



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



San Rafael School District
Safe Routes to Schools Taskforce- Davidson Middle School
Meeting Minutes
September 30, 2009

I. Introduction/Attendees:

Lindsay McKenzie-Team Leader- Coleman Valley, Stephanie Stenmark- PE Teacher, Davidson Middle School, Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes To Schools/Director, Peggy Clark Safe Routes to Schools, George Mills- Sunny Valley School, Suvra Chakrabarti-San Rafael- Associate Engineer-traffic, Cyr Miller- City of San Rafael, David Weinstein- Team Leader Davidson Middle School

III. Report from Public Works- Coleman grant timeline/Davidson Plans/Other school needs

Coleman:

Suvra- The grant application for Coleman has been accepted- the city has been told they need to submit information by Nov 15th to CalTrans- this is not a federally funded it is state funded- the process could take time- the city will do the design in-house

Lindsay- will the school see the designs before they are submitted?

Suvra-passed around the site application during the meeting- Caltrans will need to send approval before the city can begin work- time frame to be determined.

Lindsay- Coleman has been working with Dominican College – they were going to install a pathway through their parking lot

Suvar- she was not aware of any items at Dominican- however the plan reviewer for Coleman is very familiarly with Dominican projects- she is sure she is aware of all plans under review.

Davidson

Wendi- Walk Around conducted last spring- the city has not reviewed the proposed plans

Suvra- The city is considering the submitted plans as just concepts currently they will be reviewed at a staff level first and then get submitted to management for review. These proposed changes were not in the Cities plans and therefore cannot be implement for 2 years “if” they are approved. The funding for these proposed projects will also need to be identified.

Wendi- Safe Paths has a call for projects – this may be a resource for funding. The most important next step is to get the city’s approval.

David- confirm they are looking at 2 years before any approved work will begin

Suvra- Yes and construction will not be conducted during the school year.

Sheet 1. SIGNING AND STRIPING IMPROVEMENTS: LINDARO ST.

Wendi- Proposed
Install “No Left Turn” sign at driveway exit.
Install fluorescent yellow-green Assembly B signage at uncontrolled crosswalk and fluorescent yellow-green Assembly D signage in advance of crosswalk.
Replace existing pavement markings with “Slow School Xing” pavement markings.
Restrict parking to 20 feet on either side of the uncontrolled crosswalk.
Install fluorescent yellow-green Assembly A signage adjacent to school.

Suvra Comments:

City current review: 1. Removal of crosswalk- need to study more
2. Left turn restriction- is marked on the street- education and enforcement is also needed

Sheet 2. Lindaro Sidewalk Improvements

Wendi- Proposed
Work with businesses to develop a sidewalk design and maintenance plan.
Construct 350 feet of sidewalk between end of sidewalk north of school to Jordan Street. Modify curb and gutter as needed.
Option1: Construct 8-foot wide side walk, as measured from curb.
Option 2: Construct 5-foot wide side walk and 5-foot wide landscaped buffer.
BC Narrow up to six driveways.

Suvra- Comments

1. Sidewalk- being evaluated- must meet with businesses- might be a challenge

Wendi- This would be a policy review and it will need allies- SR2S task force does not need rumors to get out- best to approach business –educate them and ask for support.

Suvra- there are some technical challenges with this

Wendi- David P does have details for the engineer-they will be provide

Sheet 4 - SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS ON LINDARO STREET: JORDAN ST TO ANDERSEN DR

Wendi- Purposed
A. Widen approximately 250 feet of sidewalk on Lindaro Drive to eight feet.
B. Construct fence in median of Anderson Drive to discourage jaywalkers.

Suvra-Comments

1. Caltrans review required- purposed project next to creek

2. Jay walking education at school suggested

David- education only goes so far- the need is to make the situation safer and easier for the students

Suvra- in the past on Anderson consider installing a fence to prevent J walking- this could be a big capitol expense for the city- need to go back to the city to review

Cyr- he recalls the community was involved at some level regarding the design of the current median- yes the city did talk with the businesses and the school – this issue of Jay walking was not considered

Lindsay- suggested low planting

Cyr- there is a need for planning- not sure of the solution- good idea to ask the students for a solution-

Stephanie- students do not have fear when crossing the street

Lindsay- need to make it physically impossible to go over the median

Wendi- consider- if a big deal is made and there is not real solution it may be drawing attention and encourage more jay walking- best to observe behaviors- is this a problem with safety for adults and not for the students? The action may be wrong but the danger may not be the biggest issue.

Stephanie- the biggest problem is in the afternoon- students are existing the school parking lot- there are no crosswalks and there are buses in the parking lot- visibility is poor.

Wendi- this area was not reviewed during the Walk last spring. Will look at this area after the meeting (note Wendi and Suvra looked and the place where the driveway comes out would not be recommended for a crosswalk. Instead the students should be directed to go along the sidewalk in either direction until they reach an intersection to cross)

Sheet 5. - INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS: LINDARO ST AND WOODLAND AVE

Wendi - Proposed
Consider constructing curb extensions on up to all four corners, accommodating drainage on southwest corner.
Restrict parking 10 feet to the north and south of bulbouts on approach lanes on Lindaro Drive.
Consider removal of north leg crosswalk.
Evaluate intersection for crossing guard.

Suvra- Comments

1. Some improvements have already been made- the stripping sounds good- Lindaro both sides are good for striping.
2. No left turn is marked on the street- there is no sign.

Suvra- All the comments made during this meeting are based the cities very preliminary review.

Wendi- Once they are approved by the city they will then be requested to be included into the cities bike/ped plans and/or Capital Improvement Plans..

Lindsay- Coleman is losing a crossing guard and this is the same person who volunteer his time at Davidson- Coleman has requested the crossing guard send a summary of suggestions on his experience at Coleman and Davidson and they use this information when submitting a request for a replacement

Wendi- **Maye Barrow** is the contact for Davidson crossing guard- best to get guard to send them the notes too.

IV. Bi- National Health Day at Paseo in the Canal

Wendi- Bi National Health day- event scheduled at Wellness Center-including a Ride-n-seek conducted by SR2S- Riding with Youth conducted at Laurel Del and Davidson.

V. Teen Program at Davidson

Wendi- SR2S will soon be scheduling classes at Davidson for the entire school- One PE Teacher will be establishing a Cougars Bike Club- The program with SR2S is growing and will include monthly meeting.

VI. School Updates

Coleman

Lindsay- Pedal Power was just hosted a Coleman- after 3 rehearsals- it went well- the entire school attended- The IWalk to school day is organized

Wendi – best to get in touch with the police- Glen Mcederry at the police dept in charge of traffic safety

Wendi

Glenwood -Team Leader on board- they are hosting I Walk Day

Venetia Valley- 2 new team leaders –also hosting I Walk Day

Laurel Del- looking for a new Team leader- school primarily uses buses

Sun Valley- Principal is going to head-up I Walk Day

SR2S scheduling is going well in San Rafael

VI Travel Plans-

Wendi- Sun Valley waiting on comments from Julie and Laurie- Paul Krufman

George- he will check in with them and send Wendi an update on the status of the Travel Plans

Wendi- Cyr is leaving the City Council- Thank you for all support to SR2S – wish all the luck in future adventures

VII Next Meeting

Proposed the beginning of next semester and before the end of the school year.