



**Larkspur-Corte Madera
SR2S Task Force
Meeting Notes
September 22, 2022
[Meeting recording](#)**

Attendance: Demetre 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, David Parisi - Safe Routes Traffic Engineer, Parisi Transportation Engineer, R.J. Suokko -Director of Public Works Corte Madera, Julian Skinner- Larkspur DPW Director, Jean Severinghaus -Resident, Cheryl Longinotti - Corte Madera and TAM BPAC member, Dr. Brett Geithman- Superintendent, Matthew Hartzell - WTB/Transportation Alternatives for Marin, Kathy McLeod- Crossing Guard Supervisor, Cooper Miley- Safe Routes Volunteer and Encouragement Coordinator

Safe Routes Education and Encouragement Fall 2022

This was the first in-person meeting in three years. Topics discussed will include: [Walk & Roll Wednesdays](#) and [International Walk and Roll Day](#) (October 12, 2022). There will be monthly encouragement events in September to December. Parent volunteers will distribute buttons to participating students. International Walk and Roll to School Day annually has about 1000 students/families participate county wide. Parent volunteers are encouraged to contact cooper@marinbike.org to support their schools' efforts for these events.

Buddy Up Contest- New Encouragement Event

[BUDDY UP](#) is a new contest to get students to walk (park and walk), bike, carpool or ride the bus together. Now through October 31, sign up your group of two or more

Regardless of whether students are scootering, biking, or carpooling, we would like families to submit their Buddy Up Story. This is similar to the Bike Hero award; prizes will be awarded.

Family Biking- October 15

Additional events will be scheduled throughout the year- [Link to events](#).

Location: Ross Valley Charter School, 102 Marinda Dr, Fairfax

This Family Biking class helps to prepare students for riding on roads. Students ride on our courses to practice bike handling skills and learn the rules of the road on a mock street. Family Biking shows parents, first hand, how instructors teach safe cycling skills and pro-tips for reinforcement. An optional local ride is included.

E-Bike & E-Scooter Safety Information

Safe Routes to School has heard from many people in our communities regarding ebike safety concerns as students are riding them to school. SRTS includes e-bike safe education in our campus presentations.

In this [flier](#), we clarify the different types of e-bikes and recommend parents research and assess their student's ability to manage the increased speeds and challenging maneuverability of a heavy e-bike before purchasing one. There is information on e-scooters as well. Please read and share this flier with your family and friends. This flier has been shared with principals throughout the county. Local police agencies have also been sending out information on the safety concerns and are providing education.

The average speed of an average adult cyclist is 12 miles per hour (mph), and 9.7 mph for 14-year-olds. Yet e-bikes can travel 20 mph (Type I and II) and 28 mph (Type III).

Communities are worried about students e-biking at twice the speed of regular cyclists, many carrying helmet-less passengers, and dodging between and around vehicles, pedestrians and other cyclists. The Type II; throttle Ebikes can cause unique issues because it takes away the organic nature of pedaling a bicycle. E-bikes can go up hills with pedal assist only; a throttle is not required.

The popular Type II throttle e-bike offers riders the option to travel up to 20mph without pedaling. Many manufacturers state that "children under the age of 16 may lack the necessary judgment and skill to safely operate the e-bike." Many will not sell their bikes to individuals under the age of 16 years even though CA law does not have age restriction for Type 1 & 2 Ebikes. Type 3 Ebikes are restricted to 16 years and above; this Ebike can reach a top speed of 28mph. They are not recommended for middle school age students by the manufacturers.

The flier is on the SRTS website and can be shared by anyone. SRTS has collected information for popular type two throttle manufacturers. They are clearly stating on their

website, and when we called in person, that students should be 16 years of age to ride that Type II throttle Ebike.

Task Force members did report they have observed students riding double with and without helmets dangerously in roadways and parking lots. The [Safe Routes to Schools newsletter](#) has an article that could be shared as well. The Central Marin Police department did send out a notice that they would be issuing citations when illegal behavior is observed.

