

Mill Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force
Meeting Notes
Friday, January 25 2019

Attendance: Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark – Safe Routes to Schools, Hadar Albo- Parisi Associates, Debbie Alley- BPAC, Kevin Cuffe- Parent, Gwen Froh- Safe Routes to Schools, Clay Kunz- Team Leader Strawberry School, Kathy McLeod-Crossing Guard Supervisor, Stephanie Moulton-Peters- City of Mill Valley, Maureen Parton- Aide to Kate Sears, Kelly Zalewski- Marin Transit, Scott Brooks- MVPD, Michael Mooney- Parent, Sarah Adams- Team Leader Edna Maguire, Jerry Cahill- Resident,

Winter visibility issues

Visibility for vehicle drives is challenging when pedestrians are using the crosswalk at Evergreen and Reed Streets at night. When is it raining the lights (street and vehicle) reflect and the flashing lights are distracting. Inquiry was made for the pavement flashing lights vs the post mounted lights.

Wendi will request the DPW review these observations and report back. Historically the pavement lights have been more expensive and require more maintenance. Effectiveness of the pavements light on a 4 lane road will also be researched.

A request was made to consider a 30 mph zone on Miller by the Whole Foods due to the number of students that cross the street daily.

Trail through golf course **Map of golf course proposed pathway**

Scott Highlands residents have been researching options in conjunction with the City of Mill Valley to enhance the existing, mostly flat gravel and paved maintenance road that passes through the golf course.

The pathway has great potential to be a route students would use to travel green to and from school. There are number of families with school age children that would like a safe and accessible path to school vs driving. Parents and students do not feel safe walking or cycling on Buena Vista Rd. there are no sidewalks and it is a narrow, curvy road.

There is some resistance from the golf course to make the pathway accessible. The community does not want to negatively impact the golf course operations or success. Most of the residents support the proposal and funds have been raised.

Approved: Mill Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force endorses the study of the Scott Highlands SAFE Path/Trail concept to establish a route for bikers and pedestrians to go through the part of the Mill Valley golf course to access Boyle Park, sport fields, schools and downtown.

Marin Transit

Operations are going well so far this school year. Drivers however continue to report vehicle drivers do not always stop for the flashing red bus lights and sign. A request was made for the town to continue to remind drivers of the law for school buses.

The school district is evaluating its support of the bus program. The town and the school district along with other stakeholders are meeting to evaluate the program and how it serves all families in Mill Valley. Traffic congestion has been reduced due to bell schedules changing to support the bus service. There is concern if the bell schedules returned to the pre bus program time, traffic would increase and negatively impact Mill Valley.

A request was made to increase communications to families in the school district about the yellow bus program. Team Leaders have learned many families are not aware of the program (in coming families especially). If they know about the program in advance they could plan for the costs and know when to enroll their children.

The school board will be hosting meetings to discuss the future of the yellow bus program. It is very important for residents and Safe Routes to Schools Task Force members to attend these meetings. Public notices will be sent out for meeting dates. The task force is very grateful for the time and support of Marin Transit.

City Updates

[American League of Bicycles Bike Friendly Award](#)

The City of Mill Valley was awarded the Silver Level Award from the American League of Bicycles (LAB) in December 2019, the second highest award possible. Debby Alley and Sarah Adams along with other volunteers were instrumental in completing the application process. Efforts by Stephanie Moulton Peters for many years was also instrumental. The DPW and support from other local groups like the Mill Valley Bicycle and Pedestrian committee and the Marin County Bicycle Coalition made this award possible. It is very validating for the City to receive such a prestigious award after many years' work.

The city will evaluate the feedback received from the LAB to develop a plan to achieve at Gold award in three years' time. Emphasis will include education and enforcements and less on engineering. Other cities in California like Oakland had moved from Silver to Gold will be a resource.

The city will look into posting a sign or plaque to recognize the award publicly.

Priority Projects for the MV Bike Ped Master Plan

Camino Alto bike lanes

The Class 2 bike lanes improvement are slated for completion this year. The project has a 40-day window of time to be completed. The safety improvements are intended to encourage more road cyclists to use this lane verse the multi-use path.

Class 3 bike lanes will continue to be evaluated and prioritized by the BPAC subcommittee. MUP education and signage will be updated too. Once a report is completed it will be presented to the DPW for approval and funding options. BPAC member Carter Zin continue with his efforts on the sub committees after he steps down from his six-year term.

The BPAC is also considering adopting a version of [Vision Zero](#). It may be similar to Street SMARTS with more emphasis on outreach and education for the City of Mill Valley.

Downtown sewer and ped safety assessment

An assessment is planned for this year.

Blithedale study

Parisi Engineering will be presenting results from a study at the next February or March at the City Council meetings. Date is to be determined.

Miller Avenue Pilot

An update will be added to a City Council meeting in the future. A date has not been announced.

County update

The heavy rains in January caused problems with the traffic lights at the Manzanita intersection. This caused traffic delays for a couple of days. The king tides continue to cause problems. In the past Caltrans would meet regularly and provide updates on short and long term issues including the study on the pathway. Kate Sears office will be asking to reschedule meetings with the new Caltrans Director.

Wendi requested Caltrans reevaluate planned changes to the width of sidewalks in Tam Junction and not remove space from the new bike lanes that are used by students for the sidewalks. Consider designing a multi-use path for all users.

Students continue to travel on the wrong side of the road along Shoreline Hwy. A suggested route map is needed for students traveling through Tam Valley. The construction of the Charles McGlashan pathway project was completed to give cyclists a safer option to cycling on Shoreline Hwy because Caltrans would not support bike lanes along Shoreline.

Crossing Guard

Crossing guard are now funded on both sides of the pedestrian/bicycle bridge over Hwy 101 during school am and pm travel.

A Crossing Guard Supervisor position is available in Mill Valley. This is a paid position. Contact Kathy McLeod to learn more about the position kathy@wheescape.org.

Mapping update

[MVMS Suggested Route Map](#)

[Old Mill Suggested Route Map](#)

The maps are closing to be ready to submit to the DPW for approval. The MVMS maps now reflects the improvements made since it was first completed. The road markings along Sycamore have been added. The Master Plan does include road markings for all of Sycamore; once they are completed the map will be updated again. It is working document: identifies pedestrian and bike facilities and will be used to identify new issues when they develop.

Comments: Task Force members will be emailed the maps. All feedback is requested by the end of February. Feedback and questions: contact Hadar Albo: hadar@parisi-associates.com

- Yellow lines used for the steps-lanes-pathways routes
- Bus routes need to be included; a separate map was agreed upon to avoid confusion
- Include Park & Walk location once they are approved
- Add Tam Valley and Strawberry to the MVMS map.

Police update

Officer reported bicycle related collisions are down 50% as a result of the Miller Ave. facility improvements. The department will have two new bike officers to patrol the downtown area soon.

Mindful Mill Valley update

No updates were provided

Next Meeting

April 17, 2019 at 9:30- 11:30 The location will be announced.