



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 24-00591

Agenda Date: 8/6/2024

Agenda Item Name:

Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits

Presenter:

Alison Moss, Transportation Planning Manager; Lieutenant Billy Beck, Alachua County Sheriff's Office

Description:

Per Board Direction, Staff have drafted an Ordinance related to Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits, permitting enforcement of applicable speed limits in school zones during school sessions through the use of a speed detection system, as provided for by Chapter 2023-174, Laws of Florida. Staff have also been coordinating with the Alachua County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) and the Clerk of the Court (Clerk), and, through these discussions, have concluded that an expansive Ordinance with a limited/phased roll-out represents the most prudent approach. Staff have scheduled this meeting to give the Board, ACSO and Clerk the opportunity to discuss any concerns and questions related to a School Zone Speed Enforcement program.

Recommended Action:

- 1) Proceed with advertising the Ordinance related to Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits.
- 2) Direct Staff to draft an Interlocal Agreement between the County and the Alachua County Sheriff's Office regarding program responsibilities and revenue-sharing.

Prior Board Motions:

On May 28, 2024, the Board directed Staff to advertise an ordinance to enact the use of Speed Detection Systems in Alachua County School Zones. The Board further directed that the Ordinance should allow for enforcement of *applicable* speed limits in school zones during the (*entirety of*) school sessions by Speed Detection Systems.

Fiscal Note:

Per Florida Statute, the program specifies receipts will be electronically transferred to the Department of Revenue weekly

- \$20 to DOR General Revenue Fund
- \$3 to DOR Department of Law Enforcement Criminal Justice Standards and Training Trust Fund
- \$12 to the School Board
- \$60 County Program which will cover vendor, Sheriff administration, and public safety initiatives.
- \$5 School Crossing Guard Recruitment and Retention Program

- The proposed model for a speed detection program would involve contracting a qualified vendor through Alachua County Sheriff's Office and be reimbursed through revenues collected per the Florida Statutes. It is the intent that Sheriff's related costs be offset by these revenues.

Strategic Guide:

Public Safety, Infrastructure

Background:

At two previous meetings of the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (MTPO) for the Gainesville Urbanized Area, Alachua County Board of County Commissioners asked (MTPO) Staff for information regarding the use of speed detection systems to enforce speed limits in school zones, as permitted by Chapter 2023-174, Laws of Florida. On May 28, 2024, County Staff presented information to the Board regarding Chapter 2023-174, including the requirement to enact an ordinance to authorize installation of speed detection systems, and requested Board direction on advertising an ordinance and the times to be enforced. The Board directed staff to advertise an ordinance, which permitted the use of Speed Detection Systems to enforce *applicable* speed limits in school zones during the (*entirety of*) school sessions.