



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



**Kentfield School District**  
**Safe Routes to School Taskforce**  
Meeting Notes  
Tuesday April 21, 2015

**Attendance**

Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to School, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Ashley Tam- Parisi Associates, Dan Dawson- County of Marin DPW, Heather McPhail Sridharan- Bacich School Team Leader, Paul Miller- Kentfield School District., Nancy Vernon- Aide to Katie Rice, Katie Ward- VP Bacich School, Domenick Yazzolino- Marin County Sheriff, Jenny Walk- VP Kent Middle School

**I. Bike to School Day May 6**

Bacich - Celebration for 2015 will be similar to past years with an emphasis on encouragement. Local businesses will be providing breakfast snacks for students and adults: Peets Coffee, Rustic Bakery, Village Peddler. Three of the Neighborhood Captions presented best practices for safe travel too. The striping of the crossing zone has been a huge improvement to the flow in the parking lot.

Kent Middle School will be celebrating too. It is a testing day for students- request to keep the sweets to a minimum. The 6th grade classes were conducted in April and the school posted the classes on the schools public notice board at the front of the school.

**II. Update from County on SFD and other projects**

The funds from Tam Measure A exceeded what was needed for road repaving. Now the County is looking at the entire corridor for issues. One project is on Laurel Grove where there is lack of room for students to wait to cross; currently a consulting firm is conducting a land survey.

On May 2 there will be a community workshop to present design alternatives. Another meeting will be scheduled for fall 2015 to learn what improvement residents would like to see made.

Marin Water District and Sanitary District have projects planned in the area. The County will continue to work with them on the schedules. The Master Facilities Plan Improvements and Marin General will also consider the schedules as they move forward with their projects.

The Marin General (MG) traffic light is still under review with the Planning Commission. It is not likely to be installed this summer. The traffic light at MG will have a positive impact on the flow of students crossing over to the bike path from the Greenbrae area..

A SR2S representative will plan to attend the meetings to present issues from the SR2S issues list.

The pedestrian overpass near Wolf Grade is under review. It currently does not meet ADA standards. The overpass is a critical facility and the community would not want to lose it. The amount of space needed to redesign the overpass to include ramps would be huge and currently there is a house where a ramp would go.

If a cross walk was added under the bridge it would increase traffic at the intersection. The overpass must be preserved if that becomes one of the improvement considerations. The ADA is a civil rights law.

The County's goal is to obtain feedback from the community by providing on-line feedback forms, a web site providing updates and to post on NextDoor. The county would like to have a theme of approved improvements for the summer of 2016.

The pathway from College of Marin to Ross will be improved soon.

### **III. Report on meeting with neighbors on McAllister**

McAllister Safe Streets Committee- This neighborhood group will meet again in May and will address a list of short and long term issues. Currently the group approved "no stopping" signs on McAllister. Restricted parking on Acacia is under consideration. Residents are polling other residents; during the next meeting the group will decide what area and the time frames for restricted parking. The group is concerned where vehicles will park during the restricted hours. The CHP and County Sheriff have been involved in the review process. The group is also considering speed bumps and a one way street.

The paving on McAllister will be in conjunction with other projects underway with the Sanitary District, PG&E and MMWD. All these projects should be completed before the start of the next school year.

The Butterfield Community group has a "go green week" there will be safety signs on trees along Butterfield during the week. It was suggested that the 2 groups meet to learn what is working to share best practices.

The County's New Share the Path campaign will launch in May in Mill Valley. Once this program is underway, it would be great to get other jurisdictions to promote the educational campaign too. There is a web site explaining the safety messages.

### **IV. Master Facilities Plan.**

The Districts goal is to have the plan approved at the June Board meeting. They are still in the planning process. The foot print of the facilities will not change, nothing would effect the access to the schools; they are primarily looking at the security and safety at the schools.

A parent had contacted SR2S about his concern that the new plan would have students cycling through the parking lots. Heather said that is not the case.

The Districts plan does not call for McAllister to be closed off to traffic. Currently 30% of the school uses McAllister during drop off. The fire department must also have access to McAllister.

Safe Routes to Schools would like to see the District Plan reduce traffic to the schools and increase cycling and walking. The Facilities Plan does matter.

Yellow Bus Study. The Ross Valley School District is piloting the program. The bus program will present an increased expense to families. The public transit program does have its advantages. Tiburon is also piloting the program and has agreed to fund the bus program for one year to reduce the individual costs in half..

#### **V. Police updates and other issues**

A few new officers have been added to the SEAL Team. Officers did present a “safety talk” to both parents and students. When officers present at a school it does make a difference in behavior. The schools would like to see the officers return next year and present to all grades.

**VI. Spring Survey–** This is the 3rd year in a row the same parent survey has been conducted. The responses are annually at a 50% rate of return.. The Student Travel Survey will be conducted after Bike to School Day.

#### **VII. Set next meeting**

This is the last meeting for this school year. The next meeting will be in September.