



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



**Safe Routes to Schools
Sausalito Task Force
Zoom Meeting Notes
Thursday May 6, 2021**

Attendance:

Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools- Program Coordinator, Gwen Froh- Safe Routes to Schools Program Director, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, John Neville- County of Marin Traffic & Transportation Engineer, Jennifer Schriber – Parisi Transportation Engineer, David Parisi- Parisi Engineering, Lieutenant Stacie Gregory- Sausalito Police Dept., Aaron Roller - BPAC Chair & Parent Volunteer, Maureen Parton- Aide to Supervisor - Stephanie Moulton-Peters, Emily Cox - Willow Creek Headmaster, Warren Wells- Policy and Planning Director for Marin County Bicycle Coalition, Susan Cleveland-Knowles - Sausalito City Council & Advisor to BPAC, Pierre Ahuncain- Station Commander Marin County Sheriff's Dept., Andrew Davidson- DPW Senior Civil Engineer, Jessica Penarod- Resident Sausalito- BPAC

Safe Routes Education and Encouragement for spring and fall

All the staff have been vaccinated along with the county's teachers; special thanks to Mary Jane Burke and the Mill Valley District Office. At the time of this meeting, the campuses were not permitted to have outside visitors.

SR2S Education Programs Offered 2020/2021 school year:

*New Lead Instructor was hired in January and is a bi-lingual (English/Spanish) instructor.

* Hidden Valley School was the first school in the county to schedule a 4th grade Bike Rodeo- very exciting.

- Remote Learning Lessons (recorded)
- Live Virtual Classes (instructor led)
- Family Biking Classes (virtual and recorded)
- April- May (in person classes are scheduled)

Planning for Fall 2021:

SR2S will be reaching out to all schools that were not able to present pedestrian and bicycle safety education this past school year. This would include grades 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in the school district.

SR2S was a resource to the county by providing Social Distancing information for walking and biking, Principals received eblasts messaging asking parents to be aware; students have returned to campus and controlled speeds and driver awareness is very important. Team Leaders were requested to post the same messages on Next Door and other social media resources

SR2S encouragement moved forward with limited access to campuses. Contests included safety education from the SR2S remote learning curriculum in Spanish and English. [Chalk N Walk](#)- sidewalk encouragement and safety messaging is available for scheduling this school year and next.

[Safe Routes Newsletter SPRING 2021- Safe Routes BACK to Schools!](#)

This is the spring issue, highlighting Bike to School Day on May 12, 2021 and Bike Month- Bike Hero nominations. An elementary and middle school student will be selected from the nominations- deadline is May 30.

Bike to School Day- posters (artwork from local students) and encouragement give-aways will be distributed to students by teachers to give out. SR2S welcome tables are not permitted on campus this year.

SR2S Team Leader Update

SR2S annually plans for recruitment support via: former parent volunteers, principals, PTO/PTA and SR2S on-site introductions. The SR2S Bi-lingual Coordinator has been hands-on working with the administration and students; however, parent volunteers are needed next school year as the schools merge. Aaron's support has been great these past years.

Update from Transportation Committee

Safe Routes to Schools has been tasked with developing a map highlighting the suggested routes to the school for the fall. The committee discussed some of routes that had been identified in the past by Aaron; those are still being evaluated.

The committee is working with Marin Horizon to utilize their bus service; negotiations are underway. Marin Transit's service for next year has not been announced; rider capacity has been limited during COVID.

Establishing Walking School Buses and Bike Trains to escort students to campuses. The suggested routes will help support these active transportation groups. The director of Performing Stars has been very involved in developing the current walking school bus program. They are exploring recruiting parent volunteers with small stipends to escort students.

Crossing guards Update

Throughout Southern Marin it has been a challenge to hire guards now that most schools have reopened. A guard has been showing up at Willow Creek School; they do not show up at the school every day. The need for crossing guards in Marin City was not available for this meeting.

Nevada St. Update

A new suggestion was addressed at the BPAC meeting by Aaron. The DPW engineers spoke about it briefly; however, they have not moved forward.

