



**SAFE ROUTES
TO SCHOOLS**
MARIN COUNTY



Ross Task Force Meeting 5/15/23

[VIEW RECORDING - 57 mins \(No highlights\)](#)

Attendees:

Wendi Kallins – SR2S

Ruffaello Pata – Ross Chief of Police

Julie McMillan - Ross Town Council

David Hoffman – Parametrix Engineering

Dan Cherrier – SR2S Crossing Guards

Maria Lubamersky – Middle School Principal Ross

Gwen Froh – SR2S

Lou Goodwin – SR2S

Gwen Froh, updates on Safe Routes to Schools:

- Shoutout to teacher Caitlin Santis for holding the 2 month long (5 days of tabling) Safe Routes encouragement contest called the JEDI challenge. A bicycle was raffled off to a lucky student winner.
- The Bike Hero Award is our final event of the year. Teachers, parents, administrators can nominate a student that they think is a bike hero. Four students county-wide can win \$50 gift cards to a store of their choice.
- Safe Routes staff will be at Ross School next week teaching pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Dan Cherrier, updates on [crossing guards](#):

- Every 4 years the locations of SR2S crossing guards are re-evaluated. There are 161 sites in Marin. The 3 sites around Ross school that will continue all next year are: Ross Commons, Ross Commons at Post office, and Lagunitas/Allen. The fourth crossing guard will be at SFD and Lagunitas for the first 6th months of the school year.
- Julie pointed out that there is a crossing guard at Bolinas/SFD paid by the town of Ross, and another crossing guard at Bolinas/Shady Lane paid by Branson School.

David Hoffman update on Street Smarts:

- The Street Smarts banners which were placed around town last Fall are again up this Spring.
- If you'd like to get the graphics to share, or order a lawn sign go to this page under the TAM website: <https://www.tam.ca.gov/streetsmarts/>

- Wendi offered for anyone who wants to be added to her weekly email with the “message of the week” – they should let her know. She encourages people to put up the messages on Nextdoor.

Ross School District Policy

- Wendi announced that Ross School has passed an official SR2S policy in March.

E-bike/R-scooters

- Wendi shared a [video](#) made by Ross students to educate their peers about safe riding of e-scooters/bikes.
- Shoutout to Maria for a great video! Shoutout to Chief Pata for getting his police force involved in the making of video.
- Chief Pata shared with all the “Caught being Kind” cards his police officers and teachers can give to students who are wearing helmets and riding safely. Students get entered into raffles for prizes.
- Students who are behaving badly on scooters or bikes get warnings, and are given another card indicating wrongdoing.
- Chief Pata talked about how the e-bike messaging should be different for the various different kinds of e-bikes/e-scooters.
- Gwen Froh and Chief Pata will plan to meet and discuss how the messaging should go out to students before the next school year.
- Wendi shared that the town of Mill Valley created an ordinance aimed to controlling E-bike behavior. Students will be required to take an E-bike course if they get ticketed.
- Chief Pata didn’t think that would be necessary for Ross given the student’s riding them e-bikes/e-scooters are younger than those in Mill Valley. They are 10-12 year olds who need training.

Lou Goodwin, update on Ross suggested routes map:

- Lou worked with teens supplied by Caitlin Santis, a Ross teacher, to get input about their routes to school. She met with 15-20 students at lunchtime and discussed their routes to school. Students drew on the maps supplied by David Hoffman and noted the problem areas. Lou also tabled in front of the school to try to get parent input.
- First problem area:
 - o The first is the fact that students riding down Laurel Grove Ave. cut through the parking lot at the Marin Art and Garden Center to get to the light at Lagunitas and SFD Blvd..
 - o Chief Pata agreed this is happening.
 - o Julie cautioned about creating this as the suggested routes. She thinks we should leave it alone. There have not been any problems reported.
- Second problem area:
 - o Shady Lane, Allen, and Lagunitas Road is very busy. There’s a long crossing from Shady Lane to Allen. Lou says that student bike riders avoid that crossing, by crossing mid-block to the East side of Shady Lane, getting on the sidewalk, and

riding to the crossing guard. Chief Pata agreed this is happening, he is often there at the intersection in the morning.

- David Hoffman suggested that we put a caution notice onto the suggested routes map.
- Other issues about the map:
 - Lou brought up that SFD Blvd. should not be designated as a bike route. It should be walking only.
 - Julie brought up issues with Winship Park and students riding unsafely to Laurel Grove Ave. David and Julie agreed to meet and view the issues real time.

Wendi set date for next meeting in the Fall. Date set for Monday, September 18th, 2023.