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Larkspur-Corte Madera SR2S Task Force meeting  
Thursday February 17, 2022

**Attendance:**

Tara Acree-Marin Montessori, Dimetre Copeland Assistant Engineer Corte Madera, Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools- Program Coordinator, Gwen Froh- Safe Routes to Schools Program Director, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Jennifer Schriber - Parisi Transportation Engineer, R.J. Suokko -Director of Public Works Corte Madera, Julian Skinner-Larkspur DPW Director, Jean Severinghaus -Neighbor, Julie Kirsner Griffiths -Team Leader Cove School, Cheryl Longinotti- BPAC member, Betsy Bennett - Team Leader Hall Middle School, David Macpherson - Parent, Pagerie Jacobi - Team Leader Neil Cummins

**Safe Routes Travel Plans**

[SR2S Task Force Travel Plan Presentation Larkspur](#)

*The following notes are based on the comments made during this PowerPoint presentation.*

Safe Routes to School developed travel plans ten years ago for schools throughout Marin. Most of these plans have been implemented. Now it is time to develop new plans for the next decade. Now travel plans will be developed for school districts vs just individual schools. This will be a more comprehensive method; ensuring all schools are included in the planning process with identified objectives.

The goal of the program is to increase the number of students using green transportation modes to get to school, to instill healthy habits with children,

reduce congestion around schools and create a safer and cleaner environment for all. This goal may be updated if task force members provide suggestions. The school District does have an approved SR2S policy. This may be reviewed this year for updates if needed.

The objective outcomes that are measurable. A resource SR2S uses to measure is by one: Green Trips are everything from walking, biking, carpooling and bus travel. Active trips are only those trips where the students use their own power, walking, biking, skating, etc. Safe Routes to Schools is looking to maintain at least 50% for elementary schools, 60% for middle schools, and 70% for schools that have a bus program for green travel; with an objective of increasing by 1-2% a year. Measurable data is tracked using the bi-annual student travel surveys (fall and spring annually). Pedestrian and bicycle education is presented in schools and Safe Routes offers programs for families too.

Dot Maps (example slide #7) provide an idea of how many students actually live within walking and biking distances of a school. The location of the schools and the location of students' homes gives a good resource when setting goals and objectives: realistically, how many kids can walk and bike to school and take the bus.

Suggested Route Maps have also been developed for all the schools in this district. The suggested routes offer the best options for students traveling to/from the school. These routes are never guaranteed safe. There is no such thing as "guaranteed safety".

### **Larkspur - Corte Madera Safe Routes Issues List** [Issues List](#)

Many but not all of the issues have been prioritized. The prioritization is: a number one issue is categorized by the volume of students and major obstacles. Number two issues are categorized by either high volume of students or major obstacles. Number three is an issue that has a low

volume of students and minor obstacles. These are subjective; task force member input is very important. They are all important and will be addressed in time.

Once they are prioritized, they will be plotted on a Google map. These maps provide a detailed view of the issues for discussion. Walk Audits have been conducted for this task force. Once the details have been collected concept plans will be developed with collaboration with the local DPWs. Safe Routes has a very high success rate for getting these projects funded and completed. It can take a few years to have the projects built.

Every 3-4 years the Transportation Authority of Marin has a call for projects that supports proposed projects throughout the county. The state also has a call for projects every 2-3 years that provides funding.

The Safe Routes Program also supports the Crossing Guard program for the county.

#### Student Travel Tallies (slide # 16) Surveys

The district is already at 50% green trips is Redwood and Cove Schools; Neil Cummins is at 54% and Hall MS is at an impressive 77%. Parent surveys are conducted every 3 in the spring or fall. These surveys are very useful in collecting data that is not collected in the classroom survey: for example, how far a student lives from school. This can determine if they can consider walking or rolling to their campus.

Both Corte Madera and Larkspur towns have been instrumental in implementing many Safe Routes to Schools facilities improvements over the years. SR2S is very grateful for the collaboration.

#### **Safe Routes Education and Encouragement**

#### **[Education/Encouragement Presentation- Larkspur/Corte Madera](#)**

*The following notes are based on the comments made during this PowerPoint presentation.*

If parent volunteers were not able to make the meeting in February, please use this link to let us know who you would like to participate.

