



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



## **Ross Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force**

### **Agenda**

**Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Ross Valley School District  
110 Shaw Drive, San Anselmo  
Blue Room  
10:00 am**

Attendees: Karen Baigrie- Team Leader Hidden Valley, Sean Condry- Director San Anselmo Dept. of Public Works, Renee Goddard- Councilmember Fairfax, Bret Joyner- Director Operations Ross Valley School District, Scott Schneider-Assistant Director San Anselmo Dept. of Public Works, Rico Tabaranza-Sergeant Fairfax Police Dept., Nancy Vernon-Aide to Supervisor Katie Rice, John Wright- Council Member San Anselmo, Kelly Zalewski-Marin Transit Transportation Planner, Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools

### **Infrastructure and Police**

#### **Town updates**

Sean introduced Scott Schneider; he has been working on Safe Routes to Schools projects since he started 9 months ago. He reported the sidewalks at Brookside School have been completed. Parking spaces were saved and drainage improved. The hand/guard rail will be removed soon. There will be an ADA ramp installed at the field entrance. The DPW was pleased to receive positive feedback from the community since there were many concerns prior to the project.

Brookside School Update

Judith Barry- Brookside Principal sent the following email to Wendi that was read aloud.

*Wendy,*

*Unfortunately, I am unable to attend this meeting. I believe your task force has discussed traffic/issue on The Alameda. This continues to be a big safety concern for Brookside students. Cars are driving too fast and turning around/dropping off students in unsafe ways.*

*I continue to send messages to the parent community about these safety concerns. We have purchased caution mannequins that some neighbors agreed to put in their driveways and we hope to have these available as a visual to slow traffic.*

*Bret Joyner, RVSD Director of Maintenance and Operations, is working with the city on signage to help with creating a safer drop off zone during school hours.*

*I have spoken with the San Anselmo police and they recommend I periodically request an officer to monitor the area.*

*In a recent site council meeting, some parents who are more familiar with the neighborhood than I am, suggested a no left turn at Arroyo and Butterfield as this would reduce the traffic that is coming through this area. There was also the suggestion about speed bumps near the school entrance.*

*Please let me know if The Alameda continues to be a focus for your group and what I can do to help.*

*Thanks,  
Judith Barry*

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The school district will be posting yellow warning signs; speeding complaints can go to Sean Condry and the police department. Education must be provided to the adult/parent drivers. The School District and San Anselmo DPW are working together to address issues with facilities and enforcement.

The DPW is working with the school on the configuration of the parking lot on Butterfield. There are several issues being evaluated. The stop sign on Rosemont is too far from the intersection. Drivers have a hard time determining who arrived first. The

entrance/exit of the parking lot and the location of the stop sign are under review. One consideration is to move the stop sign up closer to the intersection and paint “keep clear” at the entrance/exit to the parking lot. Another option is to flip the entrance and exit from the parking lot. This would have drivers exiting closer to the stop sign. Currently there is not a stop as you exit the parking lot. Drivers need to understand this is a 4 way stop. There is a tree and 6ft fence that are also challenges at this intersection.

The current crossing guard has been at this location for a long time. It is a very demanding location. The position requires the crossing guard to work with students and cyclists and drivers. Occasionally adult cyclists are not riding safely through the intersection. A recommendation was made to present the neighborhood association with the Street Smarts presentation “What Does It Mean to be Street Smart”. When the community is engaged, behaviors change.

Recommendations were made to schedule more safety assemblies at the schools. Students will share information and can influence how parents drive. Recruiting students to making a Utube video of best and safe practices could be very helpful too. The students can help send the message to parents.

No parking signs during school hours Monday- Friday will be posted on Memorial Park lane. This will make it easier for school busses to pass though.

All the schools on residential roads have 15mph speed limit signs posted. In the future signs may be posted on Butterfield; they will not be posted on Sir Frances Drake Blvd.

Renee proposed the 15mph speed limit be posted by Cascade School and Manor. Drake Blvd is a two lane road at these schools. It would be during school hours only and within the 500 foot distance of the schools. Glenn Drive also has speeding issues with parents and community members near White Hill School.

Other DPW projects include removing one the crosswalks at San Francisco Blvd and Drake Blvd down to one cross walk. The sidewalk on Broadmore Street will be completed in a few weeks. The guard rail at Broadmore and Butterfield will not be installed.

A Safe Routes to School grant will be used to add a sidewalk on the west side of Butterfield to Brookside. The section on Drake Blvd will have bulb outs added. Once designs are developed the DPW will host public meeting(s) and work with specific property owners once a plan is approved. Construction is planned in two years.

