



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



**Reed District Safe Routes to Schools Task Force
Monday, September 14, 2015
Meeting Notes**

Attendance:

James Campbell- City of Belvedere, Loren Farrell- Business Manager Reed Union School District, Alice Fredericks- Mayor Town of Tiburon, Nancy Lynch Superintendent- Reed Union School District, Martina Seremetis Team Leader Bel Aire School, Ashley Tam- Parisi & Associates, Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Kathy McLeod- Outreach Coordinator- Del Mar School, Pat Barnes- Public Works Director Tiburon

Discuss priority of infrastructure issues around and along routes to Reed Schools

New Items for issues list:

James commented on a request from individuals using the dog park that a fence be installed to separate the students on bikes from the dogs in the park as a barrier. He is not aware of this being an issue nor were any of the Task Force members aware of any students being harmed by dogs at the park. This will not be added to the list.

Matina requested a cross walk or a light be considered at Gilmartin Drive crossing Tiburon Blvd. Students do cross at this intersection to get to the multi-use path. The challenge is this is very narrow stretch of road between Gilmartin and San Rafael Ave.

Priority # (1,2,3) Assigned – Issue Description – Comments made at meeting

1 -Kids need to know the rules of the road- classes will be scheduled at all schools this year.

#2- Getting to the bike path, especially off the hills- this is still a good idea and it will take time.

2- Need promotion from the school -The focus is on the school bus program now as the school year progresses more emphasis will be on Walk & Roll Day either once a week or once a month. All schools will promote SR2S events this year.

2- Greenwood Beach road - cars passing too close A suggestion was made to mail a notice to residents on “3 Foot Rule” and put up 3 Foot Rule signs for drivers. Additional education is needed for the student cyclists on roads.

1- Route maps - there are steps lanes and paths and people don't know where they are.

1- Some kids are going the wrong way through the Cove parking lot

There is a big need for route maps to be generated by Parisi & Assoc or the Parks Dept. The Bike Train did not have designated route maps for the student riders. Belvidere does have a trail map. Tiburon does not have a trail map to share with the community as many residents have expressed concern that routes will become public knowledge and used by non-residents. A suggestion was made to ask the residents to design the route maps vs. Safe Routes to Schools, but have Safe Routes use them to create official maps.

Pat reported the Bike Ped Plan will be presented in November and they will be useful information regarding maps for Safe Routes to Schools issues. Maps are scheduled to be available in January.

#1- Is there a school policy to support SR2S? Nancy is reviewing all district policies, she would like a copy of other school district policies. This will be added to the October School Board meeting.

1- The last stretch up to Bel Aire School, students are weaving in and out of the cars parked in the Cove Plaza- Request for no parking signs from 2:00 to 4:00pm and to add “bike route sign”

1- The bike path needs sharrows for the multi-use path- This is a complex route for cyclists traveling in both directions. A good deal of the road is County managed. Residents are very opposed to parking being reduced and they were very involved when

the road was designed. It is very important to consider safety issues for Safe Routes to Schools and if this were designated as a route for students it would be best to schedule a “walk audit” and invite residents to comment. It is not in the best interest of students to have them cycling on Tiburon Blvd.

2- Blind right turn off Tiburon Blvd onto Jefferson where children are cutting over to the path to get to the crossing guard at Trestle Glenn. Students are not clear on where to position themselves on the road- This is an issue of education for the student were to ride in the road (proper placement). Placement of “sharrows” would provide the visual re-enforcement.

#3- Students are cycling up Mercury Ave on the wrong side of the road when coming from the path that leads to Jefferson. This is a neighborhood issue primarily.

#3 - Students want to cross over Tiburon Blvd at one of the highest travel times of the day. Where Reed Road meets Tiburon there is a median. The median forces the students out into the road to go around it. There is a path higher up the road that students could make use of. This is a great opportunity to provide the students with a route map.

Remaining Issues will be prioritized at another meeting- The next steps will be to review the issues prioritized, schedule a walk audit and review the Bike Ped Plan to see how it can be used for Safe Routes to Schools maps.

Additional Comments:

Pat commented on the new flashing beacon light a Neds Way. He observed vehicle drivers driving straight through the crosswalk when pedestrians were crossing even with the new light. The placement of crosswalks can create a false sense of security.

Update on volunteer bike trains

Students continue to ride even though there is no formal “bike train”. Ridership has dropped due to the new bus program. Once families have identified how they will use the bus and other modes of transportation school promotions for Walk & Roll will increase.

The bus and cycling all promote independence and good options. The School District will see that Walk & Roll Days are promoted at the schools.

Report on Yellow Bus Progress

Nancy reported the start of the year was very busy. There were several kinks to work out and they feel the bus routes are now confirmed. The bus routes maps on the web site still need to be update and they will be. The final route maps will be posted with the weekly school announcements.

One of the challenges was the end of day schedule; students were waiting up to 15 minutes for a bus. The sign-ups have been great and at least one route is full and there may be a need for a 2nd bus. These issues are all being addressed.

There has been a significant decrease in traffic. The Ark is posting great feedback on the bus program from community members. Students after school schedules will continue to create transportation challenges and this is not something the School District can manage for families.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled in January. Wendi will send out a meeting poll in December to select a date.