

San Rafael School District
Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Participants

- Sayed Fakhery – San Rafael DPW
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Genna Gores – Marin Transit
- Molly Graham - TAM
- Matthew Hartzell – WTB-TAM
- David Hoffman – SR2S/Parametrix
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- Bob Marcucci – Deputy Superintendent, San Rafael Schools
- Crystal Martinez – Aide to Supervisor Sackett
- Joe Mulligan – Marin Cyclists, TAM BPAC
- Craig Murray – Merrydale Road resident
- Lilian Perez – San Rafael City Schools
- Julia Reinhard – Aide to Supervisor Mary Sackett
- Ray Rodriguez - TAM
- Caitlin Russo – SR2S/MCBC
- Sahar Shirazi – County of Marin
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Sharanya Varma – SR2S/Parametrix
- Audrey Veyssiere - TAM

[View Meeting Recording](#)

Marin County School Access Safety Action Plan Update (Jen Shriber)

Jen presented findings from the project's second phase, which identified 24 priority areas countywide for deeper safety assessments, including five locations in San Rafael:

1. Fifth Avenue from H Street to Cottage Avenue
2. Tamalpais Avenue from Second Street to Third Street
3. Medway Road/Canal Street from Belvedere Street to Shoreline Path
4. Lincoln Avenue from Mission Avenue to Second Street
5. Las Gallinas Avenue from Hyacinth Way to Del Presidio Drive

The team analyzed crash data, identifying common causes such as improper turning and unsafe speeds.



Next steps include two upcoming walk audits. Task force members are encouraged to attend and to spread the word to anyone who would be interested in joining:

- May 11 at 7:40 AM: Medway/Canal – meet at the intersection of Medway/Belvedere
- September 22 at 8 AM: Las Gallinas – meet at the intersection of Las Gallinas/Hyacinth

Community feedback will help inform specific safety recommendations for each location to be included in the safety action plan, which can be used by jurisdictions when applying for grant funding. A draft plan is expected in early 2027.

Joe noted that a lot of students ride bikes on Tamalpais from Third to Second, and that the crossing at Second can be challenging. He mentioned seeing a lot of police officers pull drivers over in that area.

Please email jshriber@parametrix.com with any feedback on the priority areas.

Corridor Planning (Wendi Kallins)

Wendi noted that no San Rafael walk audits are planned in the near future as part of the Safe Routes program, since several have recently been done. Safe Routes will develop information from those walk audits into corridor plans for the following areas:

- Laurel Dell/Davidson – Woodland
- Coleman – Jewel/Grand

A concept plan was funded and is currently in the works for the area around Lincoln/Paloma (Coleman).

15 MPH Zones (Sahar Shirazi)

Sahar discussed work to implement 15 MPH speed limits on eligible roads in unincorporated areas. At this point, schools have been notified and are providing feedback until the end of April. In San Rafael, North San Pedro Road within 500 feet of Venetia Valley would have its speed reduced. Implementation is expected in summer 2026.

Crossing Guard Program Update (Molly Graham)

Molly provided an overview of the crossing guard program's history, evaluation process, and upcoming changes. Crossing guard locations were assessed starting in fall 2026 based on established metrics. Changes were presented to the TAM Executive Committee last week and will be presented to the TAM Board on April 23.

From 2023-2026, 100 guards, 96 of whom were funded by TAM, were stationed at 99



locations. Going forward, 100 guards will be stationed at 94 locations; 90 of these will be funded by TAM. Four lane roads are now required to have 2 crossing guards, and thus some guards had to be moved to those locations.

In San Rafael, the only change to crossing guard locations will be at Manuel T Freitas & Las Pavadas (Miller Creek School District). This intersection will receive a second guard.

The group discussed costs for non-TAM-funded crossing guards. Crossing guards cost approximately \$25,000 per year if they are funded outside of the TAM program. If the city or school district would like a new location included in the next evaluation process, a letter from Public Works and the City Manager would be needed.

People should email Ray (rrodriguez@tam.ca.gov) and copy info@tam.ca.gov with any information about issues at specific locations.

Safe Routes to Bus Stops (Wendi Kallins)

The group discussed how to develop a methodology to identify and prioritize safe routes to bus stops for students. Many of the bus stops serving San Pedro are located in the Canal area, with additional stops along Lincoln, Woodland, and one at Short Street.

Jen noted that anonymized student address data could be used to approximate bus stops commonly used by students. Marin Transit has ridership data, amenity information (shelters, lighting), and a recent nighttime lighting assessment of Canal area stops.

Genna noted that sidewalk improvements are generally easier for Marin Transit to implement in coordination with the relevant jurisdiction, whereas crosswalks and similar infrastructure are typically the responsibility of the jurisdiction. The City of San Rafael has a project planned for a Canal crossing, which could be helpful, though it is still several years away.

Craig shared that Golden Gate Transit has recently changed its operations. Previously, riders could bring a bike onboard if the rack was full or if they had an e-bike with wider tires, but bikes are no longer accommodated on buses. For Marin Transit, e-bikes are allowed on buses if they are under 55 pounds and the battery remains attached, while conventional bikes are not permitted onboard.

Sahar highlighted that, given Marin's aging population, diverse communities, and geographic constraints, transit will become increasingly important. She suggested there may be an opportunity for a more coordinated assessment of routes to transit.

Safe Routes Spring Activities (Gwen Froh)

February and March events have been well attended. The Let's Planet Together contest started on April 15, and students will be able to turn in cards on May 6 (National Bike to School Day) for a chance to win a prize. Middle and high school art contest winners were used for event posters to promote the May 6 event.



The Bike Hero contest will run through May, allowing people to nominate good “roll” models at their schools. The contest typically receives 100 nominations, which are shared with school principals.

Other

Wendi announced that she and Gwen will retire at the end of the school year. They will be missed! Jen Shriber and David Hoffman will take over facilitating task force meetings. Gwen’s job is [currently available](#), and interested candidates are welcome to apply.

Gwen was recently awarded Bike Champion of the Year for Marin County.

An update was given on the SMART station pathway project in north San Rafael. The project is currently in the preliminary design and environmental phase, with funding secured only for design, while the City seeks additional construction funding. Key support has come from April Miller and Supervisor Sackett, with TAM stepping in after federal funding fell through. Recent leadership changes include the retirement of SMART’s chief engineer, Bill Gammel.

Next Steps

- The Safety Action Plan team will hold two walk audits:
 - May 11 at 7:40 AM: Medway/Canal – meet at the intersection of Medway/Belvedere
 - September 22 at 8 AM: Las Gallinas – meet at the intersection of Las Gallinas/Hyacinth
- Email jshriber@parametrix.com with any feedback on the priority areas.
- The Safe Routes team will develop plans based on the recently completed walk audits
- The task force and Safe Routes will follow up on safe routes to bus stops

