



Mill Valley task force meeting May 2018 notes

Attendance

Kevin Cuffe- MVMS Team Leader, Ryan Erving- Parent Edna Maguire, David Eshoo-Engineer Mill Valley, Gwen Froh- Safe Routes to Schools, Jacqueline Graf-Reis- Mill Valley Police Dept., Grace Morton- Incoming Tam High PTSA President, Des McKissock-Marin Horizon, John Neville-DPW Mill Valley, David Parisi- Parisi & Associates, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Tricia Satake-Parent Tam High, Tracy Lee- Team Leader Old Mill, Clay Kunz- Team Leader Strawberry, Stephanie Moulton-Peters- Mayor Mill Valley, Karen Meezan - outgoing Tam High PTSA president

Team Leader

Volunteer Recognition

Safe Routes to School recognized all attending Mill Valley Team Leaders for all their support throughout the year(s). Their support and valuable time continues to encourage students and adults to take green trips to school and supports the efforts of the Task Force.

Stephanie and Tricia were recognized for their “years” of support to Safe Routes to Schools. Their efforts have been exceptional and both commented how much they have enjoyed being part of the Mill Valley Safe Routes to School Team.

Tracy Lee- Old Mill School
Clay Kunz- Strawberry School
Tricia Satake- Tam High and MVMS
Stephanie Moulton-Peters-Mill Valley SR2S Program
Kevin Cuffee- Mill Valley Middle School
Ryan Erving- Edna Maguire

School Updates and Bike to School Day

Strawberry School

Clay has been volunteering for 4.5 years along with support from the school's principal. Annually classrooms participate in the spring challenge and Bike to School Day (BTSD) along with other encouragement activities. On BTSD students rode from downtown Mill Valley to the school. Two of the student were new to the ride, about 20 students met at the Hwy 101 pedestrian/bike bridge and rode with 4th grade teachers. Many students supported the day by walking to school too.

Old Mill School

Tracy began supporting SR2S efforts on Bike to School Day in 2017. Again this year they hosted a bike train for downtown Mill Valley. The police assisted with safe street crossings. Ryan from Tam Bikes offered support with 50-70 students scooting/cycling and walking. This spring the classroom with the highest number of green trips will celebrate with the SR2S bike blender.

Edna Maguire School

Ryan volunteers with a team of parent volunteers. Throughout the school year they host Walk & Roll Wednesdays and contests. On BTSD 150 students cycled, they are pleased with the number of student/families that participate but the goal is to reach the families that are not participating in green trips on a regular basis. The school will be hosting a big event next fall and would like to have SR2S participate and provide a bike skills lesson to help with encouragement.

Marin Horizon

The bike racks have been full at the school and they are researching options for another rack. A local parent Sarah Adams has offered to support efforts for more students/parent taking green trips for the schools local neighborhood.

Mill Valley Middle School

Kevin has been supporting the task force efforts for a number years. This year he has been working with the school with encouragement and will assist with updating the suggested Safe Routes to Schools map for Mill Valley schools. Many of the students do not know the suggested routes; it is important get the information out at the start of each school year.

Bike to School Day was once again a huge success. A record number of students participated; student council students hosted fun and energetic welcome tables.

Tam Valley School

A parent volunteered on Bike to School Day with Peggy. The 5th grade students will be making the annual bicycle trip to 6th grade orientation at Mill Valley Middle School. A Team Leader(s) is still needed to support encouragement.

Tam High School-

Bike to School Day was also a success. The students were ready to go in the morning to welcome students and hand out food.

Three Sophomore students have been selected for the internship opportunity for next school year. They will survey students on the routes they take to Tam High. They will work with the school administration to develop program plans. There is a new AP environmental teacher who has been asked to support the efforts of the students and to bring the project into the classrooms. Transportation is the biggest issues with 55% of the students using vehicles to get to/from school. The success of this internship is to have a teacher champion.

Updates and Issues

City Updates:

Camino Alto Bike Lane project

The intent of this project is to offer the recreational cyclists traveling faster to have a designated facility to ride on the road and not ride on the multi-use path at high speeds.

David reported contractor bids will come in soon (5-6 contractors submitting) for the bike lane on Camino Alto between Blithedale and Miller Ave. Once a contractor is approved work will begin after June 18, 2018 and be completed before the start of the next school year.

Stephanie commented that some of the faster moving cyclists stay on the path at Almonte. They are either not aware of the suggested route to the bike lane on the road or they tend to not want to slow down to make the turn/transition. The new bridge also requires bicyclists to slow down before turning off the path.

A few of the items included in the project: traffic signal enhancements, lane narrowing (no change to capacity), some street parking will be reduced and a slight change to the median.

Phase 2 will include:

- Redesign of the Sycamore and Camino Alto right turn pocket if funding is available
- Green blocks and or sharrows indicating cyclists travel in the bike lane, the road is narrow and will influence the markings to be added along with the bike lane.

