



## *News Release*

Escambia County  
Office of Public Information and Communications  
221 Palafox Place, Suite 410, Pensacola FL 32502

January 6, 2012  
News Release#12-0106-RadarSigns

**For More Information Contact:**  
Don Christian III, Project Coordinator  
595-3404

### *Traffic Division Praised and Thanked by Local PTA*

The Escambia County Traffic Division was awarded the PTA Team Angel Award from the Blue Angel Elementary PTA in appreciation for the installation of two radar speed signs near the school on Dog Track Road.

“We are working hard to increase the safety of our school children and to encourage the healthy habits of walking and riding bicycles when practical,” said Don Christian III, Project Coordinator. “The radar speed signs are proving to play a significant role in slowing cars along many of the school zone streets where speeding is a problem.”

The radar speed signs were purchased by the County through grants aimed at providing safe walking routes to the various Escambia County schools. As part of this effort, the County has added street lighting, striping, side railing and more than 30 miles of sidewalks along some of the busiest routes. The objective is to make it safer for the area’s school children and other pedestrians to walk and ride their bikes. The radar speed signs are slowing traffic where flashing beacons and other traffic calming methods proved less than effective on their own.

“We could see results the moment the SpeedCheck signs were first put into operation,” said Christian. “Brake lights came on, average traffic speeds slowed considerably and most importantly, we are beginning to see more children walking and riding their bikes to school.”

Since 2009, Escambia County’s Public Works Department has installed 85 miles of sidewalks throughout the County to ensure that it is safe for pedestrians and children walking and riding their bikes to school. Thirty miles of this sidewalk has been directly related to the Safe Routes to School Program. In 2010, the County implemented the Neighborhood Enhancement Plan that can be used for safety improvements in neighborhoods by constructing sidewalks, installing street lighting and traffic control signs, restriping roads and installing and refurbishing traffic calming.

For more information on this program, please contact Don Christian, Traffic Division, at 595-3404.

###

Charles R. “Randy” Oliver, County Administrator  
Cameron J. “Cam” Johnson, Interim Public Information Manager