



Larkspur-Corte Madera SR2S Task Force
Meeting Notes
Thursday May 19, 2022

Attendance:

Demitre 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 -Resident, Pagerie Jacobi - Team Leader Neil Cummins, Kathy McLeod- Crossing Guard Supervisor, Matthew Hartzell - WTB/Transportation Alternatives for Marin, Julie Kirsner Griffiths -Team Leader Cove School

[Safe Routes to Schools](#) has launched its new website (the web link has not changed). The improvements include; better navigation, Spanish translation option; archived pages have been removed, improved access to Task Force group information, newsletter publications, ongoing encouragement activities and education resources

Safe Routes Education and Encouragement
[Annual Bike Hero AWARD](#)- – May 2022

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 during May which is Bike Month from their school worthy of receiving this county-wide award. This is an annual county wide event ending in June when nominated elementary and middle school Heros will be selected and announced to the student and school prior to the end of the school year.

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

The J.E.D.I Challenge was a four-week contest to help reinforce the habit of walking, rolling, carpooling and/or taking the bus to school. This was a huge success this spring.

[Bike to School Day- May 4th](#)- “May the 4th Be With You”

This national annual event supports walking, biking, skating, scooting and stolling to school. Students that walked or rolled were greeted by volunteers at the welcome tables. All of the Larkspur and Corte Madera schools participated except for Redwood. Many high schools in the county restricted Safe Routes encouragement events due to COVID.

[The Bridge The Bay](#) event supported and inspired high school students' climate activism, and provided 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.

Over 60 bikes were repaired by the [Bay Area Bike Mobile](#); that offered free service to bikes needing repair.

Safe Routes Parent Volunteers Needed

Parent volunteers are needed to support encouragement activities. Here is an overview of the role for one or more volunteers at a school [Parent Volunteer for Safe Routes to Schools](#). Please contact cooper@marinbike.org to learn more.

Safe Routes Surveys

Surveys- Parent Survey

Safe Routes conducts this survey every three years at a select number of participating schools. Schools are selected to survey a cross section of the county's demographics to learn if there are barriers that prevent students from taking green transportation alternatives. This survey will be distributed in both English and Spanish to the school districts. If possible, the format will be in email and text formats. Redwood High school will also be sending out the survey.

Surveys- Student Travel Survey

The Safe Routes to Schools student travel survey is required for program funding. The survey measures the number of students traveling to and from school by various modes of transportation (bike, walk, carpool or bus). It will be conducted in classrooms during May. Data was not collected for the 2020/2021 school year. Safe Routes is encouraging all participating schools to conduct it this spring.

School Update on Spring Events

Neil Cummins School hosted the Jedi Challenge, making it a big celebration. In addition on a Friday the school hosted a huge black top celebration. Pagerie set up a Safe Routes booth with signage and distributed JamBars with SR2S stickers. It was a huge success and somewhat last minute.

The Cove School also hosted the Jedi Challenges; many, many students participated week after week! On the last day a bike train was organized and they had a welcome table. It was a busy and fun event well supported by parent volunteers and fifth grade students.

Crossing Guard Program Update

The crossing guard program is managed and funded by The Transportation Authority of Marin. It is up for renewal this year. This evaluation process will be examined including the scoring process used to evaluate where a guard is to be stationed.

If a school would like to have a new crossing guard location considered it needs to be submitted to the Corte Madera DPW as soon as possible to be considered.

The three changes will include:

1. Safety: it will be weighted as a score of ten versus five.
2. The definition of TK will be redefined to include this age group.
3. The definition of speed limits by school will be updated.

The actual speed of drivers will be evaluated to understand the safety needs at a crosswalk.

* A location will also be evaluated on how many collisions may have occurred at an intersection.

The evaluation will be conducted at the start of the next school year, in the fall. A report will be developed and presented in the spring of 2022 to the Board. The updated list of crossing guard locations will be implemented in the fall of 2023.

Crossing guard positions are available county wide. People interested should contact Dan Cherrier, TAM Crossing Guard Manager at dcherrier@tam.ca.gov.