#### San Anselmo Bike Spine School Route -Concept Plan – See DPW Map Attached

The DPW presented the Concept Plan- Phase 1 Map for the Bike Spine. The spine will include road signs, road Sharrows and possibly additional red curbs at specific intersections. The process for applying the spine paint will depend on the condition of the roads at the time of installation.

San Anselmo has applied for a 1.2 million Complete Streets grant. The funds are for a project from the Hub to Bolinas Street via Drake Blvd. There are several concepts under review including a roundabout. This is a Federal funded project and will take a few years.

#### Drake High Update

Drake's School administration approached the town as they are considering changing the school start time to 8:30am next school year. They considered how this would impact traffic on Butterfield and did not see a significant increase; therefore, they support the time change.

#### Fairfax Update

Renee reported the Landsdale project is scheduled for construction from June 12-16. This will be designated as a multi model shared street or slow street similar to the *woonerf* concept in Holland.. The intersections will be stamped (brick pattern) to identify all road

users are using the street. New signs will be posted and the community will be developing education and awareness resources.

This project is a result of the successful partnerships developed with Fairfax, San Anselmo, community members and the Marin County Bicycle Coalition. Construction will take place after school has been dismissed for the summer. Studies of road use and behaviors were conducted before the project and they will be conducted after the new road facilities have been in place.

Renee also reported on the Parkade redesign and planning which will include side walk improvements and road redesign. This will be a big project and require a good deal of community input.

Finally, if the Victory Village project is approved the developer will be required to fund crosswalk improvements that will benefit the residents and students traveling along Drake Blvd. Construction may begin in 2019.

#### Yellow Bus Program Update

The Charter School is working with Marin Transit (MT) and White Hill to learn of interests in the yellow bus and to identify remote drop-off locations for walking/riding. A survey has been conducted to learn where families will be traveling from. The K-2 families need to receive education on the safety of students riding a bus vs. in a vehicle. MT does not know when the final decision to use the bus will be made. It may not be until the summer. The bus is already scheduled; therefore, that should not be a problem.

MT would like to have more parent volunteers to ride the bus to encourage participation. This would be managed by the school not MT. There may be a “winter pass” option to encourage students to make use of the bus when the weather is a challenge. This could be proposed after the start of the school.

The “day pass” is currently \$4.00 for one trip, they may consider a Butterfield pass only too. Passes will go on sale in mid-May. Prices did increase a little. The school district is very grateful for all the support from MT. It also helped that the school district came up with some funds to support the program for the coming year. Student behavior on the busses has improved. There were a couple of incidents reported; however, on a whole behavior has improved. MT is grateful and shares feedback with the bus drivers. They appreciate getting the support from the schools.

Nancy reported the County is looking into a long term sustainable solution to develop a bus program. This could take several years to develop county wide.

#### Oak Manor Community Group

The group has been meeting for a year and a half. The main focus has been speeding drivers. One recommended solution was a flashing speed sign. This proposal received a good deal of push back from 1-2 residents. To date nothing has been implemented.

New community members have joined the group and continue to seek traffic calming solutions including little road medians. The school and Safe Routes to Schools Task Force involvement will be helpful to have safety improvements approved.

#### Butterfield Community Group

The Safe Street meeting is planned for June. The agenda will include discussing a bike lane to Butterfield and requesting the Club House remove the Pampas grass permanently. It is overgrown and blocks visibility for cyclists and vehicle drivers.

Green Valley Court’s flashing beacon has been installed. A request was made for a speed feedback sign. Sean is researching a feedback sign that smiles if your speed is safe and frowns if speed is not safe.

“Keep Clear” will be painted on Green Valley and additional curbs will be painted red.

A bike lane on Butterfield to Green Valley was studied by Parisi Engineering. Study results will be presented in the future. This is a dangerous intersection for students cycling to and from school.

Fawn Drive issues continue to be evaluated. The CHP was requested to increase enforcement. One of the many issues is the street is too steep to designate it as a drop-off area for students.

#### Hidden Valley School Update

Karen's Team Leader replacement has been very supportive and enthusiastic. The bus program is going very well and has increased the number of students traveling green to school. Bike to School Day went very well again this year, with a great number of students/families participating. Karen has observed the school community demographic is changing with more dedicated families cycling and walking to school now.

#### Next Meeting

Friday, September 15, 2017 at 10:00am