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West Marin Safe Routes to Schools Task Force  
Meeting Notes  
April 28, 2022

Attendee: Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools- Program Coordinator, Heidi Gregory- Owner Tomales Bay Oyster Company, Gwen Froh, Safe Routes to Schools- Education and Encouragement Program Director, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools Program Manager, Madeline Hope - Team Leader West Marin School, David Hoffman-Paris Transportation, Steve Antonaros-Point Reyes Village Assoc., Maile Sivert- Inverness Parent, Jen Shriber- Parisi Assoc. Transportation Planner, Ken Levin- President Point Reyes Village Association, Peggy Day-Point Reyes Village Association member, Steve Antonaros Village Association- Chair of the Design Review Board.

### Safe Routes Programs Updates

#### Safe Routes Education and Encouragement Spring 2022

[Safe Routes to Schools](#) has launched its new website (the web link has not changed). The improvements include: available in Spanish, English with better navigation, Spanish translation option; archived pages have been removed, toolbar has improved to Task Force group information, newsletter publications (available in Spanish/ English), ongoing encouragement activities and education resources. If you have not received it please check your spam folder or email [peggy@marinbike.org](mailto:peggy@marinbike.org)

#### [J.E.D.I. Challenge April 13, 20, 27, May 4](#)

The J.E.D.I Challenge is a four-week contest to help reinforce the habit of walking, rolling, carpooling and taking the bus to school. Participating

school's valued parent volunteers will host welcome tables. Lagunitas School is participating this spring.

### Bike to School Day- May 4th- "May the 4th Be With You"

This national annual event supports walking, biking, skating, scooting and strolling to school! Participating schools will have welcome tables and handing out (donated) JAMBARs to our walkers and rollers.

### Graphic Art Talent at White Hill Middle School

The flier for BTSD was designed by a middle school student. Safe Routes web site has a gallery displaying all of the submittals by the middle school students. This was supported by the school teachers.

### Annual Bike Hero AWARD- – Coming This May

**(Check the [Safe Routes to Schools website](#) to learn more and nominate a hero)**

Seeking Bike Heroes – students who are stellar “roll” models by biking to school frequently while *following the rules of the road*. In May, parents, neighbors, friends, teachers and administrators are encouraged to nominate a Bike Hero from their school worthy of receiving this county-wide award.

### [Bridge the Bay Event for High Schools April 23](#) (post event comments)

The Bridge The Bay in Pickleweed Park event supported and inspired high school students' climate activism, and education about the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions on our neighboring communities. The focus was on carbon-free active transportation and equitable rights to clean air. It was a huge success; over 60 bikes were serviced, San Rafael High School students stayed longer than they had planned to help out!

A professional street painter led a community mural, [The Bike Mobile](#) provided free bike tune-ups and there were games, food and more.

### Safe Routes Education Update

Classes have been conducted at Lagunitas and Bolinas schools this year. West Marin has not scheduled the classes.

## Safe Routes Parent Volunteer Needs

[Safe Routes Parent Volunteer Position Overview](#) This document can be presented to parents that may be interested in supporting Safe Routes to Schools (SR2S) encouragement events. There is not a good deal of student cycling to/from the campus due to vehicle traffic. The Mesa Road path is in very bad condition even for students walking.

The West Marin Youth Center has been the supporting organization when the school does not have parent volunteers. There is a boundary between the school district and centers after school programming that makes it challenging. The center would like to bridge that gap for both entities to work together to support alternative modes of travel for the students when possible for school and post school.

The Shoreline School District is hosting a community event on May 21. This could be an opportunity for families to learn about the needs for SR2S.

## Caltrans Path Update

Ken reported the trees will be cut back in June in preparation for work on the path. The tree's roots are damaging the path and the trees are at risk of falling.

Caltrans will start work on Hwy One and the repaving of the path will be scheduled at that time: Spring 2023.

## **Safe Routes to School Travel Plan**

### [Goals and Objectives Document](#)

This document has been updated as a result of feedback provided at this and other task force meetings:

Goals: Safety is now defined and footnotes have been added to clearly define active and green transportation.

Objectives:

Green and active trips maintained averages will be for each school and not for the school district.

