



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



MILL VALLEY TASK FORCE- SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

MEETING MINUTES April 26, 2012

Introductions/Attendees (10)

Attendees: Wendi Kallins- Director Safe Routes to Schools, Dan Hughes- Mill Valley Public Works, Stephanie Moulton Peters- Mayor, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Vickie O'Reilly- Co-Team Leader Park, Dennis Turchon- Team Leader Strawberry, Anne Zarraonandia- Team Leader Edna Maguire, Deborah Cole- School Pool, Kathy McLeod- Tam Valley parent, Raoul Wertz- Mill Valley School Board, Carrie Lando-Marin County Public Works, Margaret Zegart, Resident, Maureen Parton- Marin County Board of Supervisors for Kate Sears, Cecilia Zamora- Mill Valley Public Works

Attachments- Mill Valley DPW- Safe Routes to Schools- Current Projects

Welcome and Introduction

Task Force vice Chair for 2012-13 school year

Stephanie is seeking a person to serve as Vice Chair for the next school year. Mill Valley is currently focused on incorporating bike and pedestrian plans into the town's Master Plan and they want SR2S to be involved in this master plan development. Much of her time and efforts will be on that project and the SR2S Vice Chair positions will help to support the Team Leaders, contests and programming. Residents interested in learning about this role are encouraged to contact Stephanie soon.

Stephanie is also working with Dave Griffis of the Mill Valley Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee BPAC. They are both going to see that Safe Routes to Schools projects are incorporated into the BPAC projects.

Stephanie recently went on a bus ride with Green Scouts to teach students how they can take the bus from areas in Mill Valley to Tam High- students are learning alternative ways to get to schools in addition to cycling and walking. Mill Valley Middle School will be including information in the 2012/13 Backpack mail in order reduce the number of cars on all campuses for 2012-13!

Report on Spring Contests

Dennis- Strawberry Point School- He has supported the contest for the past two years, last year the monetary reward was greatly appreciated; however the trophy reward this year was a huge success- there was a great deal of BUZZ on campus. The trophy was

displayed in the library. On the day the principal announced the winners 3rd, 2nd places then 1st- there was great celebration- the first place winner's sounds of celebration could be heard throughout the Strawberry community! The students named the sculpture/trophy "Neon Green" in honor of Dennis's cycling jacket - Can there be any better honor for a team leader!

They did not use the acorns- instead he used email to collect the weekly results. The new leaf format was very useful.

Anne- Edna Maguire- Contest ran very well -80% participation from the entire school – they school has a wonderful cycling community. Would like to consider changing the parameters for the kindergarten/1st grade students- they do not have the same advantages as the older grades on how they get to school. Teachers were a wonderful support this year- easy to collect the data this year.

Vicky- Park School- The contest was not conducted at Park in 2011, this year the new principal laid out the directions for the teachers and it really helped it run smoothly. It did rain a good deal during the contest for Park. They did make a few changes:

1. ran contest for 2 weeks vs. 4 weeks
2. Teachers did not want classroom challenge
3. They did not use the acorns- after two weeks they just counted all the totals.

Wendi- Contest update- the numbers are down a little from last year because of the rain but that is to be expected. Glad the trophies worked- SR2S is moving away from the individual reward toward the team reward.

Bike to School Day- First National Celebration by SR2S- May 9th- selected to work with regularly scheduled Walk/Roll to school days. Stickers, posters supplies are available and posted on our web site. The selected date of 5/9 is an option – schools could use 5/10 Bike to Work Day.

Mill Valley Middle School Meeting -report

Stephanie The elementary student growth population in Mill Valley has hit the Middle School. The Principal and Vice Principal are addressing the huge increase in traffic at the school this year and have been sending out eblast to parents to encourage alternatives for drop off locations and travel modes to the school.

The Middle School needs to recruit a SR2S Team Leaders to help support the efforts of the administration.

Wendi- the school does have great support from the VP -he is supporting Bike To School Day- however they do need someone on the ground to help- it would be great to get a teacher's support as well. PE teachers have been supportive – could use a contact in the Student Council too. Need to get the PTSA to recruit SR2S Team Leaders for 2012-13. It also helps to tie in SR2S into existing clubs at the school- Green Team?

SR2S now has Social and Science curriculum for the middle schools- kicked off classes this year- well received.

Vicki- she had a child attending MVMS next year and would be willing be one of several Team Leaders at the Middle School- but she cannot take on the entire role.

Wendi- SR2S can get an instructor to help-out but they do need a person at the school.

Kentfield SchoolPool and Activie4.me – Route Mapping Discussion

Stephanie- The city of Mill Valley is working to improve the safe routes throughout the city. The representatives want to know what SR2S considers the safe routes. Requesting Team Leaders identify their schools routes and get that information to her. Old Mill developed ideal/suggested walking routes- these were presented to the DPW.

Wendi- TAM SR2S Schools received a grant from MTC to create and pilot a program SchoolPool and Green Teams. Kent Schools piloted these programs including using the new scanning program: Active4.me.