Ebike education Update

Safe Routes is hearing concerns from students throughout the county about Ebike behavior by students riding the fast Ebikes (Class 3) that go speed up to 28mph. It has been observed that middle and high school students are riding double, in the wrong direction of traffic and not wearing helmets.

Students traveling to Hall and Redwood on traditional and e bikes are riding on the sidewalk when they should be using the bike lane when comfortable. They are traveling at speeds dangerous for the student pedestrians and riding through crosswalks where they should be walking a bike. These behaviors make it very difficult for the crossing guard to safely cross pedestrians.

Safe Routes believes this is a needed conversation within the community with parents, bike shop owners and enforcement. This summer SR2S hopes to work with agencies throughout the county to develop a safety flier to be distributed at bike shops and schools.

Comments provided addressed that many of these younger e-bike riders do not drive and they do not know the legal and safe rules for riding on the roads. A requisite was made to offer an Ebike training across the county.

Classes are scheduled at Hall; road safety for all users is included including e-bike cyclists. Safe Routes will plan to include specific bike etiquette for road and pathway cyclists and provide resources for parents to make informed decisions before purchasing an e-bike for a student.

Parents interested in supporting/developing the messaging outreach plan, please contact gwen@marinbike.org

Travel plans

[Travel plans goals and objectives](#) document

Safe Routes is preparing travel plans for all school districts. Larkspur/Corte Madera School District Task Force members are requested to review the document and provide comments to Wendi as soon as possible.

Other task force groups have submitted feedback that is included county wide. An example of an edit is the footnotes that describe what Active and Green Transportation means. A bus program is considered green.

The objectives are the actions that will be taken that can be measurable to achieve the stated goals. Safe Routes has to be realistic when determining the percentage increments for the newer program vs the longer-term ones. Safe Routes would hope to increase green and active trips by 1% every year.

Each school needs to strive to maintain an average of 50% green trips every year for elementary; 60%, middle schools and 70% for schools with a bus program. The task force needs to identify the infrastructure issues that are barriers to students walking and biking school.

The School District may have an existing Safe Routes to School policy. If so, it will be reviewed/possibly updated and this document will be added to it. This policy ensures the program will be supported annually especially when district and school administrators leave.

Updated issues list with BPAC

[Larkspur-Corte Madera SR2S Issues List](#)

Recently Wendi met with BPAC members and they provided new issues that are now on the Safe Routes to School list. This document will be updated; below are some of the comments made.

The Corte Madera DPW would like to meet with the entire BPAC to clarify issues list that will be added to the Safe Routes Issues list moving forward.

LCM13 Sandra Marker Trail Hart Street connection to Neil Cummins School:

The Corte Madera DPW has posted a RFP seeking consulting services. The town is planning for a new compliant path between the Larkspur/Corte Madera bike path between Hart Street and Palm Avenue. The design phase is planned for the summer of 2022.

LCM14 Casa Buena:

This project is fully designed. It had been planned for the summer of 2022. The DPW learned that PG&E had two major transmission gas line projects planned that will run through Costa Buena. Due to this project this will be pushed to the summer of 2025.

Information on the PG&E project can be found here: [PG&E Community Gas Safety Project](#)

LCM15 Tamalpais and Sanford:

The DPW will follow-up; not clear of the status of this issue.

LCM16 Wornam/Tamal Vista/Sandra Marker:

The DPW did do some work on Tamal Vista Blvd a summer or two ago; improved curb ramps on either side of Tamal Vista that improved connectivity and modified striping on Tamal Vista. The DPW believes they have implemented everything on the Tamal Vista Corridor.

The design for the Central Marin Regional Pathways Gap Closure Project is completed and the DPW is seeking ATP funding for the 3rd time. Once funded the Wornam pathway would be redone and other facilities on Nellen would be added: Class 4 bike path and some enhanced pedestrian crossings.

LCM17 Gravel path off San Clemente to Echo:

The DPW did receive \$180,000. The current work plan is to initiate preliminary engineering and start "right of way" discussions. The underlying land is on California Department of Fish and Wildlife land. The project could be scheduled for the summer of 2023 or 2024 (new multi-use path).

LCM18 Corte Madera Park parallel to High Canal/ Sausalito St:

The DPW will explore route options for a more direct route than currently exists.

