

Kentfield School District

Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Thursday, April 24, 2025
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

[VIEW RECORDING - 73 mins \(No highlights\)](#)

Participants

- Lou Goodwin - SR2S, Kent Eco Action Club
- Gwen Froh - SR2S
- David Hoffman - Parametrix
- Sharanya Varma - Parametrix
- Wendy Holmes – Kent MS Assistant Principal
- Melanie Wollenweber – Greenbrae parent
- Jenn Mariska – Bacich parent; Co-coordinator Kentfield Task Force
- Susannah Mrasek – Aide to Supervisor Colbert
- Rick Addis – local Greenbrae parent
- John Neville – Marin DPW
- Sandy Guldman, Friends of Corte Madera Creek
- Warren Wells, MCBC Planning Director
- Talia Smith, Marin County
- Erin Kahn – Parent volunteer, Co-coordinator Kentfield Task Force
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S

E-Bike Ordinance (Talia Smith)

- Talia discussed the increasing number of bicycle crashes involving school-aged youth in Marin County, particularly those related to e-bikes. She highlighted a significant spike in accidents from 2019 to 2023, with a 110% increase among school-aged youth. Talia also mentioned that the crash rate for 10 to 15-year-olds using e-bikes was five times higher than any other age group.
- In response to these findings, Assembly Member Damon Connolly introduced a bill in December 2023 to classify Class 2 (throttle) e-bikes in the same category as Class 3 ebikes, requiring riders to be over 16. The bill was passed as a Marin County-only pilot in March 2025, allowing municipalities to pass ordinances limiting throttle e-bikes to riders over 16.
- Implementation is planned in the summer to ensure coordinated implementation and messaging from all jurisdictions. The County is also in conversation with various police agencies for coordinated enforcement. Enforcement will be limited to those incidents where students are caught breaking other laws. Talia also mentioned the formation of a special committee on youth e-bike safety and a countywide safety cam



John Neville noted that the law is written so that infractions are not referred to the courts. Talia noted that parents are the messaging target. Wendy Holmes asked what happens if students double-up on a bike. Talia indicated that this is already illegal for single-rider bikes and that tandem riding is a focus area of the campaign, too.

Issues Overlay mapping project (Sharanya Varma & Wendi Kallins)

Sharanya showed the updated map that shows both Kent and Bacich schools. This is an internal tool and not to be shared with the public. Parametrix will continue to evaluate the existing issues along with all of the other issues maps that have been developed in the county. There is still more work to be done over the summer, and SR2S and Parametrix will come back to the task force with even more refinements at the beginning of the next school year.

- Sandy noted that there was a routing error getting through Bon Aire on the map. David pointed out that the route was there but it was hard to see because of overlapping information.

Eco Action Club (Lou Goodwin)

At the last task force meeting an incomplete video was shown. Now reporting back, that completed video was shown to both the Kent and Bacich students. This club has been super-popular and well received; students are excited to be part of the club, and it has become a social gathering point. There are a lot of eco-action events that have and/or are about to take place:

- Bike blender event
- Encouragement of walking/rolling to school
- Earth Day
- Zero Waste events
- Bike to School Day is coming up on 5/7/25 and will have gift cards as premiums
- Looking to see if one more event can be squeezed in before the end of the year

Education and Encouragement (Gwen Froh)

Encouragement

- Gwen showed the newly-created Dashboard that has been rolled out for all participating schools on the SR2S website. She asked all schools to promote the upcoming student tally surveys
- She covered the Ruby Bridges event
- The Spring Adventure Challenge is over four days in April and May



- National Bike to School Day is May 7th
- Nominations for Bike Hero award are encouraged
- All of these activities are now available on the SR2S website

New business (Task Force)

Backup at Kent School

Rick Addis, a Greenbrae parent expressed concern about parents disobeying traffic laws such as parking or stopping in crosswalks during the carline hours. Rick has concerns that this behavior will result in an injury to students; he showed photos and video of the backup when it occurs. Discussion ensued and there was consensus that this is a behavioral issue as opposed to an infrastructure one. There are a lot of other projects in the area that will address safety concerns, but nothing at the entrance of Kent. There was some agreement that education and enforcement were the most likely paths forward; Wendy agreed to share these concerns.

Broken Wooden Fence Posts on Sir Francis Drake Blvd.

Jenn Mariska asked when the broken wooden post and cable fencing would be fixed on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. John indicated that the County was looking into alternative designs as repairs to this type of barrier are difficult. Susannah Mrazeh said that Supervisor Colbert's office was also looking into this

.Next Steps

- The schools will share additional information on new E-Bike ordinance as available
- Wendi will share concerns about Kent school carline issues
- Parametrix will finalize overlay maps and issue prioritization and will report back with a timeline and direction for safety plans

Next Meeting Date

- Thursday September 4, 2025, 9:30 – 11:00 AM