The school district supports the e-bike as a mode of transportation to support independence. They are sending out messaging to the school community regarding helmets. The Ebikes are not at the elementary schools; they are discouraging the double riders on bikes and excessive speeds.

The Central Marin Police Dept has been sending out Nixel emails and stated they will be issuing warnings and citations when unlawful behavior is witnessed.

Safe Routes is asking schools to stress the messaging about not purchasing the Type III Ebikes for under age students.

Safe Routes to School Fall Student Travel Survey

Marin County schools have been emailed the directions regarding the fall travel study. This survey is conducted in the fall and spring in classrooms. The Travel Survey measures the number of children traveling to and from school by various modes. This survey is required by Safe Routes to Schools funding source and gives them an assessment of the success of the program at your schools throughout the county.

The survey was conducted Sept 13-14-15; make up week is Sept 20-21-22. Please contact peggy@marinbike.org for all questions.

Education classes in the district

Classes have been scheduled for the 4th grade at Neil Cummins, grades 2-4 at The Cove School and Hall Middle this fall. The new VP for Neil Cummins and Hall has been very helpful.

Street Smarts Campaign Overview- "Eyes Up Marin"

Link to [Street Smarts Campaign](#)

The following notes were made during this PowerPoint presentation.
Street Smarts is a traffic safety program run by the Transportation Authority of Marin.

The goal is to provide education to drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists about safety issues. It is designed to make streets safer and friendlier and reduce the number of traffic related collisions.

The prior campaign focused on speeding, stopping drivers from running red lights and stop signs, addressing distracted driving, crosswalk safety and bicycle violations. The signs and banners aged out and needed to be replaced.

The new campaign has engaged more community partners. New data is available that identifies roadway hotspots where collisions occur and the most common types of collisions. This data will help engineers develop roadway designs to help prevent collisions.

Moving forward, this is a data driven campaign. There will be new targeted messaging, updated branding, and new media platforms.

Safe Routes to School engineers collected and analyzed data of all collisions in Marin County from 2016 to 2020. The information helped to develop relevant messaging. During this period there were over 14,000 collisions; about 4% resulted in a fatality or severe injury, and about two thirds for vehicles only, while 5% involved bicycles and 3% involved pedestrians.

Even though the percentage of collisions involving pedestrians and cyclists were low; disproportionately they resulted in injuries or fatalities. 20% of collisions resulted in a fatality or severe injury for pedestrians; and for cyclists, 15% of those collisions involved a fatality or severe injury. SRTS wants to target behaviors that would hopefully prevent these collisions.

Collision factors = the main behavior that caused the collision. The trends identified are: speed, improper turning, driving or cycling under the influence, and pedestrian right of way violations. Distracted driving is unfortunately not recorded in crash reports; however, surveys have found that more than 54% of California drivers say that they had been hit or were nearly hit by a driver who was talking on a cell phone or texting. Ignoring traffic signs and cycling on the wrong side of the road is also an unsafe trend noted.

A Task Force was created with representatives from many cities and towns including TAM, school districts and other community leaders to focus on six target behaviors and help develop the messaging. The campaign “Eyes Up” models what was organized by the Butterfield Road Safety Committee. This new campaign has over 120 partners to help spread the word using their organization resources and social media. Marin Transit will have messaging on buses in the future. Age Friendly Corte Madera, the school district and police have been confirmed.

The new banners and yard sign design will be distributed in many cities and towns and the unincorporated counties starting in mid-October-November. It will come back in the spring of 2023 (annually Spring/Fall). Residents can contact their local DPW for lawn signs in English and Spanish. Messaging will be focused on driver and cycling behavior and to help people who are walking.

The committee will discuss how the program can be tracked and what the impact is. All materials will be available at streetsmartsmarin.org. If you have additional questions, please contact jennifer@parisi-associates.com.

