

San Rafael SR2S Task Force Meeting

May 11, 2023

[VIEW RECORDING - 88 mins \(No highlights\)](#)

meeting starts at 8 minutes in.

- Participants
 - Wendi Kallins – SR2S
 - Gwen Froh – SR2S
 - Monica Leifer – SR2S
 - Molly Graham – TAM
 - Dan Cherrier - TAM
 - David Parisi – Parametrix
 - Mac Grosel – Parametrix
 - Venera Mandanas - Parametrix
 - Jen Shriber – Parametrix
 - John Campo – Marinwood CSD, Park Commissioner
 - Nhat Phan – San Rafael DPW
 - John Neville – Marin County DPW
 - Matthew Hartzell – WTB-TAM
 - Alex Peck – Coleman Principal
 - Geof Rubendall – Sun Valley SR2S Coordinator
 - Eric Dreikosen – Marinwood CSD District Manager
 - Susannah Mrazek – Coleman SR2S Coordinator
 - Wes Howell – Mark Day Facilities Director
 - Julia Reinhard – Aide to Mary Sackett
 - Ian Fein – Marinwood SR2S volunteer
- Education & Encouragement
 - Just concluded National Bike to School Day. This event includes bus riders as well. Davidson and San Rafael High also participated in the event in addition to elementary schools.
 - JEDI Challenge concluded at the elementary schools, and one student at each school won a new bicycle and helmet.
 - Bike Hero Award is the last event of the year. Students who are good “roll models” can be nominated through the month of May. Two elementary students and two middle school students will be recognized at the end of the month. Visit the SR2S website to nominate a student.
 - SR2S classes have successfully taught at all schools. Bahia Vista is upcoming.
- Coleman
 - Improvements on Lincoln Avenue have been proposed.
 - A grant was awarded to the city through the HSIP program to make key intersection improvements.
 - The city’s DPW is looking at several enhancements on the east side of the highway. These are striping and other low-hanging fruit.

- The school district has made it a priority to look at access improvements on the campus.
- Safety issues are reported on Rafael, where there is a sidewalk gap and students and parents have been bumped by vehicles. The back access needed to be shut down because of dangerous conditions.
- A second inspection is being organized
- Crossing Guards
 - Sites are re-evaluated periodically to ensure that crossing guards are present where the most need is. The latest evaluation was postponed to 2023 due to the pandemic and the updated list was just approved.
 - Criteria for crossing guard location evaluation include vehicular volumes, school-aged pedestrian volumes, stopping sight distance at intersections, etc. crosswalks are scored individually, and the site score is the highest crosswalk score.
 - Changes to sites have resulted from declining school enrollment, completed capital projects, signal timing, no right on red, and school closure/consolidation
 - San Rafael results:
 - New crossing guard sites at Woodland & Siebel, West Castlewood & Knight
 - Crossing guard will be phased out at Nova Albion & Montecillo, Woodland & Lovell. These guards will remain in place through the first half of next year.
 - All other existing sites will keep their guards
 - Notice of the upcoming changes, once finalized, will be distributed through task forces, PTAs, on-site, etc. prior to the changes being implemented in August
 - Sites can be reevaluated in the future if there are changes at the sites. PTAs/school districts can self-fund a crossing guard through the TAM program. A volunteer program also exists, but the district would be required to furnish a guard for the entire year or be charged up to the full cost of a crossing guard. The town could also choose to fund a guard.
- Street Smarts
 - The spring Street Smarts Eyes Up campaign is ongoing through the end of May
 - Visit <https://www.tam.ca.gov/streetsmarts/> to download social media graphics or request a yard sign.
- Bahia Vista Walk Audit Report
 - Well-attended walk audit on April 5, conducted in English and Spanish. The walk audit was attended by members of the school staff, public works, police, parents, and others. The walk audit focuses on Bahia Way from Canal Street to Kerner Boulevard.
 - General observations
 - Poor driver behavior: double-parking, letting students out on the wrong side of the street, parking in red zones, speeding, etc.
 - A lot of students walk to school and some cross the street without a crosswalk at a blind corner. There are multiple apartments in this location.
 - The crossing guard isn't always heeded by drivers
 - Observations in front of the school
 - Double-parking and parking in red zones
 - School area signage was obsolete
 - A lot of students walk from housing and cross the street in front of the school without a crosswalk