[Parent Volunteer link](#) to register your school for spring encouragement events. Safe Routes encouragement really needs volunteers from the schools to help support efforts for safe green travel in Sausalito and Marin City.

The Safe Routes to Schools [newsletter](#) is available. If you do not receive this newsletter (4 x a year) please email [peggy@marinbike.org](mailto:peggy@marinbike.org) to register.

### Education Update

Safe Routes to Schools is on track for providing pedestrian and bicycle safety education to over 10,000 by June 2022; currently 6,000 students have had instruction. School administration and teachers are dealing with illnesses related to COVID this month and this will impact the program for a short time.

The only schools/grades that have yet to schedule this school year are Neil Cummins 2nd grade, Cove School grades 2-5 and Hall 6th grade educations. The high school Share the Road program was offered to Redwood; they will not be able to schedule it this school year. Safe Routes plans meetings each fall with new school administrators and reaches out to the PE departments to schedule classes and provide information on our encouragement programs.

### Walk and Roll Events

Schools are encouraged to participate in these monthly events. Please contact [cooper@marinbike.org](mailto:cooper@marinbike.org) for all information and event supplies.

[English Poster](#) [Spanish Poster](#)

Wednesday, February 2, I love to Walk and Roll Day

Wednesday, March 2, Happy Pi(e) Walk and Roll Day

National Bike to School Day is on May 4th-Spring Challenge 2022

[JEDI Poster](#)

An exciting spring challenge will be announced soon. This year's theme to continue with encouragement has the acronym "J-E-D-I" and "May the fourth be with you". It's a four-week contest, kids will have their cards stamped and enter into a raffle on National Bike to School Day on May 4. Safe Route received an in-kind donation from [JAMBAR](#). They are donating 5000 bars to be distributed at our participating schools.

Our annual Bike Hero nominations will be announced soon. This has been a very popular event for students to nominate other student(s) that demonstrates safe and positive cycling behavior with good humor of course! Please contact [cooper@marinbike.org](mailto:cooper@marinbike.org) to learn more.

### Parent BIKE Education Night!

In March, Mill Valley School District is hosting Marin's first ever Parent Bike Ed. Night. The district requested Safe Routes to Schools schedule this presentation to provide information on what their children are taught. Parents are students' best role models when demonstrating good cycling behavior. Not all parents know correct cycling behavior; the content in this presentation will cover what is taught to students annually and address the recent safety concerns of e-bikes and e-scooters. Parent Ed. Nights can be scheduled at other schools. Please contact [Peggy@marinbike.org](mailto:Peggy@marinbike.org)

### Bridge to Bay- High School Event

This event is geared towards high school students; The [Bay Area Bike Mobile](#) will be present offering free bike repair, live music and food. To learn more, please contact [cooper@marinbike.org](mailto:cooper@marinbike.org).

A comment was made requesting education events offered by Safe Routes be posted on NextDoor. It would be a good resource to let the community know how many students are traveling green and reducing the number of vehicles on the roadways including e bikes and scooters.

## Town Updates

### Corte Madera Updated

#### [Town of Corte Madera SR2S Task Force Updates 2-2022](#)

*The following notes are based on the comments made during this PowerPoint presentation by the DPW.*

Paradise Drive Sidewalk Widening; (slides #2-#5) This project entailed widening the sidewalk on the north side of Paradise drive from 4ft to 8ft and improving many curb ramps that include ADA standards. The 8ft provides a good amount of space for students to cycle on the sidewalk safely.

Bulb-outs were also installed to improve pedestrian and cyclist visibility, reduce the distance, as well as to slow traffic speeds.

#### Echo and San Clemente Connector Path (slides # 6 -#10)

This project was partially funded via the Transportation Fund for Clean Air and the Transportation Development Act. The existing path (slide # 8) is currently gravel that gets very muddy and is difficult for students to use. It will be upgraded to a multi-use path (8ft wide) for students to use instead of going around Paradise Drive. The project is going through a review with the CA Dept Fish and Wildlife for approval.

The DPW plans to have this project designed and engineered for construction to begin in 2023.

#### Paradise Drive and Seaweed Passage (slides # 11 & #12)

The issue here was drivers taking the corner wide and quickly and not seeing pedestrians including students. The DPW restriped the roadway.