### **Report from walk through MMWD**

A walk through was conducted on the property to identify a way to access the San Geronimo Commons, which used to be the golf course from Woodacre. Currently there is no off-road way to connect to Woodacre and cars travel fast on San Geronimo Valley Drive.

The observation and options listed below were discussed. If Safe Routes to Schools, the horse center and the San Rafael Commons joined efforts funding may be possible.

The MMWD access road is not an option for the pathway for various reasons that were discovered on the walk.

- Too many trucks
- No fencing by the sewer ponds and the creek has a steep drop-off.

Additional possible options were presented during the walk:

- A pathway along Sir Francis Drake; however, it will be expensive to improve. The people who run the horse center next to MMWD are very interested in access to a path in this location.
- A pathway that would extend through the PG&E right of way. This could require a bridge.
- A bike path along the side of the road is not an option. There is not enough room.
- Speed reduction on SGV Drive would have to wait until the state issues guidelines for the new law that allows for speed reductions. However, this could continue to be pursued.

### **West Marin Map review**

[Safe Routes to Schools DRAFT Suggested Routes Map - West Marin Elementary School - April 26- 2022](#)

This most recent draft map was updated with the feedback that was presented at the previous task force meeting. Additional feedback was

collected during this meeting; additional updates will be made. The areas of concern are marked on this draft. The map is not designed to identify future routes, but to identify what currently exists.

Task Force members expressed their concerns for mapping any routes that would have students traveling along Hwy 1 or on sections of Point Reyes - Petaluma Road. They requested clarity on the difference between marking current routes and identifying possible improvements for the future. Design the map to help families to understand what travel options are available as they consider how they will get to school.

A comprehensive Walk Audit was requested before any updates to the draft map are made. A recommendation was made to use a GoPro during the audit to help document conditions. The locations to be observed will be identified in advance. Task Force members requested Marin County Parks attend these meetings.

Organizations to invite to audit: CLAM, Marin County Parks, A possible date in June or July will be scheduled.

#### List of location for the Walk Audit:

1. Mesa Road
2. Alternate to Mesa Road
3. Fourth Street to B street to the Community center
4. Levy Road
5. Intersection: Hwy 1 and Sir Frances Drake (T intersection)
6. The two shortcuts up from Commodore Webster and Mesa to the school "affordable housing path"
7. Walk the route the students really go: private property, gates etc. (C and 3rd streets wetland path). Peggy Day has details
8. Hwy 1 traveling north to the "use caution" bend.
9. Inverness school front: curved road conditions

Some of the feedback comments provided during the meeting are listed below. David Hoffman has a complete list and will be updating the draft for the next meeting and log comments regarding future improvements.

- Remove Point Reyes/Petaluma Road
- The Olema route with the Platform Bridge is good because it is off the roadway.
- Mesa Road is good to keep.
- Identify and distinguish what the bus routes are by a different color.
- Request was made to include future improvements; make sure map users know they do not exist for travel now.
- Include routes student cyclists, walkers and skate boarders are using inside the town center.
- Mesa Road in the town behind Main Street has changed over the years. It is not a safe place for students to travel because parked and delivery vehicles have narrowed the road making it difficult to pass safely. A bike route needs to be marked to improve visibility of users.
- Consider a path along the property lines of the EAH and the School District's school property and possibly the property of the future Coast Gardens development.
- Students do travel from Laurel Street; they intersect at Hwy 1 at two locations where it is very dangerous. On this route by Lagunitas Creek community members wanted to get a bridge (County or National Parks land) students could use to get into town and get away from Hwy 1.
- Add Cypress Road; there are good routes here; call out the hill on the route.
- There are bridges that are closed off due to poor safety conditions.
- Remove any recommendations for students to travel along Sir Frances Drake.
- Bus stops and routes will be identified on the map.
- Identify a route for students/families traveling from/to Tomasini Canyon.
- Do not have students ride on Levy Road: too narrow for bikes and vehicles.

### **Inverness School Issues**

The front of the school is on a curve and has students exiting the campus right at the roadway. Parents and students gather in this area to enter/exit the campus. A request was made to add signs and road paint to help drivers be aware of students in the area. Safe Routes to try to include this in the Walk Audit

### **Next Zoom Meeting**

Thursday, Sept 15, 2022 at 7:00pm