



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



MILL VALLEY TASK FORCE- SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

MEETING MINUTES September 8, 2011

Introductions/Attendees (14)

Attendees: Wendi Kallins- Director Safe Routes to Schools, Jill Barnes- Mill Valley Public Works, Stephanie Moulton Peters- SR2S Team Leader, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Vickie O'Reilly- Co-Team Leader Park, Barbara Wilson EFM, Willow Older- Park Team Leader, Sheryl Patton- MVPD, Constance Riedinger, Mt Tam Team Leader, Dennis Turchon- Strawberry Team Leader, Elisabeth Thomas Matej- BPAC, Maureen Paton -Marin County, Ann Zarraonandia- Edna Maguire Team Leader, Cory Jamison Team Leader- Old Mill, Dan Hughes, P.E. Senior Civil Engineer MV DPW

Attachments:

Find a Green Way

Safe Routes to Schools Task Force- Update on Current B/P Projects- 9/8/2011- saved on server

Proposed Evergreen Sidewalk letter

Welcome and Introduction

Safe Routes Overview/Update

Wendi- Safe Routes to Schools did not receive our third-year grant from the Marin Community Foundation. TAM is providing additional funding in efforts to replace the loss. One of the SR2S program changes as a result of the decreased budget is that there will no longer be cash prizes as incentives for the 2012 'Go for the Green' spring contest and interschool challenges. SR2S had mixed feelings about losing the cash- not sure the cash motivated the schools to participate or changed behaviors.

The Go for the Green Challenge will change:

1. The individual leaves will be replaced with a leaf cluster
2. Teachers will ask students who traveled green- count will be taken and the total will be noted on a leaf cluster – this will happen each day for 4 weeks.
3. This will speed up the process as students will not be placing individual leaves on the tree.

Wendi- hopes the Park school will participate in 2012- would like to schedule a meeting with the new principal.

Iwalk 2011

Cliff Kid products and book marks will be distributed this year. Iwalk flyer that can be modified with local meeting locations, stickers and all other supplies are on web site- Toolkit, including stickers to use the day before to remind students. <http://www.saferoutestoschools.org/toolkit.html>

School Plans:

Ann -Edna Maguire-last year she participated but did not organize- this year there are plans and she will be seeking parent volunteers

Wendi- suggestions- start to recruit parent volunteers soon, provide announcements to school newsletters, get poster up in advance.

Dennis- Strawberry – scheduled poster art, have parent volunteers lined up to support day of.

Maureen attended Strawberry last year and it was great fun and good turnout.

Willow Park- plan to schedule Poster Art- last year it was fun, great posters that were useful.

Vickie- how do you get the word out to the neighborhoods? How are the keeping the parents involved and organized.

Wendi- get a newsletter out to the neighborhood- go door to door – look for people in the neighborhood that are out walking/riding

Stephanie- look for people in cluster – talk to them- ask for involvement

Wendi – schedule Poster Art- kids are good at getting the word out

Constance- Parent and student will meet at Whole foods- there are 9 locations for students to meet up- 95-99% participants planned for on Iwalk Day. The trail will be cleaned of debris before I walk day.

There is a location on the route to the school were the path is in need of repair – not sure if it is incorporate or unincorporated property- would like this to be addressed.

Maureen- location is Homestead Valley- suggest contacting Steve Kinsey for requested repairs.

Sheryl Patton- Police are assigned to each school- the goal is to get the officers out of their cars to greet the students, suggested students ask the police to join them- for she know the kids really like to have the police present and interacting with them.

Unincorporated area- invite CHP- Contact Chris Rardin- he is supportive whenever possible of all SR2S programs/events.

Vickie- concern- many drivers are running the light on East Blithdale- what action can be taken?

Sheryl-MV website has a “dangerous driver form” it can also be faxed upon request. Police will send a letter to the registered owner of the vehicle- if there are more than 3 reports – police will visit the driver to talk about reports.

Constance- questions regarding walking against traffic to Sheryl- best to use common sense and use the sidewalk whenever possible- however on some roads sidewalks are not present.

Wendi- this is difficult for kids to understand as they are very literal- adults get the concept but kids do not.

Sheryl- bikes on sidewalk- ok on East Blithdale but not ok down town Mill Valley- on occasion the best place to be is on a sidewalk and East Blithdale is one of those locations.

Elizabeth- concern many students are headed to the middle school – on Miller Ave- cycling on the wrong side of the road.

Wendi- challenging to get MVMS support- the PTA is not onboard to support the program

Sheryl- many warnings are issued to students

Wendi- suggest rewarding the students that do follow the rules- student that wear a helmet – reward them in some way- citations do not always work.

Sheryl- one year police department handed out 7- 11 coupons- very effective

Stephanie- great idea- encourage common courtesy with adults as well- model good behavior.

Anne- Edna M announces on morning PA- congrats for walking and biking to schools- students love it!

Sheryl- MV PD no longer check car seats- CHP does – also Britex web site has details on how to check a car seat.

Elizabeth- Children's of Philadelphia website has a slide show on proper placement of car seats

Mill Valley Program Options

SR2S can still provide supplies for other contests other than Go for the Green- contact Wendi to learn more about the Golden Sneaker challenge- the goal is to establish weekly walk and roll to school days at each school in Mill Valley.

