

# Mill Valley School District

## Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Thursday, February 1  
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

[View Recording](#)

### Participants

- Nick Bockh – BPAC Vice Chair
- Jen Burk - Parent
- Dominic Burton – Tam HS parent
- Lisa Dani – Almonte volunteer
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Al Grumet – Sustainable Mill Valley/Active Mill Valley
- Matthew Hartzell, WTB-TAM/Active Mill Valley
- Langston Hazen – Marin County traffic engineer
- Jennifer Imbimbo, Aide to Dist. 3 Supervisor Stephanie Moulton-Peters
- Alexandra Jenkins, Tam High parent liaison
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- David Kollerer – Mill Valley Police Department
- Rob LaPorte – Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
- Ruth Massaro – Tam Valley resident
- Christina Mueller – MVMS parent
- Tyler Randazzo – SR2S
- David Razón – Almonte resident
- John Selix – Retired MV teacher/Mill Valley BPAC rep.
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Emily Spady – Safe Routes Tam Valley volunteer
- Mike Woolard, TAM HS Development Coordinator
- Urban Carmel – Mill Valley City Council, TAM Board

### Poll

The group was polled on whether they would like to meet online or in person for the spring task force meeting. 50% could go either way, 38% prefer virtual, and 13% wanted to meet in person. Based on the poll the next meeting will remain virtual.

### Safe Routes Presentation (Gwen Froh, SR2S/MCBC)

See the attached [presentation](#) on walking and bike buses and park and walk.



**Discussion**

*Student Tally Surveys (Wendi Kallins, SR2S)*

The results of the fall 2023 student tally surveys were shared with the group and compared to the baseline statistics. Tam HS did not conduct a survey during this semester.

Green trips and active green trips have increased at all schools since the program began. In some instances, the percentage of green trips has more than doubled.

School	Baseline			Fall 2023	
	Year	Green Trip %	Active Green Trip %	Green Trip %	Active Green Trip %
Edna Maguire	2004	38%	23%	51%	45%
Mill Valley Middle	2003	49%	29%	65%	51%
Old Mill	2003	17%	16%	43%	35%
Strawberry Point	2006	24%	15%	34%	31%
Tam Valley	2000	17%	17%	45%	37%

*Secure Bike Parking (Matt Hartzell, WTB-TAM)*

WTB-TAM recently conducted an inventory of bike parking across Mill Valley, including its schools. They passed on recommendations to Mike Woolard, and these will be considered as part of Tam High renovations. They are also in contact with the Mill Valley school district to upgrade bike racks to models that are more secure and potentially covered. These improvements will hopefully be incorporated into the remodel of the Middle School.

*Bike Trains/Park & Walk Discussion*

An informal bike train exists at Mill Valley Middle School, where students bike to school together along Marin Ave/Almonte/the bike path.

Tam Valley requires kindergarten parents to take their students to their classrooms – this encourages park and walk in the morning.

**Updates**

*Education & Encouragement (Gwen Froh, MCBC/SR2S)*

A number of spring activities are planned, and more information can be found on the Safe Routes website. These include Walk and Roll Wednesdays, Rainbow Quest Challenge, National Bike to School Day on May 8, and the Bike Hero contest in May.



E-bike safety messaging and guidance can be found on the Safe Routes website.

### *Tam Valley Walk Audit (Wendi Kallins, SR2S)*

Findings from the [Tam Valley walk audit](#) were reviewed with the group. [Here are the diagrams of the existing conditions](#)

It was noted that a sixth grader on a bike was hit on the 'S' curve on Marin Ave.

The Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy was recently awarded more funding to continue design of the Bothin Marsh multi-use path reroute. They are still several years out from a buildable project. The most recent set of graphics and maps showing the proposed designs for elevating and realigning the multiuse path and restoring Bothin Marsh can be viewed here:

[https://www.onetam.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Bothin\\_Preliminary\\_Design\\_Graphics\\_Web.pdf](https://www.onetam.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/Bothin_Preliminary_Design_Graphics_Web.pdf). Contact Rob LaPorte for more information: [rlaporte@parksconservancy.org](mailto:rlaporte@parksconservancy.org).

Almonte and Shoreline and Shoreline to Flamingo make up a major active transportation thoroughfare. There is no sidewalk from the end of the Good Earth property to Shoreline/Almonte. This is Caltrans ROW. Bollards were recently put up on Almonte. Assembly Bill 43 allows speed reduction in business activity districts; perhaps this could be used to adjust the speed limit in this area.

There is supposed to be a crossing guard at Rosemont, but there has not been one present. This is part of a regional shortage of crossing guards.

A compilation of issues around Tam Junction/Almonte can be viewed here:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJdhsjVIA-o&t=59s&ab\\_channel=DaniRao](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJdhsjVIA-o&t=59s&ab_channel=DaniRao)

Supervisor Moulton-Peters had talked about a study of Tam Junction; currently there has been no update on study. Farid Javandel, the Division Manager of Traffic for Marin County Department of Public Works will give an update on projects in Tam Valley at the next SR2S meeting in May. A working group is identifying issues in the area. Caltrans will be doing a longer-term project in the Manzanita area into Tam Junction; perhaps this could be expanded into the junction.

Call (415) 924-1100 to report speeding incidents to CHP. If it's an emergency, call 911.

### *Strawberry Update*

The Department of Public Works has identified the Ricardo sidewalk as a priority. The county is looking for money to hire a consultant to develop a conceptual plan for the area. This would be reviewed by the Task Force before going to final design. Safe Pathways is a possible funding source.

### **New Issues**



*Mill Valley Middle School*

Presentation

A coalition of MCBC, Sustainable Mill Valley, WTB-TAM, and the Mill Valley BPAC have come together to look into conditions around the school. They have found two areas that need particular attention.

Along southbound Camino Alto, the bike lane in front of Safeway is only available on weekends; at all other times it is used for parking. Students biking to MVMS and Tam High must bike on the sidewalk or take the lane. This parking serves people visiting the Redwoods Senior Center and high school students. Any changes would need to incorporate a parking analysis. Perhaps the parking could be restricted during school commute hours. Further down Camino Alto towards East Blithedale, the bicycle facilities are class II and don't provide protection from high-speed traffic.

Bike parking at MVMS is located in places that can only be accessed by crossing a busy parking lot. Access paths from the north and south are narrow and unimproved; these could be improved/widened to make bike parking access safer. MVMS is considering renovation and possible reconstruction, so this issue could be moot if the school changes location.

*Tennessee Valley Bridge*

The McGlashan Pathway is in constant shade this time of year. The wood in the shade becomes very slippery for cyclists and pedestrians and has led to numerous falls and some injuries. Marin County Parks and Open Space owns the path, but it's maintained by the TCSD. A new seal is planned for the path when the weather clears as they need a dry day to do the work. The Parks Director was going to follow up with staff on February 1 to make sure this gets taken care of. The seal they use has grip to it which will make the pathway less slippery.

*AB413*

New state legislation has gone into effect prohibiting parked cars within 20 feet of the approach to a marked or unmarked crosswalk and within 15 feet of a crosswalk with a curb extension. The law will go into full effect in 2025; in 2024, drivers can be issued a warning for parking too close to a crosswalk. This law would require enforcement even in locations where there is no red curb.

**Next Steps**

- Look into Rosemont crossing guard
- Emily will share a map of the Almonte area issues



- Look into getting CHP alerted to attend task force meetings and patrol areas
- County DPW to give an update on the Tam Junction study
- Explore what can be done about the parking/bike lane on Camino Alto

**Next Meeting Date**

- May 9 at 9:30 AM

