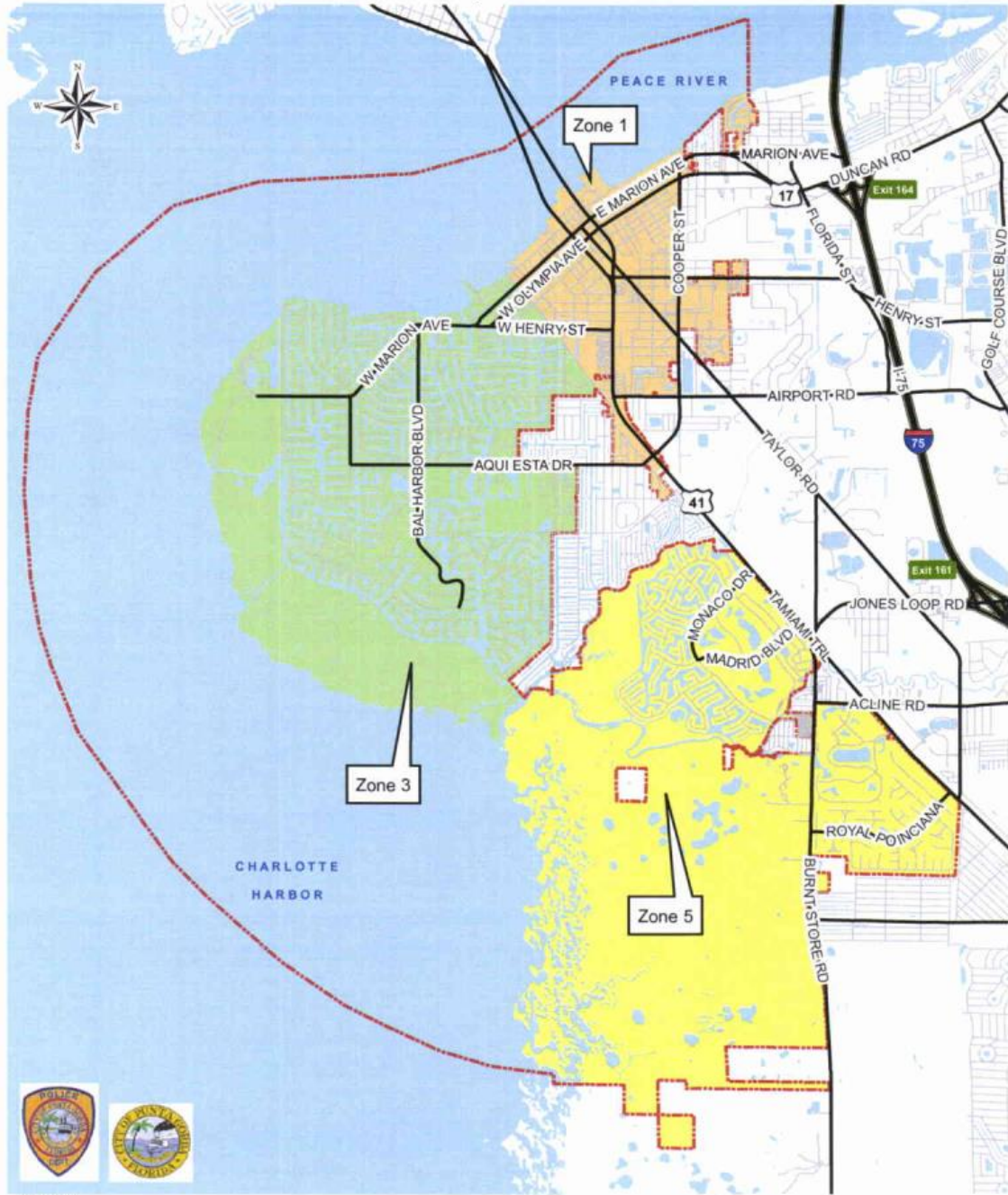
CAD Directed Patrol – Traffic Report

CAD Traffic Stop Report

/s/

nhn

Police Zones - City of Punta Gorda



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



This map is a representation of current public information. The City of Punta Gorda and its employees make no warranties, implied or otherwise, as to the accuracy or completeness of the information and bear no responsibility for the same. This map is for informational purposes only and should not be used for any other purpose. The City of Punta Gorda is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this map. The City of Punta Gorda is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this map. The City of Punta Gorda is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this map. The City of Punta Gorda is not responsible for any errors or omissions in this map.