

San Rafael School District

Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Wednesday, April 30

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

[VIEW RECORDING - 69 mins \(No highlights\)](#)

Participants

- Kelly Abey – San Rafael DPW
- Sayed Fakhery – San Rafael DPW
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Dan Hernandez – SR2S/MCBC
- Monika Kainz – Laurel Dell parent
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- Joanna Kwok – City of San Rafael Public Works
- Monica Leifer – SR2S/MCBC
- Bob Marcucci – Deputy Superintendent, San Rafael Schools
- Craig Murray – Merrydale Road resident
- John Neville – Marin County DPW
- Julia Reinhard – Aide to Supervisor Mary Sackett
- Aneri Rodriguez – SR2S/SEI
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Talia Smith – County of Marin

Overlay Mapping (Jen Shriber & Wendi Kallins)

Jen presented the newly created overlay maps, an internal tool combining existing data with task force-identified issues for each school. The maps include data on existing and proposed bikeways, high collision network locations, crossing guard locations, student populations, and suggested walking and biking routes. The tool is intended to help prioritize schools for safety improvement plans and guide long-term planning for improvements. By the next task force meetings, Parametrix will complete the issue prioritization and will provide next steps for the timing of the plan development.

The group brainstormed ways to ensure that people can give feedback on the eventual plans. These included attending Charla Cafes, working with the school administration to identify opportunities, and leveraging the district-level English learner advisory committee. SR2S should get input from the schools, then Traffic Committee, then BPAC.

Grants Received (Joanna Kwok)

San Rafael received TAM Safe Pathways funding for four projects. The two large projects are the Rafael Meadows Pathway Project/South Merrydale Road Civic Center Connector and Woodland Avenue improvements. The small projects are Nova Albion



bikeway and pathway gap closure and intersection improvements on Fifth Avenue and California Avenue.

Report Back from Walk Audits (Jen Shriber)

Jen provided an update about recent walk audits at Laurel Dell, Davidson, and Coleman. She shared findings and proposed improvements. For Laurel Dell and Davidson, these include shortening long crossings, adding signage, and filling sidewalk gaps. At Coleman, the main issue was observed on Rafael Drive, which is narrow, used for pick-ups and drop-offs, and often the site of multi-modal conflicts. Bob confirmed that the Coleman drop-off and pick-up area, including staff parking, is up for discussion and design for future phase of the bond program.

The team is currently working on concepts for these locations, which will be reviewed by the City before being shared with the task force.

Education and Encouragement (Gwen Froh & Aneri Rodriguez)

Student Tally Dashboard

Gwen highlighted the new [Student Tally Dashboard](#), which allows people to see the results of the bi-annual student tally surveys assessing travel modes at each school. Currently only Fall 2024 data is available on the dashboard, but more data will be added in the future. The student tally surveys are typically carried out in September and May.

Upcoming Encouragement Events

The Spring Adventure Challenge is a monthlong event ending on National Bike to School Day (May 7). Students who walk, roll, carpool or ride the bus will receive stickers at the welcome tables to mark on their challenge cards. At the end of the challenge, students will have the chance to win raffle prizes. National Bike to School Day will be celebrated with bike trains, welcome tables, and other events.

Nominations for the Bike Hero Award are now open. Parents, administrators, teachers and friends are invited to nominate a student Bike Hero, any student who gets up early to ride regularly, inspires others to bike, and obeys all rules of the road. Two Marin County elementary and middle school students are selected to win a \$50.00 gift card to a store of their choice. Last year 150 nominations were received from around the County.

Youth Leading Active Communities (YLAC)

Aneri gave an update on YLAC activities in San Rafael. At Coleman, YLAC supported the school's Green Team for a walk and roll event, including active transportation-related books for display. YLAC is collaborating with Venetia Valley's Family Center to support their middle school students. YLAC is still working on making inroads with staff at Davidson; Bob offered to help coordinate.



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 e-bikes, 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 campaign to improve youth safety on e-bikes. Materials are currently under development, and a media toolkit will be made available for all schools in mid-May. Julia will share the media kit with Wendi once it's ready.

For more information, see the ParentSquare message that went out to high school parents [here](#).

Update on Citywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (Jen Shriber)

Jen gave an update on the City's work to update its Citywide Bike and Pedestrian Plan (CBPP). The CBPP, which was last updated in 2018, serves as a roadmap for improving walking, biking, and rolling in the City. The project got underway several months ago and has been in the existing conditions evaluation phase. Now, the first round of public outreach is set to begin.

People who would like to learn more and provide feedback in person can do so at the following upcoming events:

- May 3, 12-4 PM: Nuestro Canal, Nuestro Futuro Community Fair, 711 Grand Avenue
- May 14, 5-7 PM: Community Open House, 618 B Street

You can also visit the [project website](#) for more information about the project, upcoming events, and to give input online.

Next Steps

- Parametrix will finalize overlay maps and issue prioritization and will report back with a timeline and direction for safety plans.



- Julia will share the e-bike media toolkit with Wendi once it is ready.
- Bob will help Aneri to contact Davidson

Next Meeting Date

- September 10 at 5 PM

