



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



**Larkspur Corte Madera Safe Routes to Schools Task Force  
Meeting Notes  
September 7, 2017**

**Attendees:**

Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, David Parisi- Parisi Transportation, Gwen Froh- Safe Routes to Schools, Paul Barrolaza- Central Marin Police, Diane Furst- Town of Corte Madera, Jennifer Harrison- Neil Cummins Team Leader, Theo Mainaris-Central Marin Police, Ann Morrison- City of Larkspur, Jean Severinghaus- BPAC Corte Madera, Julian Skinner- DPW City of Larkspur, Michelle Walker- Principal Cove School, Saum Zargar- VP Redwood High School, Lori Gertenfeld- Redwood EAC Student, Brett Geithman- Superintendent LCMSD

**Documents:**

[SR2S Larkspur Corte Madera Issue List](#)

**Redwood High Carpooling**

Redwoods' student population is 1900 this year; now the largest high school in the county. In five years the projected population is 2150. The number of students driving and parking on campus remains a challenge. The school is encouraging carpool for 3 or more students in a car (parent/guardian driver does not count). There are currently 10 parking spots for student carpools. If more students sign up the school will designate more parking spots. Students can sign-up online. The school has a new Transportation web page it provides information for all modes of travel to the school.

There are still a number of students cycling to school. The bike racks are full

School Pool Marin is a resource that could be added to the school's transportation page. The site offers resources for people to organize carpools and could help the school set up a carpooling program. . Route maps were created when Dhority Drive was under construction. Wendi will give them to the school. The task force would like to increase the number of green trips from Tiburon. The transit buses are very full. Marin Transit has been asked if they could provide another bus. If the school conducted a survey to determine where students were traveling from it could be used to help organize carpools. At the start of next school year (once the survey is conducted this year) families could be contacted for carpool matching options.

San Jose Middle School had a volunteer parent who organized the carpools. It was very successful with 25% of the school carpooling.

Task Force attendees discussed resources to encourage students to use green transportation. One of the challenges is “the right of passage” for students to drive a car to school. This is part of the “car culture”.

1. Encourage the value of aerobic exercise
2. Many do not care if they get parking tickets.
3. Develop a student phone tree to match up carpool
4. Phone app similar to Lyft for redwood students only. Encourage the computer science students to develop the private app. Learn what would make students want to use it.
5. Driving a car cost money; is there incentive to save money?
6. Reduce the lunch lines on campus. Suggestion to create more locations on campus for campus lunch.
7. Bring food trucks to campus. SR2S conducted a survey at Terra Linda High School, 90% of the students stated they would stay on campus if food trucks were present.
8. Music on campus
9. Electric bikes- partnership with local business.
10. Charge for on campus parking- consider reasonable fee- many students with limited income drive because they have jobs after school, do not want to cause undue hardships.
11. Rewards/incentives- offer passes to school events,school swag, dance passes when students carpool or travel green.

Safe Routes staff will go back to the Redwood club and get feedback on the list of ideas and possibly conduct a survey with students. A survey was conducted during Doherty Drive project, some of the data could still be relevant.

### **Remote Drop off Locations**

Safe Routes to School would like to develop a list of remote locations for drop off or park and walk. The DMV was suggested for drop off ; some thought it is too far from campus especially if it was raining. Identifying locations for a school with 2000 students will be challenging.

### **Updates from towns:**

Cortea Madea’s Safe Routes to Schools project engineer has taken another job. Updates provided by the Mayor.

The bike lane on Paradise Drive on the bay side just past the Nugget store is very narrow for student cyclists to travel safely. Students are cycling side by side with vehicles. Redesign ideas are being researched; challenges include limited road space and private property.

The Tamalpais Drive crosswalks have been completed; including bulb outs, flashing beacons, red curbs. Students are directed to use Eastman (crossing guard) and not Chapman to cross. The area at Chapman was too narrow to update. The city has not received any complaints.

Skidmore, Owings and Merrill is working on a new concept for the Tamalpais pedestrian overpass /walk way (pro-bono). They will be presenting a design package to the community and Caltrans this month. Many new ideas will be presented.

Marin Transit (MT) has announced they may be stopping the Hall MS public transit bus and possibly the Cove bus. The bus drivers on public buses need specific training for younger riders. There are more rules to follow when servicing elementary and middle schools. A yellow bus was added for Cove School. The start of the school year was a challenge; issues are getting resolved.

Wendi reported 20% of 500 Hall students take the bus; losing the bus will be a problem. An MT representative will be invited to the next task force meeting to discuss options.

**Larkspur update:**

Proposal for the Safe Pathways project for Doherty Drive from Riviera to Lucky (a 1.5 year project) came in way over budget. The town's next step is phase the project way, request more bids over the winter and look for more funding options.

A grant and design work is underway for Magnolia and Madrone. The project may include a rapid flashing beacon for a more visible crossing. Community workshops will be announced; construction is planned for spring 2018.

A Clean-air grant has been requested from TAM for the crosswalks by the Lark Theater. This is a very complicated intersection with off center crosswalks and sloping driveways. The town hopes to learn of funding for the project in 2018.

The Bon Aire Road project has gone back out for bids.

A flashing beacon has been requested at Baltimore street. It is a challenging crosswalk for students. Vehicle drivers are not paying attention when students are walking: they do not stop. The police have not been aware of safety concerns and will add it to their patrol list. A beacon may not be an option because of the number of lanes; pavement shark teeth or other advance warning facilities may be recommended.

**Updates from Safe Routes to Schools**

**Class scheduling:** Cove School: will conduct the all grade level curriculum soon, Hall: classes were not conducted in 2016- new Team Leader may be able to help schedule for 2018. The district does have a Safe Routes to Schools Policy encouraging schools to conduct educational classes.

**Iwalk:**

Cove School has a new Team Leader and they plan to host the event. Student travel survey results are: 11% bike, 10-11 % bus, 8-9% carpool 54-58% drive

Neil Cummins will host Iwalk

Student travel survey results are: 27 % walk, 26 % bike, 10% cpool, 33% drive.

The bus program for Cove subsidized price is \$590.00/per year. The actual price is \$800.00. The busses are not full. There are passes available for students in need.

**Park and Walk**

Neil Cummins: The school has a no drop-off zone, established many years ago. Many are walking to the school. The locations where students walk from need to be identified.

The un-official bike path along the creek is used regularly. Landowners do not want the path paved. Families also park by the Cove and the post office to walk to school.

Cove School: Many families walk from Spindrifft. There is a walking train from the Nugget store; the sidewalk and bike lane past the store are challenging for students. There have not been any reported problems with park and walk in the community.

Redwood HS

A suggested location is at Pfeiffer at the north end of Lucky.

The police officers will provide park and walk locations. They do observe where students are dropped off and may have suggestions.

A proposal was made to consider changing the bell schedule to stagger start times. This may be mandated if the state law changes.

**Mapping**

Cove School developed a map upon opening. It should be updated to include “park and walk” locations. Spindrifft drop off should not be listed on a map because of the neighbors. The back side of the school sidewalk from Spindrifft floods in season. It is a short distance; however it does deter walkers. If it could be paved or gravel placed, it would be more user friendly.

**Review Issues List**

The list was not reviewed during the meeting. Copies of the list were distributed. Task Force members were asked to rank projects with a 1-2 or 3. The results will be addressed at the next meeting

**Next Meeting**

January 31, 2018 at 3:45 pm