



## Novato SR2S Task Force Meeting

May 3, 2023

[VIEW RECORDING - 82 mins \(No highlights\)](#)

- Participants
  - Wendi Kallins – SR2S
  - Gwen Froh – SR2S
  - Monica Leifer – SR2S
  - Tyler Randazzo – SR2S
  - Jen Shriber – Parametrix
  - Mac Grosel – Parametrix
  - David Parisi - Parametrix
  - Molly Graham – TAM
  - Dan Cherrier - TAM
  - Casey Ward – Complete Streets Novato
  - Joakim Osthus – Complete Streets Novato
  - Diane Gasson – NUSD Member, parent
  - Pat Eklund – Novato City Council
  - Mike Saisi – Director of Student Services, NUSD
  - Erin Compton – Lu Sutton & Sinaloa parent, Lu Sutton PTA president
  - Matthew Hartzell – WTB-TAM
  - Stacey Pogorzelski – Novato Charter parent
  - Ed Schulze – Complete Streets Novato
  - Jim Larson – NHS Assistant Principal
  - Sarah Donelson – NHS parent
  - Leslie Benjamin – NUSD Director of Communications
  - Dabne Smith – San Jose neighbor
  - Manijeh Larizadeh – Novato Public Works
- Education and Encouragement
  - [National Bike to School Day](#) held May 3 at Lu Sutton with 74% student participation; Olive is scheduled for May 4
  - Bike Hero award upcoming, will be announced at the end of May

- Bike rodeo scheduled at Olive for May 4
- Recruiting now for fall volunteers
- Crossing Guards
  - Crossing guard sites are periodically re-evaluated, scored, and ranked based on a number of factors including vehicle volumes, speeds, and school-aged student volumes
  - Some Novato locations have ranked in the top 10 countywide for this evaluation period.
  - Some new locations have guards in Novato this year: Trumbull & Vineyard, Woodland & Siebel, Sutro & Center, Center & Diablo
  - Some locations that currently have a crossing guard did not rank high enough to retain the guard: Center & Tamalpais, South Novato & Sunset. These locations may have had safety improvements making them no longer need a crossing guard. South Novato and Sunset will retain its guard, which would be funded by the school district.
  - Information is being communicated through task forces, superintendents, PTA, and on-site notifications regarding new site and discontinued site
- Street Smarts
  - Campaign is ongoing through the end of May
  - Visit <https://www.tam.ca.gov/streetsmarts/> to download social media graphics or to request a yard sign
- Novato High Walk Audit
  - Walk audit focused on Arthur Street and the parking lot.
  - Congestion and conflicts around the parking lot entrance with backups to South Novato Blvd. cars enter from the east and exit to the west. Students are dropped off on the driver side of vehicles, which is abnormal for operations. One idea would be to reverse the vehicle flow to correct this with cars entering in the west and exiting in the east. Offsite, this would reduce congestion along Arthur Street due to reduced conflict between right-turning exiting vehicles and entering vehicles.
  - Within the parking lot, some aisle vehicle directions could be shifted to reduce congestion and facilitate more normal drop-off operations. A dedicated walkway would be added for students walking to campus. Adding wheel stops to parking spaces would prevent vehicles cutting through.
  - Arthur and Hayes intersection: idea to add more red curbs to increase sight lines, add curb extensions, and add signage warning drivers about the crosswalk. Also, opportunity to widen sidewalk
  - Arthur and Cambridge intersection: could add curb extensions to provide shorter crosswalks and better visibility
  - South Novato and Arthur intersection: Potential opportunity to add stop bars, high visibility crosswalks, and buffered bike lanes
  - Hundreds of parents drop students off in the parking lot as well as off-site
  - Student parking spaces are assigned, so students entering the middle row in the parking lot would do so only to park.
  - Education will be very important if the parking lot is reconfigured.
  - Rectangular rapid flashing beacons could be considered at the intersections

- Would be helpful to communicate to parents where they can drop students off campus. A drop-off spot at the back of the school was assessed during the walk audit but it's not ADA compliant.
- Next steps: the city is interested in pursuing the ideas. Parisi will meet with the school and the city to discuss further.
- Pleasant Valley final map
  - The final map will be available for download at <https://www.saferoutestoschools.org/about/suggested-routes-to-school-maps/>
- City Updates
  - Going to enhance several crosswalks and install traffic calming throughout the city. Some crosswalks will be retrofitted with RRFBs. The intersection at Midway and South Novato is close to Lynwood. Contact Peter Escala with any questions. Visit <https://www.novato.org/home/showpublisheddocument/35628/638169973059500000> for more information
  - A paving project will be done this year, with new curb ramps installed. This project isn't specifically related to SR2S.
  - Complete Streets members will review the projects and notify the task force of any occurring near schools. Visit <https://www.novato.org/home/showpublisheddocument/35626/638176096099230000> for more information
- Set next meeting
  - Wednesday, September 6 at 5 PM