LCM19 Industrial Overcrossing over 101 near Nellen:

The Greenway Interchange project is somewhat instead of the project for replacing the pedestrian over crossing; no funds ended up being available.

A request was made to add a sign to direct pedestrians to the crossing. It is somewhat difficult to see and would help students know how to access the overcrossing. This is part of route 18. The Corte Madera DPW needs to identify the specific location and then they can look into proper signs.

TAM is looking at potential interchange upgrades; short and long term. To replace the current overcrossing more land would be needed to make them ADA compliant.

LCM20 Behind Trader Joes:

This is County jurisdiction and involves SMART right of way and is part of the North South Greenway; it is not funded at this time.

Federal Funding; Safe Streets and Roads For All; SS4A may be a future resource for this project that TAM could be awarded. It could possibly fund the environmental, right-of-way and connect the pathways.

LCM21 EAH housing on San Clemente:

This has been presented to the DPW; it is not a good place for a crossing. It would be a mid-block crossing with 5-6 lanes of traffic and there is not a signal.

Corte Madera Town Update

[Town of Corte Madera 2022-05-19 SR2S Updates Presentation](#)

The comments below were made during the presentation. Please view the presentation.

Road Resurfacing Project (Concept images Slide 2-3)

The red lines on the map indicate all the roads that will be resurfaced. ADA curb ramps (51) will be installed several will include bulbouts where needed; traffic calming options are being researched for El Camino Drive. Additional roadway striping will be included.

On El Camino Drive (Slide 4) will be striped with an 8ft wide edgeline on both sides of the street leaving approximately 18 feet for traffic travel. Choker islands will be painted as traffic calming facilities.

[Mariner Cove Sidewalk Replacement Project](#) (slide 6-7)

This is strategy # 4 for the pilot project; the town will offer grants to assist homeowners with the responsibility of maintaining their sidewalks. This funding process is different; the DPW will be more involved in what sidewalks are included and will complete the work. Construction will begin in June; including approximately 2300 sidewalks with tripping and extreme sloping dangers. Some of the strategies for this project will be implemented on San Rafael and San Mateo.

[Paradise Complete Street Project](#). (Slides 9-14) There will be a public ZOOM workshop on May 25th at 5:30pm (All meetings will be recorded). This project goes from Westward Drive to the Eastern Corte Madera town limit; past Robin Drive. It will serve students that pass through the trailhead for Ring Mountain by the two private schools and all the way to the east part of town.

The project will include pedestrian, bicycle facilities, sidewalks and crosswalks and multi-use paths enhancements. This project contributes to the emergency evacuation route for the County of Marin. Providing direct access to Tiburon, the Marin Country Day School, the Marin Montessori School, the Ring Mountain Preserve, the Bayfront Trail, the residential community near Robin Drive.

The process for developing design concepts will include public meetings; including the one scheduled for May 25th and the ones scheduled last fall and with the BPAC and school administrators. Public feedback is requested and valued during the design process.

Feedback received to date included the pathway on the north side of the Paradise corridor. (Slide 17)

Comments can also be sent to the DPW staff at: pwcounter@tcmmail.org

Larkspur Updates

The Bon Air Bridge project should be finished by early summer. The new bridging includes 10ft sidewalk on both sides; wide enough for bikes and there will be bike lanes. The current no biking on the bridge will be removed when the project is completed. Rapid, rectangular flashing beacons are installed for the mid-block crossing by the medical offices. The signal at South Eliseo will return to the original function; the red flashing traffic light will be stopped.

There will be a low-key celebration planned to avoid closing the bridge for any length of time. The bridge has stayed open for the many years of this project.

The Complete Street Project which includes the full length of Doherty Drive will be repaved. The project will start on the last day of school and be finished before school starts up again.

Additional funding was obtained from TFCA and TAM's Safe Pathways. The current Class II bike lanes will now include buffers; the rapid flashing beacon lights will be installed at Piper Park crosswalk by Hall Middle School, the 4ft wide pathway that runs along Doherty on the side of the high school will be updated all the way to Lucky Drive. The fence will be moved back 8ft.

Next Zoom meeting is Thursday, Sept 22 at 3:30pm