

Ross Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force
Meeting Notes
Friday, September 7, 2018

Attendance:

Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Hadar Albo- Parisi Associates, Maureen Collins- Team Leader Brookside School, David Cron- Fairfax Police Dept., Erin Hill- Team Leader Hidden Valley, John Reed- Fairfax Town Council, Scott Schneider- San Anselmo DPW, Nancy Vernon- Aide to Katie Rice, Omar Yahya-CHP Officer, Kelly Zalewski-Marin Transit

Updates and reports - Town Updates

San Anselmo DPW

Brookside school sidewalk gas closure on Butterfield Road- An October meeting will be scheduled and announced to members of the neighborhood. Input will be collected, design will begin once approved. it will include all road conditions including steep driveways.

Bike Spine- This project has received federal funding; Caltrans will conduct a review next month. The project will include bike lanes, sharrows and the bike route from Ross and Wade Thomas to Brookside. A late fall public meeting will be scheduled to flush out the best route.

Safe Routes staff received a notice stating the sidewalk at Drake and Butterfield was not safe. Recently a drunk driver drove onto the front yard of a home. Scott did not have recommendations; the problem must be identified before a solution can be considered. The police suggested addressing driver behavior as the first step.

A rapid flashing light had been installed near Safeway.

Fairfax

There has been some talk about extending the bike spine; it has not been presented to the city council at this time.

Dominga Street project is at the mapping stage; traffic calming is being addressed. Some neighbors have expressed issues. Safe Routes sees this as a possible inclusion in the Bike Spine.

White Hill project is complete and a large pothole has been repaired.

Neighborhood Safe Streets reports

Green Valley Court safe pathway concepts have been developed by Parisi Associates. They address designing a safe path for students to walk along Green Valley Court. They will be presented to the neighbors for comment.

Neighbors have requested a “school zone” sign on Butterfield at Legend Rd on the north side of the school

Reports have been noted that Fawn Drive is once again becoming a drop off zone (for just a few families). With the start of the new school year, a request will be made by the school to remind the school community that drop-off is not permitted on Fawn Drive. The principal and CHP will also monitor and speak to the families if needed.

Sleepy Hollow committee will be addressing “driver behavior” as a collaborative campaign during the next meeting in October.

New Issues

Parents continue to observe drivers running the red light at Butterfield and Drake. A request was made to provide “orange pedestrian flags” and extend the timing of the light red light when pedestrians are in the crosswalk. Drivers try to beat the yellow light before it turns red. The current timing is too short. Many parents will not permit their children to cross Drake without an escort.

The speed feedback sign on Drake flashes all the time; therefore drivers ignore it. A request was made to adjust the timing so it is not flashing all the time. Fairfax has three feedback signs that get moved around to help avoid drivers from ignoring the warnings.

The police reminded meeting members drivers do not need to stop for a yellow bus signal when one side of the road has two lanes (aka a 4 lane road- 2 lanes in both directions). Drake Blvd has this configuration.

Bus Program Update

Task Force members welcomed Kelly back from her work leave. She had been back for 3 days and not received reports of any major issues. She was pleased to report many of the same drivers from last school year have returned. The White Hill route to and from school is sold out. Parent feedback has been the students like the bus service.

Crossing Guard Update

TAM Board approved a budget to step in and cover expenses until the November election. It was going to drop to 58 positions in January if the sales tax is not renewed.. If future funding is approved 96 crossing guard positions could be funded after December 2018.

Schools and school related organizations cannot advocate for Measure AA. Parents as individuals can campaign. An informational “fact sheet” will be developed by TAM including details about the crossing guard program and data that relates to what the measure funds.

Mapping Update **Maps attached**

Many streets surrounding Brookside School do not have sidewalk; this poses a challenge when encouraging students/families to walk and roll to school. Currently Brookside administration is asking for adults to volunteer to open doors to vehicles when the pull on the campus. The team leaders feel this is counter intuitive to encourage green travel to school. It also challenges resources for the team leader to recruit volunteers.

Parisi Associates has developed two maps (drafts): Map 1:Hidden Valley and Brookside Schools and Map 2: White Hill and Manor Schools

Task force members reviewed the map drafts and provided some comments. It was determined that many details collected during the last mapping meeting had not been added to the draft maps.

Hidden Valley and Brookside Schools Comments:

- Crossing guard locations need to be updated
- The yellow bus should be identified for Hidden Valley only
- The bike spine for Wade Thomas is on a seperate map- should be on both
- Double check the street names on the maps: Butterfield, Landsdale, Center Blvd
- There will be crossover of information on the maps; details need to be reviewed.
- The intersection of Butterfield and Suffield is dangerous and needs appropriate map notes.

White hill and Manor Map Comments:The draft map will be updated with all the comments provided at the last mapping meeting.

- Bus routes are missing; once added the maps will be given to Kelly for confirmation.
- Domenga needs to be added; once this project is presented to the city council the map will be updated.

- Olmea bike route is a class 3, there are no sidewalks or infractur. White Hill students use the route to get to school and take Drake after school.

Safe Routes Updates

Report cards

Wendi reported the formatting for the report cards countywide has been updated. Many schools have been participating in the program since 2000. Those baselines have been pushed up to 2009 create a more realistic grading formula. The reports measure green trips and active participation in Safe Routes to School programs. Report cards do not present a pass or fail grade; they are developed to determine what progress a school is making. If progress is not demonstrated, Safe Routes to Schools can offer support to improve green transportation at individual schools. Report cards can be updated if information/data was not accurately reported as a result of missing information.

Brookside has seen a decrease in gree trips; this could be a result of a loss of parent volunteers and school enrollment is down. There are many entrances to the school campus which creates a challenge to count students making green trips. A suggestion was made to ask 5th grade students to help with weekly Active4Me scanning.

Hidden Valley's overall green trips are flat; however active trips are better (walking and biking)

Back to School- Park and Walk

[SR2S- Safe Tips 2018- Spanish](#)

[SR2S- Safety Tps 2018- English](#)

Safe Routes to Schools provided all school principals (prior to the start of school) with safety tips to identify authorized “park and walk” locations. SR2S is encouraging students and families to reduce congestion around schools by utilizing park and walk locations. Many schools throughout the county are encouraging campus drop off with student and parent valet which encourages driving..

International Walk to School Day is October 10th; this is a good time to introduce suggested park and walk locations. Locations to consider for parking include: senior centers, church and community parking lots. Volunteer resources: neighborhood seniors to walk with students and student leadership and grade 5 “school buddies”, could meet up and walk to school together.

School Park & Walk Suggestions:

- Hidden Valley does have an added challenge for park and walk options. The nearby clubhouse could be an option. Neighborhood streets could be an option if the locations did not add to traffic congestion.
- Manor School could ask for permission to park and walk from the public library.
- White Hill could ask for permission in the old Lutheran church parking lot.
- Charter School needs to identify a location(s). A representative did attend the first mapping meeting.

Iwalk Plans for October 10

Hidden Valley is developing plans. This will be this volunteer teams first year for coordinating this event. They will request a CHP officer at the driveway to the school and to shut down the street to the traffic circle to welcome students arrive by bus and foot. Timing still needs to be confirmed and once they are they will be shared with NextDoor.

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Brookside School plans will be developed.

Next meeting is Jan 11th 2019