Task Force Comments:

Glad to see data that supports that drivers can have a difficult time turning and not seeing pedestrians; including oversized trucks that have blind spots due

Town Updates

Corte Madera

The following notes were taken from this PowerPoint presentation.

[2022-09-21 Paradise Dr Complete Street SR2S Update](#)

A background on the project was provided. Paradise Drive Complete Streets project is a multimodal facilities project from Paradise Drive between Westward Drive and the Eastern town limit. The project will enhance access to and provide locations including Ring Mountain Open Space Preserve, Marin Montessori School, the Marin Country Day School and nearby residential and commercial hubs.

The improvements will benefit seasoned cyclists, student bike riders, pedestrians and hikers. The project will include; bike lanes, shared use paths and sidewalks. It will also address sea level rise, adaptation and flood protection measures. It will also add parking for the drop-off/pick-up for the local schools.

Once the town identified the issues, it held public meeting(s) and developed the conceptual design. More public input along with an environmental review will be

conducted. The next meeting will be in November; a good deal of feedback has been provided and the town is reviewing it. The presentation slide at the end has updates on meetings, the website link and contact information to learn more.

There are three design variations the town is considering:

#1 Includes a standard 4ft sidewalk on the north side and adds a 6ft path on the southside with limited street parking.

#2 Includes a 6ft path on the south side and parking on the southside

#3 Includes an 8ft path on the southside

The design features include: site line improvements, traffic calming facilities and school drop-off/pick up area improvements.

Task Force Comments:

A request was made to make access to The Cove School and the Montessori School a priority. Parents have expressed they need bike and pedestrian access on both sides of the street. This could avoid the need for them to cross the roadway multiple times.

The DPW explained the feedback received from last summer's meeting. They reported residents preferred the path alignment on the south side, given it "marries up" with the existing path on the south side that is west of Westward.

Concern for drivers lining up was expressed too. The DPW designs include plenty of parking for non-school users, mountain visitors and overall improved multimodal facilities. The alternative drawings are being updated with comments from the meeting.

Caltrans Overpass Update

For more info on the [Caltrans 101 Tamalpais Overcrossing](#) project:

The project needs to make the facility compliant and address seismic structural issues. Seven alternatives are outlined in the web page.

Some design options include modest bike/ped improvements proposed, they do address ADA requirements.

Outreach to the community is being conducted by Caltrans and the Town. The DPW would like this project to be on everyone's radar to avoid missing any chance to provide comments ongoing. The budget shortfall is about \$9 million dollars. The town applied with Caltrans for a bridge grant recently. This is a supported project by Safe Routes to Schools.

Larkspur Updates

Bon Air Bridge

This project is mostly complete. Most of the remaining work to be completed is underground. All facilities are striped and the rapid flashing light at Bon Aire and the signal at South Eliso is fully operating. Magnolia from city limit to city limit has been paved; some bike and pedestrian improvements were added.

Other updates: Additional enhanced crosswalks are underway. The pilot installation at West Baltimore worked out well; therefore, the town installed more along the Magnolia corridor.

Doherty Drive Update

Doherty Drive was repaved and all of the stripping will be completed soon including buffered bike lanes including green paint in the conflict zones. Rapid flashing lights will be installed at the Hall Middle School crosswalk, possibly in November.

The extension by Redwood High includes an 8ft path behind the sidewalk, pushing the fence back. Now there is a nice 12-foot-wide space for bikes and pedestrians along Doherty in front of Redwood.

The town has additional paving projects planned that include crosswalk improvements.

The DPW is working with TAM on the next phase of the North South Greenway to bring the pathway to the Hwy 101 overpass. Caltrans is working on the funding to hopefully have the project underway in 2023.

Task Force Comments:

Project looks great and Doherty Drive looks much better. Safe Routes appreciates all the work the DPW departments have been working on. The DPW continues to get feedback (positive/negative). Bollards have been requested similar to what Mill Valley installed.

Next Zoom Meeting

Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 3:30pm