Larkspur Corte Madera Safe Routes to Schools Task Force

Meeting notices

Tuesday September 25, 2017


**Updates:**

**Corte Madera DPW**

**Attached: DPW Corte Madera- SR2S Map Sept 2018**

Jared referenced details in the map handed out (attached). The bike and pedestrian improvements at the intersection of Sanford Street, Casa Buena Dr and Meadow Sweet are confusing traveling north and south. Pedestrians are challenged on where to cross safely and the flow for cyclists is bad. Proposal to remove car lane on Sanford replace it with a bike slip. This will improve clarity at Casa Buena Dr. and assist with the left lane movement by adding more width in the roadway. The project is 100% designed and will go out to bid soon.

Jean request the DPW observe how the faster cyclists travel and interface with traffic. Determine if vehicles need to yield. Review the entire travel area before finalizing the design.

Redwood Hwy frontage road project by The Village Shopping Center is 90% designed. It includes an 8ft road widening; it will impact the location of some trees. An arborist was consulted.

A request was made to include a “red arrow” to protect students crossing the street from right turning vehicles.

The Steps Lanes and Pathway project is gaining momentum. It is an exciting and big project. The Mill Valley Public Works managed a similar project and will be invited to share their lessons learned for Corte Madera. The paths will be ranked for maintenance needs and volunteers will be recruited to take on the improvement projects.

Wendi recommends Corte Madera reach out to Victoria Talkington of Mill Valley; she founded the project in Mill Valley. Fairfax also has history with this type of project. Councilman John Reed led the Fairfax effort.
The DPW has been working with the local BPAC committee. Jared did not have details on the overpass project. The city council is working with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill on a pro bono basis along with Caltrans who is putting time on this project. There is no update on funding.

**Larkspur DPW**

Julian reported the Measure B paving project including the ADA curb ramps is looking good. Once the evaluation process is completed the project would start in the Spring of 2019. The project is projected to take one year.

The Safe Pathways project came for a third time over bid. The scope of work will be repackaged to include the crosswalk at Madrone, near the movie theater and Lucky Drive. The DPW will then approach TAM for support. The crosswalk at Madrone near the bus stop will include rapid flashing beacons.

**Bon Aire Bridge Project**

A temporary bridge is under construction, the north side sidewalk on the original bridge is gone. Soon the contractor will start building the north side of the bridge. This sidewalk will remain closed for 18 months.

The intersection at South Eliso and Bon Aire at the north side of the bridge will be designed just as it was before. The curb on the west side will be removed (it is gone now). The light will provided a 3 second lead for pedestrians before traffic can begin to turn right and there will be a detector to detect bicycles.

The crosswalk at Magnolia and Bon Aire remains open, at some point it will be closed. There will be a mid-block crossing with a flashing light installed. The DPW will notify the schools before this change is made to update students.

South Eliso and Bon Aire has not changed that much. There is a good deal of congestion at this intersection. TAM has been approached to learn if a crossing guard could be stationed here for the AM & PM student travel times.

Julian reported many people are not paying attention the rules with the construction. Drivers are running the red light as they are now on a fixed schedule. The work area by the bridge is closed off and individual are entering the construction zone.

Improvements for South Eliso will be studied. There are a number of issues; solutions have not been identified. The DPW will reach out to Parisi Associates to identify traffic calming options; then develop a plan and apply for grants.

The DPW is trying to engage the community to improve for traffic calming solutions. William Ave now has a shoulder stripping on one side of the road way. Heather Way is being used by
students to get to/from school. There have been a number of incidents with students and vehicles this school year already. Safe Routes to School 6th grade Bike Safety classes have been scheduled for October.

The Larkspur City Council adopted a plan change for the Bon Aire Road Slip. It was a involved conversation and the council approved removal of the slip lanes. They are gone and will not return.

Jean requested a dashed line be painted on the class one pathway. She reported research does show it does help people identify where they should walk (see attached). The Mill Valley pathway added a line last year; it may be time to ask what about the feedback they have received.

Sharrows were suggested on Redwood as it approaches Pixely. This is a suggested Safe Routes to Schools route. There are walking bike trains that travel this route too. The red painted curbs have been very helpful to improve visibility.

**Bike Racks**

Hall Middle School needs additional bike racks; unfortunately, the Bay Area Air Quality program is no long funding a bike rack program. A creative way for funding them needs to be identified: PTA program may have the funds, some school may not be using the ones they have, local DPW corporation yards may have some that are not being used.

**SR2S Report Cards**

Will be presented to the district schools in the next couple of weeks. Neil Cummins ranks at the top for schools in the county as a result of the no cars on campus program.

Cove School numbers have dropped since the school opened. The campaign was well supported when the school first opened; however, the good habits have worn off. Now is time to revamp the encouragement message. The school is exploring new options including identifying park and walk location. They are encouraging families to park anywhere in the neighborhood and walk to school. Bike Trains are of interest to some new families; the suggested routes developed when the school first opened are good to recommend.

DPW reported they reviewing plans for a new sidewalk near Marin Cove Paradise Drive to Prince Royal on the north side of Paradise. The route along Spindrift Passage is very good, now is time to message the community.

**Redwood Carpooling- Parking Update**

Link: [Redwood High School Parking Policy Oct 2018](#)

Saum reported the school’s student population is now at 1960 it is expected to increase each year by 100 students. In two years the population is estimated to be 2150. Currently there are
456 seniors in two years the estimated number is 500. Currently there are 350 parking spaces for teachers and students with a demand for 500 parking spaces.

The school is committed to reducing the number of vehicles on campus and to reduce CO2 emissions.

**RHS Parking Policy** document states how the new procedures will be managed. Seniors will be invited to participate in the lottery for the 48 carpool spaces first. The school hosted an open house for students to come to learn more about the proposed policy and to collect feedback. Juniors will be invited to participate in a lottery if there are any remaining spaces. This may encourage more carpools as the number of student driver’s increases.

Student’s with parking permits will not be permitted to leave campus in their vehicles for lunch. The school promotes safe streets for all. If a student wants to drive at lunch they should not apply for a permit. The school estimates only 5-10% of student drivers leave campus for lunch. The school does not want to charge students for campus parking at this time. The permit application program will start up in October 2018.

The school administration and districted collected information from students before drafting the current policy. They will continue to monitor how the policy is working and will be collecting feedback from students and the community.

Task Force members acknowledged the efforts Redwood administration has taken to address the parking and carpooling challenges. Saum will be invited to present at Mill Valley Task Force meeting on the process Redwood went through to develop this policy. The school district has been sharing this process with the other local high schools.

Wendi reported that carpools are a challenge to develop in elementary to high school. Most families want their children to travel with families they already know. Hopefully this new high school policy will encourage more carpools apps that students will actually use.

The transit busses are full in the morning. Sometimes the busses run late. A proposal was made to request additional bus service.

Cindy inquired if the school has considered putting a shelter over the bike racks to protect them from weather and sun? The school is not looking into this right now.

**Crossing Guard report**

TAM Board approved a budget to step in and cover expenses until the January. There is still a danger of losing funding of the sales tax is not approved. Guard location were going to drop to 58 positions at the start of this school year. If future funding is approved through the renewal of the sales tax, 96 crossing guard positions could be funded after November 2018.

**Next Meeting date and agenda items**