The community is very happy about these improvements; there have been many near misses in this area over the years.

## Paradise Drive Complete Street Project - Westward Drive

### [Link to town's update](#)

This portion of the project passes right by Marin Montessori and Marin Country Day on Paradise Drive between Westward Drive and Robin Drive. The facility would provide access to the ferry terminal, shopping malls and schools without needing to get in a vehicle. This has been on the Safe Routes to School list for many years.

The design team is developing concepts based on feedback from public meetings and from the BPAC. Another one will be scheduled in spring 2022. The primary goal is to design a class-one path to Upland Circle. There are many users and only so much space to factor into the design/use, vehicles, cyclists, students traveling to/from school and the Marin Audubon Society.

### Lucky Drive Update

This is a completed project that includes flood control analysis for the storm drain Master Plan. The town is currently focused on the Paradise Drive projects.

## Larkspur Updates

### Bon Aire Bridge Update

The south side of the bridge is now open to pedestrians and bicycles with a 10 ft wide sidewalk. The project is scheduled to be complete this summer and there will be a matching 10ft wide sidewalk for pedestrians and bikes on the north side too.

### Crosswalk improvements Update

Phase One is complete; it included: signage enhancements, advanced high visibility crosswalks signs, red curb zones to improve sight lines and temporary bulb outs at Baltimore and Magnolia. This was requested by SR2S. It is a pilot project with flexible bollards that are being used at other

locations in town. In addition, a crosswalk was added at Larkspur Plaza Drive.

Flashing rectangular beacons were not approved for most intersections on Magnolia. They are reserved for multi-lane roads for mid-block crossings. They are being monitored by the DPW for the pilot.

Phase Two will include more involved projects; additional lighting at crosswalks and pedestrian refuge areas. The downtown project includes removing and replacing all of the sidewalks, making them ADA compliant, and adding a couple of bulb outs.

Doherty Drive improvements are scheduled for this summer; currently PGE is doing underground upgrades. There are many temporary traffic control measures being implemented during school hours now. If PGE delays the completion of their work the Doherty project “could” get pushed to the following summer.

Two separate grants have been awarded for the entire length of Doherty; Transportation Fund for Clean Air and a TAM Safe Pathway grant. The plan is to strip buffered bike lanes on Doherty from Magnolia to the high school parking lot at Riviera Circle, then complete the 8ft pathway. The vehicle lanes will be narrowed in some sections for the bike lane.

The new flashing radar feedback signs with the “new” red and blue lights are being used in town.

A ribbon cutting to celebration for the Bon Air Bridge is scheduled for some time in June 2022 for this four-year project.

## **Issues List Updated**

[Issues List](#)

*The following notes reference items on this issues list.*



A few items have not been prioritized and some may be underway and it has not been noted. Both towns continue to address these issues. The next step is to address the less important items that have been on hold. Safe Routes would like to learn about issues from the parent volunteers and BPAC.

LCM 1: A project update was provided during this meeting. The project is underway.

LCM 2: This is a complete project

LCM 11: The DPW has been in communication with the DMV regarding the tree routes that are uplifting the sidewalk for over 6 months. In the last few weeks the DPW has added a temporary “skin patch” that removes from the rigid bumps. The DPW has applied for ATP funds (denied two times); they will reapply this spring.

LCM 12: This is a complete project

LCM 5: This is a complete project

Issue not on the list: Heart Street Connector on Sandra Marker Trail going east toward Neil Cummins School. A request for proposal will go out in the next few weeks, then a designer will be confirmed and the project will start.

Comments:

Regarding LCM8:

1. Can the overgrown cactus be removed as it blocks visibility for drivers?
2. Are funds available from the Highway Safety Improvement Program for the Wornam crosswalk The town is waiting to see what develops. They may be able to install a pedestrian interval signal; it would require the signal be retimed. This is on a list for future workload list.

Future issues:

1. The towns are planning for more housing. This will be a concern as this project moves forward and what pedestrian and bicycle facilities will be available for students and the public.

2. Completion of the pathway that goes behind Trader Joes; it is part of a route gap. It would also be a route students take. This project requires funding.

**Next Zoom meeting**

May 19, 2022 at 3:30pm