# Ross Valley School District
# Safe Routes to Schools Task Force Meeting Notes
# Friday, September 11th, 2026 – 10:00 AM

## Meeting Summary

## Video Recording of Meeting – Click Here

### Attendees:

Jen Shriber, Parametrix
Scott McDonald, Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM)
Lisel Blash, Councilmember Town of Fairfax
Sahar Shirazi, County of Marin
Susannah Mrazek, Aide to Supervisor Brian Colbert, District 2
Chris Landles-Cobb, Ross Valley School District Trustee
Bridget Clark, San Anselmo BPAC
Kristin Arnold, Director of Public Works, Town of Fairfax
Marisa Lee, Parametrix
David Hoffman, Parametrix
Matthew Hartzell, WTB-TAM
Erin Kahn, Safe Routes to Schools
Gina Singleton, Local Resident
Scott Schneider, Director of Public Works, Town of San Anselmo

### Quick recap

The Ross Valley School District Fall Safe Routes to Schools Task Force Meeting focused on updates and discussions related to pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements in the area. Marisa presented findings from recent walk audits in Fairfax and San Anselmo, highlighting issues like narrow bike lanes, complex intersections, and safety concerns at school crossings. The group discussed ongoing projects, such as the Sequoia Park Safe Routes to Schools project and paving improvements in Fairfax. Sahar provided an update on the implementation of 15 mph speed zones around eligible schools in unincorporated Marin County. Erin Kahn shared details about the fall Safe Routes to School activities, including walk and roll days and educational programs. The meeting also addressed concerns about the safety of the Butterfield Road corridor near Hidden Valley Elementary and the potential for reinstating public transit stops along Butterfield to improve student access.

### Review Next Steps from Spring 2026 Meeting

David reviewed next steps from the last meeting, including walk audits for the Marin County School Access Safety Action Plan in Fairfax and San Anselmo, and a request to review the corridor plan for Butterfield Road between Green Valley Court and Deer Hollow.

## Street Smarts

David explained the Street Smarts program, which has been running for 20 years in Marin County, and announced that new banners will be installed in late September along Sir Francis Drake Boulevard and other major corridors in San Anselmo and Fairfax. David noted that while this current iteration of Street Smarts will end after 6 weeks, the program's resources, including social media messages and free lawn signs, remain available on the TAM website.

## Walk Audit and Corridor Planning Updates (School Safety Action Plan – SSAP)

Marisa presented an overview of the Countywide School Access Safety Action Plan, sharing observations from walk audits conducted in Fairfax and San Anselmo. The team identified several safety concerns, including narrow bike lanes without protection, complex intersections, and challenging pedestrian crossings. Gina highlighted additional dangers at the Azalea crossing due to driver behavior and visibility issues. Kristin inquired about the timeline for recommendations, and Marisa explained that they are coordinating with the upcoming Fairfax Active Transportation Plan to align their work. Kristin also shared information about an upcoming paving project on Claus Drive and Broadway that could potentially incorporate bike lane improvements, expressing interest in aligning the project with the plan's recommendations.

The team reviewed several road crossings including Rosemont, Carlson, and Woodside, with Marisa presenting observations about traffic patterns and safety concerns at each location. Gina shared local insights about near-miss incidents at the Rosemont intersection where cars exiting the school parking lot create hazards for cyclists, while Jen noted that the Rosemont intersection has been a concern for 10-15 years. The group discussed potential solutions including a roundabout or additional warning signs, with Gina suggesting a roundabout might help address the intersection's issues, though Chris raised concerns about the practicality and cost of such a significant change.

## 15-MPH School Speed Zone Update

Sahar provided an update on the implementation of 15-mile-per-hour speed zones near 12 eligible schools in unincorporated Marin County, explaining that the selection was based on specific legislative criteria including proximity to schools and road conditions. Gina inquired about why not all schools were included, and Sahar clarified that only schools meeting the established criteria were eligible for the program. The discussion concluded with Gina noting that Hidden Valley, Brookside, and San Domenico should be reconsidered for inclusion based on similar road conditions.

## Local Project Updates

**San Anselmo** - Scott Schneider presented an update to the Sequoia Park SR2S project. Scott explained that the Sequoia Drive roadway was realigned, and that while the road alignment was improved, it wasn't perfect and still required drivers to be cautious when making left turns. The discussion covered ongoing challenges with parking and speed humps, which were installed in asphalt rather than rubber.

**Fairfax** - Kristin reported that the slurry seal project is nearly complete with final striping expected in the next couple of weeks, and the Park Road project will be finished next week. She confirmed that schools were notified about the temporary closure of the bike route during construction, with Whitehill including the information in a newsletter.

## Fall Safe Routes to School Activities Updates

Erin provided updates on Safe Routes to School initiatives, including the fall campaign focused on community and consistency, with key walk and roll dates scheduled for September 16th, October 7th, and November 18th. She reported on a successful parent volunteer luncheon attended by 40 people and outlined the education program schedule, which includes pedestrian safety for second grade and bicycle safety for fourth and sixth grade. The team also distributed back-to-school packets to principals containing templates and resources for communicating about active travel, and announced a Buddy Up contest ending November 1st. Gina inquired about a walk audit for the Butterfield corridor between Green Valley Court and Deer Hollow Road, which Jen confirmed would be part of the next steps.

## Hidden Valley Elementary School Safety Concerns

The group discussed safety concerns at Hidden Valley Elementary School, where Gina highlighted dangerous conditions including a problematic crosswalk and lack of sidewalks. Jen confirmed that while Safe Routes has limited resources, this issue will be prioritized and brought to the top of the task force agenda. Susannah added that the crosswalk project is already on the CIP list and actively being pursued, suggesting the walk audit could be combined with the existing project planning.

## Public Transit Questions/Issues

The group discussed transportation issues, particularly the need to restore public transit stops on Butterfield Road that were cut during COVID. Jen agreed to reach out to Marin Transit about potentially reintroducing these stops to improve student access to high school. Scott McDonald from Transportation Authority of Marin offered to help investigate transit route options.

## Next steps

David indicated that future task force meetings would be scheduled in the November timeframe for the upcoming Winter Task Forces after completing current Fall Task Force Meetings.

**Parametrix**

- Schedule a walk audit for the Butterfield Road corridor between Green Valley Court and Deer Hollow Rd (Hidden Valley Elementary area), and review previous plans and engineering work done by Parisi/John Neville.
- Reach out to Marin Transit to inquire about reinstating or improving transit service along Butterfield Road, particularly for high school students.
- Add Gina Singleton to the Safe Routes to Schools Task Force meeting distribution list.
- Send out meeting recording and notes to attendees, and post to the Safe Routes to School website.
- Finalize and communicate the schedule for upcoming winter and spring task force meetings.
- Coordinate with Town of Fairfax to align walk audit recommendations with the upcoming paving project and the Bike/Ped Plan timeline.

**Sahar**

- Re-examine the eligibility of additional schools on Butterfield Road for the 15 mph speed zone and provide analysis and findings.