The current concept is for a “quick build” two-way Class IV bikeway that would displace parking on the north side of the street. This project would also provide traffic calming to reduce speeds and improve site lines. This was provided to the Planning Commission; feedback and public comments were collected during the meeting. Residents are concerned about losing parking; support for a wider sidewalk in the future and the buffered parking were well received.

Considering the feedback, the BPAC has considered other options. One is to retain parking on the north side, narrow the lanes in a first phase project that could lead to widening the sidewalk in a second phase. If the sidewalk is widened it would be an expensive project (estimated \$200,000.) that would require additional planning and funding.

If parking is not removed, the City Council may not need to provide approval and hopefully the phase one concept could move forward soon. Proper signage directing students to ride on the sidewalk (legal) and the street if permitted were suggested. The BPAC will be meeting again to address this project specifically.

Marin City speeding issues

Comments below are from Eric Payne; they were submitted to Wendi in advance of the meeting.

As for the speeding issues in Marin City, they continue. It is on every street and all day. The Sheriffs and CHP have been visible and even done a speed trap. Watching them

from my window I could tell that it was productive. However, the speeding just continues. I know that some work in MC is being put on hold until further projects are completed, however there are some things I do think should be tended to very quickly.

- 1. Painting the curbs red in/at the intersection of Terrace and Terners.*
- 2. Also I think exploring the option of speed bumps on Terrace Dr as well as Terners Dr would be something that could be advantageous. If there's any worries about this with public safety, I completely understand. But in my experience in being a firefighter here in the city of Oakland, speed bumps prevent accidents meaning less responses for first responders. In other words, I think they do more good than they do harm.*

Maureen reported many students use the pathway through the village that ends at the intersection where an oversized vehicle is parked most of the time. Due to the size of the vehicle pedestrians cannot see and drivers' sight lines are reduced all providing for unsafe conditions for crossing the roadway. It was suggested if that one curb location was painted red it would improve visibility.

The County DPW reported that two of the four corners are currently painted red at this "all way stop" intersection. If the remaining curb was painted it would only remove one parking space due to the many driveways. There is a concern that removing parking on Turner would remove the "traffic claiming" influences park vehicles provide. The roadway is narrow when vehicles are parked on both sides of the street; this can tend to slow most drivers down.

The County's Traffic Operation Dept has evaluated this area. They recommended putting in crosswalks once the curb ramps were upgraded to be ADA compliant. The ADA Coordinator has been contacted to include this project in the planning. The County sees this as a direct method to improve safety. The DPW will also re-address the issue with the Traffic Operation Dept regarding the Task Force's concern with the parking spot at the intersection and how it does block visibility for people trying to cross the street with or without a crosswalk.

Speed bumps are one of the many resources the DPW can use. If they were considered for Turner, they would need to be placed every 150 feet. This requires a lot of community support as they would change the character of the neighborhood. A majority of the community must support speed bumps as stated by the County DPW. Marin County Fire would also have to approve.

Marin County Sheriff's and CHP do monitor the area when time permits. They were aware of the challenges people experience when crossing the street. They are not clear if one or many residents are concerned with the speed of vehicles.

A recommendation was made to place a speed data collection trailer to help identify if drivers are speeding or if it is perceived that they are speeding. The Board of Supervisors monitors the placement of the speed trailers due to the high demand throughout the county.

Issues list Review and Update

An issues list needs to be created and these would then be plotted on an issues map. SRTS would like to learn what BPAC issues are related to the SR2S programming and update this list and map. The map corresponds with each issue, providing a visual of the location under review.

The list will be provided to the town and county DPW departments to help them review and evaluate SR2S future safety improvement projects. The prioritization of this list helps SR2S staff and engineers focus their efforts and resources; identify quick build solutions vs long term projects and where/when to seek grant funding.

If a project is only partially funded and portions still need to be funded it will be separated into different issues; this will influence the SR2S prioritization.

Priorities are ranked with the following considerations:

#1: major safety concerns and a high number of students traveling this area, may be possible to address with current funding or grant funds. Some issues may be easier and less costly to address.

#2: either a major safety issue but low number of students or a high number of students but not a major safety issue.

#3 not a major safety issue and does not have a high number of students traveling in the area.

Next Zoom Meeting

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 9:30AM

A request was made for SR2S to send out calendar invites along with the eblast moving forward.