

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

Monday, January 27, 2025  
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

[VIEW RECORDING - 68 mins \(No highlights\)](#)

**Participants**

- Amy Barish – Vallecito SR2S volunteer
- Keith Echeverria – Vallecito & Miller Creek parent
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Dan Hernandez – SR2S/MCBC
- Brad Honsberger – Miller Creek School Board of Trustees
- Wes Howell
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- Joanna Kwok – San Rafael Assistant Public Works Director
- Nick Miller – Miller Creek MS Assistant Principal
- John Neville – Marin County DPW
- Julia Reinhard – Aide to Supervisor Sackett
- Shinji Sakai-Egi – Silveira Parkway resident
- Mira Schwartz – SR2S/MCBC
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Carrie Wurlitzer – Parent and crossing guard
- Rachel Zwilinger – Vallecito parent

**Overlay mapping process (Jen Shriber & Wendi Kallins)**

Jen introduced a new tool being developed to help prioritize improvement areas for each school. The tool, an internal overlay map, combines various data layers to better understand issues at schools. The maps will be created for each school and will show suggested routes to schools, student density, high crash rate intersections and segments, and issues identified by the task force, among other things.

It was noted that a lot of housing is proposed for San Rafael within the Miller Creek School District, and it would be useful to include housing developments in the overlay maps. Brad offered to reach out to the superintendent for maps of where potential housing would go.

Wendi led a discussion on new issues to add to the list. The following issues were raised:

*Vallecito*

- There had previously been a possibility of extending the two-way cycle track from



Nova Albion to Vallecito. Brad noted that this is still under consideration, although one challenge is that the current bike lane is on the school side and extending it would end up eliminating all parking along the baseball and soccer fields. The possibility of shifting the path to other side of the street is under discussion.

*Mary Silveira*

- The Las Gallinas and Blackstone crosswalk lost its crossing guard.

*Lucas Valley*

- The Lucas Valley Road bike lanes aren't equipped for students.
- There are new housing developments in the area and as a result consideration is needed for fire evacuation routes.

*Miller Creek*

- The County obtained funding for a crossing from Round Tree to the other corner of the middle school. This should be constructed during the next paving season and will include the crosswalk, bulb-outs, and a flashing beacon.
- IT was noted that a lot of Vallecito issues apply equally to Miller Creek.
- A lot of students cross Lucas Valley Road at Las Gallinas. This is a major intersection with a lot of traffic.

**Mapping for Lucas Valley and Mary Silveira (Wendi Kallins)**

Wendi will have a meeting with SR2S staff to brainstorm the best ways to do mapping for these schools. it will be a multi-layered approach including walk to school days for students' input and site council or PTA meetings for parent input. Mira could also bring in the Terra Linda students with whom she works to help. Brad recommended starting with the principals, who can direct the Safe Routes team to other people who can provide more information about routes to schools.

**Report back on Professional Center Parkway carpool outreach (Julia Reinhard & Nick Miller)**

Supervisor Sackett had raised the issue of transportation for students living in the Professional Center Parkway area at the last meeting. With the decrease in Miller Creek bus service, some students had to walk 40 minutes to the nearest public bus stop. Professional Center Parkway is a geographically isolated street with high levels of traffic. Nick Miller worked with the affected students and families to help get bus service directly to the families.

## **SR2S activities (Gwen Froh & Mira Schwartz)**

### *Education*

Gwen announced the appointment of Dan Hernandez as the new lead instructor for the SR2S education program. Dan shared his extensive experience in cycling education, including working for REI and Bike East Bay. Dan is a League-certified instructor coach and is fluent in Spanish.

The Lucas Valley bike rodeo was held on January 30. Miller Creek and Vallecito education has been scheduled for the spring, and Mary Silveira still needs to be scheduled.

### *Encouragement*

A new contest, the Have a Heart Challenge, will run from February 3-14. Elementary students will self-report how they get to school, and the classroom at each school with the highest percent of green travel will get a popsicle party or a raffled scooter. During this time there will also be 2 for 1 Peet's Coffee coupons for Vallecito parents who carpool.

SR2S will hold a parent volunteer meeting on February 13 to roll out the rest of the semester's programming. This includes Walk and Roll Wednesdays, a spring challenge in April, and National Bike to School Day in May.

Miller Creek Middle School's Green Ambassador program will host an event serving hot chocolate to students who walk and bike to school in partnership with Zero Waste Marin. The event will also include games to learn about recycling.

### *E-bikes*

Gwen discussed the issue of e-motorcycles on school campuses, emphasizing their danger and the need for safer alternatives. While Miller Creek has curtailed parking of out-of-class e-motorcycles on campus, illegal devices on campuses are increasing generally. Information on illegal devices can be found on the SR2S website and has been communicated to principals.

## **New business (Task Force)**

### *SMART Pathway*

Julia shared that a new segment of the SMART pathway is open near the Marin Civic Center station, running on McGinnes Parkway to Smith Ranch Road.

### *AB-1778*

Gwen and Julia discussed a potential new ordinance, AB-1778, that would limit the use of certain class 2 e-bikes to students aged 16 and above, and require helmets for all users. Jurisdictions must opt-in to the ordinance, and every jurisdiction will be asked to join for consistency across the county. Julia added that there would be communication with school districts to ensure consistency across jurisdictions in Marin.



### ***Crossing Guard Coordination***

Carrie, a crossing guard, discussed her concerns about students at Loma Verde not having bicycle helmets and the need for educational reminders about e-bike laws and crosswalk behavior. She proposed partnering with the crossing guard community to provide helmets to students who need them. Gwen and Wendi agreed to discuss this idea further and check with TAM about potential restrictions.

### **Next Steps**

- Task force members should send Wendi issues for list by end of February (wkallins@igc.org)
- Mapping will be carried out for Lucas Valley and Mary Silveira
- Carrie and Gwen will talk about crossing guard involvement. Gwen will check with TAM about crossing guard participation in SR2S
- Wendi will follow up on the Vallecito suggested route map
- Brad will reach out to the superintendent for map of proposed housing

### **Next Meeting**

- Monday, April 28 at 4 PM