- Narrow sidewalks
 - Parents requested a partial street closure during pick-up and drop-off times. A group looked for a site that could be used for remote drop-off on the south side of the school, but there are no sites except one which is posted no parking without a permit. Parents can use Pickleweed Park for remote drop-off on the north side.
 - Next steps will be to share results with parents at a meeting on May 31 to hear their ideas for improvements.
- Sun Valley
 - A walk audit was held with parents and stakeholders along Fifth Avenue. This corridor is heavily used by pedestrians and cyclists but has a lot of traffic during peak hours. The road lacks bicycle infrastructure and has sidewalk gaps.
 - Two preliminary concepts have been developed.
 - First long-term alternative
 - Widen sidewalk into the street to provide a 12+-foot wide multi-use path on the north side of the street
 - Includes bulb-outs at intersection to calm traffic and shorten crossings.
 - Approximately 70% of parking would be removed from Happy to California.
 - Second long-term alternative
 - Retain curb and push sidewalk back to create a 12 foot pathway.
 - Includes bulb-outs at intersection to calm traffic and shorten crossings.
 - Would include minimal parking impacts, but would impact driveways, curb-adjacent landscaping, and utility poles. This alternative would have a higher cost than the first alternative.
 - Include filling sidewalk gap at California and Humboldt
 - Features common to both alternatives include bulb-outs at intersections, potential raised intersection
 - A near-term alternative would be the creation of a “bike Boulevard” which could include traffic calming (bulb-outs), sharrows, and realigning the Racquet Club Drive intersection
 - California street lacks some sidewalks and there is parking on both sides of the street. Would need to coordinate with various entities, including Andy’s Market, to resolve.
 - Task Force feedback
 - Can an additional option just fill sidewalk gap on Happy Lane?
 - The parking that would be removed is used by parents dropping their children off
 - The northeast corner of Happy and Fifth is a problem. The sidewalk here is approximately 4 feet wide and the crossing guard discourages crossing here.
 - Next steps
 - Present alternatives to BPAC on June 7
 - Find a way to get information to other participants in the walk audit.
- Civic Center Pathway
 - A federal earmark was suggested by Senator Padilla for funding for this project, which will improve connections to Venetia Valley. SR2S and the City will track the funding and provide more information as it is available.
- Marinwood Trail

- An existing trail north of the school serves existing single-family homes. A proposed earthen trail east of the school along Miller Creek would serve high density housing as well as future housing developments and would provide access to the school. It would also connect Marinwood Market, a popular destination for students. The trail is owned by the Marinwood Community Services District (CSD)
- Assessments are underway to inform the CEQA evaluation. Funding sources are being explored to fill the implementation funding gap. The CSD has \$150,000; there is a gap of \$120,000. The Safe Routes task force would support an application for Safe Routes program funding when TAM puts out a call for projects.
- Idleberry Gate
 - Given Marinwood CSD's ownership, they would be responsible for this issue according to John Neville. Ongoing maintenance of the improvements, including the gates and driveway approaches, would be up to the CSD. The county can't expend public funds for improvements that are not in the public road right of way.
 - Safe Routes asked that Eric from CSD keep Safe Routes informed if they plan to put in the curb cuts.
- SMART Update
 - Pathway to San Pedro Road is moving forward to the design phase and is proposed to be funded.
 - San Rafael Meadows pathway is not in the SMART work plan for the next year, but Supervisor Sackett is continuing to push for this.
 - SMART and Marin Transit have free rides for K-12 youth this summer, as well as youth under 5 with parents
 - A microtransit pilot will soon be implemented to the station near the Santa Rosa airport.
- Set next meeting
 - September 12 at 5 PM