Stephanie- will be meeting with the new Superintendent to update him on the SR2S program in Mill Valley and get his endorsement

Wendi- requested the School Board start supporting SR2S as well. Goal- get the board to include SR2S policies on agendas- have a more formal process when supporting SR2S- suggest Stephanie take list of projects SR2S has completed in Mill Valley to meetings.

Find Your Green Way to School- back to school flyer distributed- **see attached copy**

Wendi- simple and straight forward flyer on how to travel green to school- SR2S schools either distribute hard copies during first few weeks of school , included it in e-news letters or posted on school web sites.

Wendi- SR2S will have many articles available for school news letter. SR2S can send this information directly to the school or to the team leader to submit. Each schools news letter process varies and SR2S will work with each school as preferred by the Team Leader.

Team Leader Preferences:

Park- send to school and cc Willow and Vickie

Strawberry- send to school cc Denis

Edna M- send to Anne 1st

Old Mill- send to school and cc her and Molly

Mt Tam- send to school and cc Constance

Kentfield Neighborhood Program Overview

Pilot Neighborhood Captain Program

Kentfield School District is piloting a neighborhood program where Bacich School has recruited a parent captain for six neighborhoods. Maps were created for each of the neighborhoods and the captains have created a network of families to walk, bike and carpool to school together. SR2S is monitoring the progress and success of the program and hopes to pilot it in Brookside schools as well.

Overview/Steps to develop neighborhood involvement: to learn more go to SR2S Kentfield page – Captain Guide http://www.saferoutestoschools.org/kentfield_ross.html

- Recruit parent volunteer per neighborhoods
- Get a signup sheet for each neighborhood – once a person signs on other will sign-up as well.
- Develop neighborhood maps- id suggested routes, label meeting location for Iwalk Day and route characters
- On Iwalk Day – learn who may be interested in being Captain in specific area- give them a sign-up sheet to get more volunteers- get names , phone numbers and email addresses

Stephanie- MV developed similar maps years ago- suggested start out small – develop just a couple of routes

Ann- good to identify several drop- off points

Dennis- Strawberry – unique situation- many families pass other schools on their way to Strawberry- families come from as far Muir Beach with carpools- traffic has really been reduced- Back to School night presented information about SR2S- PTA is very supportive this year!

SR2S Surveys

Wendi- Surveys will be conducted in schools the later part of September for the schools that cannot conduct them in Sept are requested to conduct them any week in Sept or Oct but not during Iwalk Day.

Bike Giveaway Event

Wendi- suggested Mill Valley host the next bike collection- planning needed- secure a truck to collect bikes, set date, time and drop-off location

Sheryl- drop off at PD 20 bikes

Cory- what is bike fleet needed for?

Wendi- bike Ed classes- students without bikes can participate

Women on Wheels –

Wendi – program has been very successful – please let women at school know about the program. The clinics are taught by women for women and designed to improve confidence and knowledge. Classes will be held this fall and again in the spring of 2012. Flyers are available to post at schools.

Barbara- does SR2S have classes on video- this is not inexpensive- some grants are available- great resources for Women on Wheels

Elizabeth- Police Video training from SF- contact her if interested in getting the link

Mill Valley DPW update

See attached – Safe Routes to Schools Task Force- Update on Current B/P Projects- 9/8/2011

Jill and Dan

- Line items in grey are completed
- #8 remarks- MVDPW is checking in regularly with Cal Trans for updates
- #13 – construction has started- sidewalk at Ashford
- #9-project designed-waiting for Edna McGuire construction to be completed- planned for 2014

Elizabeth- gravel along wetlands a problem in the road

Dan – yes that is a problem and they do not currently have a resolution – DPW is aware and considering solutions

Jill- considering 3x4 cobble stones that do not move

- #15- waiting on approval- city council approved application- state needs environmental review- then get the ok /money to move forward
- #10-sidewalks to be addressed in 2013- then the pavement

Elizabeth- street pavement is in terrible condition near the middle school.

Dennis- beacon for sidewalk in pavement

Jill- no plans for pavement lights- pavement lights have many issues- reviewing rectangular sign off pavement

Wendi- vertical lights/sign more effective vs. pavement lights- cars do not see them- Rectangle Rapid Flashing light suggested, - with solar option

County Program Updates

Maureen Parton reported on County updates.

Tennessee Valley

The Multi Use pathway is funded for \$20,000 as part of the non-motorized pilot program. Constructio is beginning. Ground breaking for Coyote Bridge will be in October. In spring 2012 there will be a ribbon cutting.

Marin Ave.

This is almost complete, the cost increased because of ADA requirements. The wider sidewalk is eaiser to use. It will be done in October as well.

Crosswalks on Shoreline

A crosswalk was installed at Shoreline and Gibson. This is the third in a succession starting with Pine Hill in 2007, Tern Ave in 2009. They are pursuing other visibility improvements. They have a good relationship with Caltrans. A traffic signal is in the work program. They will solicit bids this fall.

Strawberry Point

Installation of a 5 foot sidewalk. Received \$475,000 in funds. Total cost is \$535,000

Edna Maguire

Installing sidewalk at the bottom of Horse hill from Shell Court to Greenfield Ct. total cost is \$600,000.

Evergreen

Reporting back to the neighborhood (see attached letter)

Next full meeting will be in January.