

Miller Creek School District
Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Monday, April 29
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Participants

- Diana Chung – 401 North Ave Resident
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Matthew Hartzell – WTB-TAM
- Marie Henrio – Miller Creek School
- Wes Howell, Mark Day Director of Facilities
- Ali Iqbal – Parent
- Dave & Joanna Giavina – Capri homeowners, Miller Creek parents
- Dante Williams – Mark Day School
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- Rachael Kertz – San Rafael Councilmember
- Joanna Kwok – San Rafael DPW
- Nick Miller – Miller Creek Assistant Principal
- John Neville – Marin County DPW
- Kate Powers – Former San Rafael BPAC, TAM COC
- Julia Reinhard – Aide to Supervisor Sackett
- Mary Sackett – Marin County Supervisor
- Shinji Sakai-Egi –Silveira Parkway Improvement Project
- SM - Resident
- Patrick Seidler – WTB-TAM
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Maria Tinnel – Terra Linda Assistant Principal

Safe Routes Presentations (Gwen Froh, SR2S/MCBC)

Back-to-School Communications

See the attached presentation on [back-to-school](#) notifications. SR2S will send a back-to-school notice districtwide with information promoting walking and rolling and spreading awareness of SR2S programming.

E-Bikes

[Presentation on E-Bikes](#)

Gwen discussed the organization's efforts to promote safe cycling practices among students, particularly through the use of e-bikes. She highlighted that while e-bike crashes requiring paramedic intervention were low, the 10 to 16 age group represented the highest percentage of the population involved, underscoring the importance of



proper visibility and adherence to laws. Gwen also clarified confusion regarding the purchase of e-bikes for students and the types of devices available, emphasizing that any device exceeding 20 miles per hour is not considered an electric bicycle and is subject to motor vehicle laws. Mary revealed plans for advocacy at the federal level and a state bill with Assembly Member Connolly to address issues with class 2 labeled devices in Marin County, with Gwen announcing that Sports Basement in Novato would no longer sell Super 73s. Additionally, MCBC is working on communication to stores and has a buyer's guide that lists recommended devices.

Encouragement Activities (Gwen Froh, MCBC/SR2S)

National Bike to School Day will be held on May 8. The Bike Hero Award is ongoing through the end of May: people can nominate elementary and middle school students who are good "roll models" through the SR2s website.

Organizing Mapping Workshops (Wendi Kallins, SR2S)

SR2S has created suggested route maps for many schools around Marin, including Miller Creek middle school. Maps don't yet exist for any of the Miller Creek elementary schools. In Novato, SR2S brought all schools together at the same time/place and had people draw their routes to school. Maps were also put up at the schools for Walk & Roll Wednesday so students could draw their routes. Wendi suggested similar tactics for Miller Creek, with workshops in the fall and tabling at Safe Routes events. It was suggested that back-to-school night would be a good time to have the maps out. The maps could also be shared using Miller Creek's interactive slideshow tool, Pear Deck, so parents can digitally draw their routes. WTB-TAM also offered to meet with parents and do some mapping for the schools.

New Issues from the Public

Crossing Guards (Mary Sackett, Marin County Supervisor)

Mary detailed the changes to the crossing guard program due to budget constraints, which will include the elimination of crossing guards at three Miller Creek locations: Mt. Shasta & Idylberry, Marinwood & Miller Creek, and Nova Albion & Montecillo. SR2S will provide additional training for biking at schools affected by these changes. School districts can pay for crossing guards where they have lost them, although Miller Creek is not considering this option due to budget constraints. Sites are re-evaluated every three years, and can also be re-evaluated if conditions change (e.g. land use changes).

Silveira Parkway Improvement Project (Shinji Sakai-Egi & Neighbors)

Shinji Sakai-Egi and other parents raised concerns about the lack of safe walking and biking routes along Silveira Parkway. Approximately 40-60 students live along this corridor. Specific issues cited included a lack of sidewalk on the east side, lack of



comfortable walking conditions on the existing west side sidewalk, lack of bicycle facilities, and poor condition of the retaining wall. The Department of Public Works recently addressed the retaining wall, and the other concerns are being considered along with other requests.

Joanna informed the committee that a citywide bike and pedestrian plan update will be initiated later this year, inviting everyone to participate and offer suggestions. Wendi stressed the importance of including this initiative in the mapping process. Residents can also take a [survey](#) to provide ideas for projects. This project can also be considered as part of the Capital Improvement Program.

[Nova Albion Bikeway Concept \(WTB-TAM\)](#)

Patrick presented a plan to create safe pathways linking several schools in the area, The concept would extend the existing pathway in front of Terra Linda to Vallecito on the inside of the existing sidewalk, as well as connecting the pathway to the Mark Day School pathway currently being designed. This project could be a candidate for Safe Pathways funding. The next step would be to conduct a walk audit in the area.

Safe Pathways Call for Projects (Wendi Kallins, SR2S)

Wendi led a discussion of potential projects for the upcoming TAM Safe pathways call for proposals. This include the following projects:

- Vallecito/Mark Day pathway (this would require cooperation with school district)
- Rafael Meadows pathway – this project recently won federal funding, but more is needed to complete the project

Next Steps

- SR2S will put out maps at back to school night and explore Pear Deck to get feedback on suggested routes to school
- SR2S will provide the back-to-school packet to Nick Miller
- SR2S will plan a mapping workshop for elementary schools in the fall
- SR2S will follow up on potential walk audits: Nova Albion pathway and Silveira

Next Meeting

- Monday 9/9 at 4 PM

