



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



**Kentfield School District Safe Routes to School Taskforce
Meeting Notes
Thursday January 23, 2020**

Attendance: Wendi Kallins, Gwen Froh & Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Methinee Bozeman- Assistant Principal Bacich School, Allison Crawford-Parent, Bree Eaton- Parent, Julian Skinner- DPW Larkspur, Paul Miller- Director Maintenance/Facilities- School District, Anne Petersen Planning Advisory Board, Nancy Vernon- Aide to Katie Rice, Melanie Wollenweber-Parent, Sandy Goldman & Nicholas Salcedo- Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed, Anne-Marie Funk- Asst VP- Marin Catholic, Lucy Morris- Parent

Updates:

Sir Francis Drake

A community workshop will be announced; information about the project phases will be provided at the workshop. The project is scheduled to go out for bid in February. MMWD project will be included in this schedule. A construction management team has been hired; personnel will be on site 24/7; 80% of the work will be conducted at night to reduce traffic delays and lane closures.

The County looked for additional funding to redesign the median from Ross to the freeway; a safety feature design will increase site distance for drivers. This will be a very good addition to the project.

Manor Road

A sub-committee met to address the speed bumps; residents expressed wanting them removed. The Fire Dept, County, School District and other stakeholders met 3 times over the past 6 months. The initial assessment was not to remove them; there is concern about drivers speeding.

It was agreed these are not perfect in their current design. A redesign could require street parking be removed/restricted. At this time, it is not clear the community would support such changes. This issue is being shelved until the road repaving is planned. Additional community meeting(s) will be scheduled.

The County engineers will manage the process; it will include collecting the required data and getting the community on the same page. The goal will be to have a focused process with appropriate options and to come to the best possible solution in a reasonable amount of time.

Bon Air Bridge

Julian reported this four-year project reached a milestone; the north side has been completed. Now there is a lane in both directions and a protected sidewalk; cyclists are directed to walk bikes because of the narrow walkway.

The next phase will be to remove the south side and build the new half of the bridge. This will take 1.5 years; the walkway on the south side will be removed; pedestrians and cyclists will use the north side or cyclists can use the roadway. There are environmental constraints on the construction schedule; construction will start up again in June 2020.

The traffic signal at South Eliso is set on a fixed time cycle; pedestrians must wait for the cycle for the pedestrian crossing. On evenings and weekends the light will be a flashing red; this will not be good for students crossing the roadway.

There is now a full set of traffic signals at Magnolia and they are automated. The mid-block crossing near the medical buildings has been closed off; it was determined this was the safest action to take for pedestrians. The DPW focus is safety first and then convenience.

(RRFB) on McAllister Avenue and Stadium Way intersection

Safe Pathway funding was approved for a rapid flashing beacon; funds should be awarded in February. They should be installed by late spring and in place before the start of the school year. A request was made during the meeting to confirm the lights will be placed at an appropriate location for drivers to see the lights well in advance.

Acacia Parking Signage

Bree reported the signs are up; however, they are not 100% effective. When it rains; drivers are still parking illegally. The police did wait the required 2 weeks before issuing citations. Since the waiting period ended several citations have been issued.

McAllister Speeding/Blind Curbs

Marin Catholic (MC)

Annie-Marie attended her first Task Force meeting; she was invited during a recent meeting with Nancy Vernon and Gwen Froh at MC. Safe Routes to Schools and the county are grateful to have this new line of communication with Marin Catholic. This will help to identify issues and develop solutions.

Marin Catholic does have a Safety Committee to manage the parking policies for students and staff. All the parking spaces on campus are full; students can only park on

campus if they carpool. The school encourages green transportation and understands the impact off campus parking can create.

The school administration cannot restrict students from parking off campus. The school encourages students to honor the posted parking signs and supports ticketing and towing when permitted. Students are taught to represent the school in a positive manner, and this includes honoring the parking and traffic laws.

MC has been in communication with Marin General; some MC students do park by the hospital; this may be an area to increase student parking in the future.

On McAllister Street student drivers have been observed speeding and driving while distracted. There was an incident with a student driver hitting a parked vehicle. Parents fear for students who walk exactly where the collision occurred; a student could have been seriously injured. Safe Routes encourages MC to continue to communicate with students and parents about safe driving especially when younger age students are in the area.

Safe Routes would prefer MC students not park on McAllister because of the number of elementary and middle students present. There is an understanding that students cannot be restricted from using McAllister; however new solutions are needed to increase safety for all road users. Long- and short-term solutions need to be developed along with the continued efforts to have students use alternative modes to campus.

The high school offers a distracted driver class in its Student Wellness program. They will consider hosting Safe Routes to Schools' Share the Road curriculum addressing driver behavior, pedestrian and bicycle rules and laws. The school does want to support the community efforts to keep all the students safe while traveling to/from school daily.

South Eliseo

The City of Larkspur Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan is very comprehensive ; however there is a gap in the plan at South Eliseo. There are medical offices along the roadway with a good deal of vehicle movement and parking. To remove parking in this area would not be supported.

The primary goal of the neighborhood is to slow down traffic. Parisi Engineering has been consulted to study the current road configurations: five intersections with no marked crosswalks and vehicles traveling at dangerous high speeds. One option under review is to install "splitter islands" at the approach to the intersections. These are designed to slow traffic and restrict drivers from making wide turns. Red curbs at the

intersections will increase driver visibility by restricting parking. Sharrows will increase awareness of cyclists on the roadways.

The community and town need to develop a long- and short-term vision for the roadway. The feedback has been very helpful and some facility improvements will be completed this summer. It will be difficult to make it great for cyclists; however new signs and facilities will make it better. The city's Department of Public Works website does post studies and researched options. This will be a step by step process and when funding is identified it will be helpful to have approved plans ready.

Corte Madera Creek

[Corte Madera Creek Concrete Channel Description.pdf](#)

Representatives from the Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed presented the referenced document. The flood study revealed the concrete channel must hold more water for the future. The EIR has a list of requirements including relocating the pathway along the creek from College Ave. to the bridge to the opposite side. This project is huge and will have a big impact on the community. The process is underway and now is the time for the community to get involved in proposed changes. Nothing has been designed at this time; meetings need to be planned and scheduled to collect input.

The Watershed would like Safe Routes to Schools perspective. The proposed changes will influence how students travel safely to the local schools. One proposed change is to alter the bridge that crosses the creek by Kent Middle School and the relocation of the multi-use pathway along the creek. There are many details to the EIR that need to be understood and addressed.

Next Meeting

April 30, 2020 Thursday at 9 AM

Proposed agenda item: Accessory Dwelling Units= increased parking & traffic