Countywide Bicycle/Pedestrian Plan Attached County Map

Dan Dawson reported via email:

Comments provided:

- Class III routes are numbered and signed now (Tiburon Blvd – 10, E. Strawberry/Seminary – 9, Redwood Hwy Frontage to Belvedere then Belvedere to E. Strawberry – 8).
- The recommendations from the Bay Trail study for a Class I connector between E. Strawberry and Greenwood Beach Rd. on the south side of Tiburon Blvd. has been incorporated.
- Tiburon Blvd remains an existing Class III (bike route), proposed Class II (bike lanes), and designated for a future study with Caltrans and Tiburon for the potential of Class IV (separated bikeway).
- Redwood Hwy Frontage Road north of Seminary Drive is designated as Proposed Class II. Pedestrian improvements include sidewalk gap closures on Belvedere Drive.

Belvedere Place Road

The road will be paved this summer. On the north side of the road a striped/buffered bike lane will be installed. The center line of the road will not be changed as the community does not want to lose parking. Sharrows and a Class 2 lane will be installed on the south side of the road.

The bike route signs have been updated.

Stephanie inquired about the suggested safe route to Strawberry School along Harbor Pt. Is the class two bike lane that changes to a class three included in the County's project? Will sharrows be considered if there is not enough room for designated bike lanes?

Additional police enforcement and assistance with driver education was requested from both Mill Valley PD and the CHP. The DPW does meet with the police department to discuss impact on road user safety and education. Increasing driver awareness during back to school, return after long school breaks and the rainy season is a good time to remind all drivers about students walking and bike to school.

Bike Friendly MV application

The application process is being lead by Debbie Alley with support from MV Dept of Public Works, Sarah Adams, Tricia Satake and assistance from the Marin County Bicycle Coalition. More than 60% of the application is complete; the deadline is in August 2018. Confidence is high the city will be awarded at least a bronze award. The city will continue to notify the community about the value of this award/designation for Mill Valley.

Crossing guards

TAM will not be cutting any guard positions throughout the county this school year but some cuts could take place next school year. However, TAM will be funding 21 guards over and above the 58 in the last report. As many as 91 guards could be funded if the renewal of the Transportation Tax is approved. If the state gas tax was repealed, then local funds priorities will need to be evaluated. Under the TAM expenditure plan for the sales tax renewal, current funding for crossing guards will increase from 4.5 to 7% with the voter approval of the Transportation Sales Tax in the November 2018 ballot.

Alternative funding options should be considered. In Novato the PTA funds a few crossing guard positions. Some schools have the funding and other do not. Mill Valley KIDDO program could be a funding option. There are a few locations in Mill Valley where crossing guards have been requested; these could be funded outside of TAM.

Mapping Progress Report

Kevin will be working on the project this summer too. The goal is to get the updated map approved for the "back to school" packets. This would need to be in late July early August.

He expressed concern regarding the planned road construction (Molino/Monford) and how it will impact the suggested safe route to Homestead Valley. He requested the city and the schools help notify the community of alternative route(s) when the maps are posted/distributed before next school year. The BPAC would also be a good resource regarding notifications.

Mill Valley Middle School has a very large number of students cycling. Expanding the current map to include more neighborhoods would help to direct students to the main routes. Many

students are not aware of the signed routes. Continued education is needed for those that do not to follow the rules of the road.

Tracy requested assistance for polling the parents and students at Old Mill on routes currently being used by students. A list of questions needs to be developed along with an area map for students/parents to mark with the routes they use. It is very important to collect a good deal of feedback from the school community. This will assist the DPW and police who will make the final approval of the maps before they can be distributed.

Many students walk and bike to Old Mill, not every route will make it to the map. The approved map will include facility improvements and routes with the least amount of conflicts and approved “park and walk” locations.

Des reported a concern of students using motorized skateboard on the streets. The motors enable the boards to go very fast at unsafe speeds for young students; some students are not obeying the rules of the road.

The Mill Valley Police Department has provided two resources for:

- Motorized Scooter and Bicycle pdf
- Powerpoint Motorized Bikes

Getting ready for next school year

Marin Transit Update

The bus program is running smoothly, however ridership is down. Passes have been purchased; riders are not using the bus. The Strawberry bus is strong, the other schools have dropped off.

The bus program will need to be re-evaluated during the 2018-19 school year. Local agencies are meeting to evaluate funding options for a “yellow bus” program in Marin County and the Safe Routes to School National Partnership.

Suggestions to increase ridership:

- Identify locations where students could cycle to the bus stop: lock their bikes then take the bus to increase ridership.
- Pass option to take a different bus route after school to get to after school activities.

Tentative meeting schedule for 2018-2019 school year:

Meeting times, dates and location will be confirmed. Efforts will be made to have Tam High students attend.

Time 9:30 to 11:00

Aug 29

Feb 27

Oct 17

April 17

Dec 12