



Mill Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force Meeting Notes Wednesday October 17, 2018

Attendance

Kevin Cuffe - Parent-Tam High, Scott Brooks - Mill Valley Juvenile Detective, JC Farr -Tam High Principal, Jacqueline Graf-Reis - Mill Valley Interim Police Chief, Clay Kunz - Strawberry Team Leader, Tracy Lee- Old Mill Team Leader, Des McKissock- Marin Horizon Transportation Planner, Karen Meezan - Parent Tam High, John Neville- DPW Marin County, Glenn Newcomer – CHP officer, Jenna Miller & Steve Pelaez - Mindful Mill Valley, Omar Yahya - CHP officer, Jen Reynolds -Mindful Mill Valley, Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Kelly Zalewski- Marin Transit

Report on Redwood Parking policies (RHS)

Redwood High School- Parking Policy Highlights

Wendi reported RHS has developed a new policy for this school year. It is a bold policy to address the limited parking options. RHS however has more parking available for students and staff than Tam High.

The new policy provides 45 carpool spaces for seniors first then juniors if available. Students who live within a 20 minute walk of the school cannot obtain a permit or be part of a carpool. All students in the carpool must register. Student drivers are not permitted to drive off campus for lunch. RHS will not be charging for parking permits.

JC, TH Principal expressed interest in RHS program. He addressed some of the differences in the campuses and the challenges TH faces with establishing a carpool policy. In past years TH had a carpool policy; many times students were picking up students walking to school to meet the carpool requirement. Given the many entrances to TH and the required number of staff to monitor the front and back of the school has its increased burdens.

Currently only seniors are permitted to park in the back lot. They are not assigned a specific parking space. Many students from Stinson, Sausalito/Marin City and Muir Beach need to drive to school or take a bus. These students should not be restricted from driving to TH. RHS is more of a neighborhood school than TH

Attendees discussed creating incentives and disincentives for students who drive and do not carpool. Possibly charge a fee for a parking permit. Police support is helpful it requires Mill Valley police for the front of the school and Marin County Sheriff for the back of the school due to the town limits. This adds to the challenge of monitoring the campus.

JC proposed painting the carpool parking spaces over the coming winter break. He has spoken with the VP at RHS and will follow-up with him after their program has been implemented for a few months. The PTA along with students is conducting their own student travel survey to learn what routes and means students use to get to TH. This data will also help identify possible carpool policies and identify suggested travel routes to the high school.

TH is considering pushing back the school start time next year in the interest of student health (more sleep). He requested information on how this could impact traffic in the area.

Officers provided feedback; 10 minutes can greatly impact traffic in the area. In their view; if the start of school was delayed it would have a negative impact on local traffic. Drake High pushed back the school's start time and traffic has increase significantly. Wendi suggested TH look at the start times of the middle and elementary schools and the yellow bus schedule to help determine how a change in TH start time could impact traffic.

Mapping Update

Mapping for Mill Valley School is in process. Wendi recently held a phone conference with team leaders to determine progress and next steps. Old Mill has a draft ready to submit to Parisi Associates and then Mill Valley DPW for approval. The "steps-lanes & path way map should be included with the SR2S school map.

Once approved all maps should be posted on the school's web site. If funding is available, the map should be printed with safety tips on the back side. Each year the maps should be included with the "back to school" packets. Redwood High School has a web page designated for transportation. This is a good example for other school to use as a resource.

Mill Valley Middle and Edna Maguire's maps are close to completion. Tam Valley, Strawberry, and Park schools may have maps completed this year too.

Mindful Mill Valley presentation

[Mindful Mill Valley Proposal- Jenna Miller Pelaez](#)

Jenna presented to task force members referencing her notes from the above proposal.

Jenna addressed her husband's collision on a bicycle with a vehicle and her experience of almost being hit by a driver of a vehicle.

As a result of her and her family's life changing events she and a friend are proposing Mill Valley adopt Mindful Mill Valley Pledge. The pledge would invite residents to take a pledge to be more mindful of their behavior when on the roadways in and around Mill Valley. It could also include banner(s) on the roadways (example the banner that extends across the street by the tennis courts on E Blithdale) and/or signs similar to Kiddo reminding all to be mindful of others on the roads and sidewalks. A website would also provide information on safe behavior and how to take the pledge.

They expressed their appreciation of the many infrastructure improvements in Mill Valley over the past many years. In addition, they are concerned that all road users are not taking the time to practice safe behaviors.

Similar grassroots campaign has grown in the Bay Area. Many Berkeley neighborhoods have adopted safe and slower messaging. Wendi suggested they look at the Street Smarts program for ideas and resources. Novato is also developing a committee of volunteers to identify and promote messaging for residents to adopt to change behavior in a more positive direction with the goal of safer streets for all users.

Measure AA

Measure AA crossing guard handout

The documents referenced provide information that schools can share with their community. They explain how Measure AA impacts crossing guards in Marin County. These documents need to be shared with PTA program at all schools. Measure AA also includes support for Marin Transit school routes for students.

Updates and Issues

JC expressed continued safety issues with students crossing Miller Ave & Camino Alto to/from the Safeway property. Before and after school and especially at lunchtime so many students wait for the pedestrian signal to cross. There can be so many students they are flooding the street to cross. JC inquired if a diagonal crossing could be proposed.

John briefly explained that this intersection is “traffic heavy” including multiple turning lanes. If a diagonal crossing were designed it would impact all directions of traffic.

He recommends the city engineers and police review options to install additional barriers similar to the railings installed on the sidewalk near the Safeway. The barriers cannot be designed to put pedestrians in harm's way.

Bus program

Kelly reported the Yellow Bus program is going well. There is still room on busses; the drivers from the previous year returned. There are annual passes, after school, students can get off the bus at a different location if needed.

Next Meetings

Dec 12- canceled

Feb 27 and April 17, 2018