Outline of Program-

First we work with the school to identify neighborhoods. They we hope to recruit Neighborhood Captains as it helps the program to have a person in each neighborhood. The role of person is to find parents to lead walks or biking to school and organize carpools.

The Active4.me program measured the CO2 saved- students were issued a tag – the tag was scanned 2 times a week including one random day- instant results were collected. On the front end this is a labor intensive process to collect student/family registrations. But on the back end it saves all the collection work.

Wendi- SR2S wants to create Neighborhood Maps for other schools. This will be incorporated into our new SchooPool on-line program to help families identify who they can travel with to school with via map. This will be up and running for Back to School 2012-13 for select schools.

Anne- Edna Maguire campus will be under construction next fall and access to the entire campus will be limited- restricted. She plans to meet with Lisa to learn how and what the suggested routes will be.

Carrie- County DPW- Project Update

1. Sausalito/ Mill Valley Bike Path- Gate 6 to East Blithdale- paving is in the design phase- schedule for Sept to January- depending on bird migration- scheduling permit for fall 2012 or in 2013- there are several regulatory agencies involved- many items to consider. Plan is to widen the path up to 10-13 feet

2. Shoreline/Flamingo- traffic light scheduled for fall of 2012

3. Tam Valley path- under construction- assured it would be open for the summer Friday night concert series.

4. Tennessee Valley Road- pedestrian active light scheduled for installation.

Dennis- Strawberry Updates

The driveway into the school- west side is gravel – parking in driveway- 5 foot sidewalk on Rec Center side of road with ADA upgrades- all are part of the schools modernization- funding is coming from Cal Trans and the SR2S funding pool

Wendi- Tam Valley – Pine Hill Road- needs a warning light- rapid becom an option- Cal Trans needs SR2S to endorse the need for a warning light- this has been a challenge location for a long time. Need to add to Tam Valley Travel Plan. It is then up to the county to request the light from Caltrans in order for them to proceed. David Parisi will go out and take another look at the intersection to see if this is something we can recommend to the county.

Maureen- Parents are working with TAM- asking for ADA/Pedestrian/Bicycle at Almonte. Almonte to Shoreline to South Coyote bridge- addressing Bike/Ped and ADA improvements together- TAM is working hard on these issues.

The issues/projects are not a done deal – they are being addressed- Kate Sears is a SR2S supporter

Maureen- best to come back to this- looking at the entire community needs/wants vs. what Cal Trans sees as needed.

Wendi- please note SR2S Committee approves these projects.

Mill Valley- DPW update- SR2S Task Force- Update on Current B/P Projects- see doc attached.

Dan - Multi-use path on Sycamore Ave b/w Camino Alto & Sausalito/MV bike path
This summer- finished by start of new school year--seeking approval for this right of way – CTS needed- DPW will talk to County regarding their projects.

Stephanie- The signal area across from Park School- very narrow – limited standing room- Team leaders at Park agreed to talk to land owner to work with the city to move the retaining wall back into his property. It could be a win/win (note: after the meeting we received a response that the homeowner is interested)

Dan- that would be a huge benefit

Kett- Cars are still parked along East Blithdale to Park School

Dan – yes this is a concern; however this project does not include all the sections of East Blithdale- they are doing what they can on this narrow road.

Dan- Crosswalk on Miller Ave-many uncontrolled crosswalks- trying to do something to improve them while considering the future improvement for the Miller Ave Project that

would not be torn out once this project begins. There are 9 locations- originally there was one cross walk , then it went to 5 now 9 are under review- DPW is considering saw tooth stripping, signs announcing the crosswalks- considering community concerns for too many signs too.

Dan - Multi-use pathway (Camino Alto), intersection curb extensions (Camino Alto/Miller Ave.) pedestrian crossing treatment (Miller Ave/Almonte Ave.)

- In process of completing the Right of Way- funding should be approved in a few weeks
- Miller/Almonte Ped Activated Signal 204K), sidewalk extension (E. Blithedale @Elm/Alta Vista, 98K), vehicle feedback signs (Tam High, 36K), update schools traffic signs (Citywide, 65K)
 - State funded project- construction has been approved- Dan will follow up with parents for additional input

Kite Hill location is also under review- design of the crosswalk is under review now- after approval planning for the summer to be completed.

Street Smart Update

Deb- Education outreach program for vehicle drivers, pedestrians and cyclists- Starting up again on May 19 to Sept 19- targeting families driving to camps this summer- Miller Ave -- ped crossing 3 to 4 banners are going up.

Excited about the new web site for Street Smarts- now has education resources, tip sheets, community education program, resource for Homeowner Associations and more.

The County is showing some interest in the program- will embrace some of the materials- they have used some of the signs and banners- not using the rules signs – 10 cities are now participating- San Rafael is not- there at 105 street banners – 30 banners in Novato – looking at a Pace Car program- safe driver stickers- considering them for DPW and City vehicles.

Meeting adjourned – next meeting to be announced