



SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS: MARIN COUNTY



**Ross Valley Safe Routes to Schools Task Force  
Meeting Notes  
Friday, April 24  
Ross Valley School District**

**Attendance:**

Wendi Kallins- Safe Routes to Schools, Peggy Clark- Safe Routes to Schools, Karen Baigrie- Team Leader Hidden Valley School, Robert Betts- Marin Transit, Bret Joyner- Ross Valley School District- Facilities, Carey Lando- County of Marin DPW, Renee Goddard- Councilmember Fairfax, Deb Merten- Team Leader Brookside School, Glen Newcomer- CHP, Ashley Tam- Parisi Associates, Joe Loll- Team Leader Wade Thomas School, Mandy Thomason- Team Leader Manor School , Nancy Vernon- Aide to Katie Rice, Rico Tabaranza- Fairfax PD

**Infrastructure and Police**

**Grants Received**

Many Safe Routes to Schools grants were approved from SR2S funding sources:

- Rectangle signs with flashing beacons will be installed at Butterfield and Green Valley Court.
- The Fairfax Bike Spine will be completed with a class 1 bike lane going behind the field at Sherman Court to the bike path on White Hill School grounds.
- A flashing beacon at San Francisco and Taylor near the Barefoot Cafe- similar to the ones at the new Good Earth.

If there are trees or sidewalk issues in San Anselmo, please contact Sean Condry at the DPW.

**Hidden Valley update**

The “Week of Green” planning has gone very well. The school is using Active 4Me awarding a Golden Sneaker to winning classrooms, the bike blender will be present and the Sheriff’s Dept will present a Safety Talk to students and parents. There are many great safety and encouragement activities. The school re-arranged the bike racks and the capacity has almost doubled. A co-chair is still needed to support current efforts into the next school year while Karen is out of the country.

National Bike To School Day will be celebrated on Tuesday, not Wednesday for Brookside and Hidden Valley Schools.

There are still issues on Fawn Drive during school drop off. No stopping signs will be installed on the south side of the street. The school is working with the CHP officers to enforce the no stopping/parking areas. Fawn Drive now has signage for the bike route. Now that Fawn Drive is paved, a curb will also be installed to prevent vehicles from parking off to the side of the road.

Woodside and Caletta Raods will have the crosswalks repainted the month of April.

### **Safe Streets Butterfield and Oak Manor**

The Safe Streets collaboration developed with neighbors, the home owners association and the town is moving along very nicely. The committee will meet twice a year and include two public outreach campaigns.

The group is addressing:

1. Infrastructure improvements
2. Public outreach: the first week of “green events” at the school included “safety tips/messages”, signs posted along Butterflied on select trees. The signs will rotate and have seasonal messaging.
3. CHP officers presented a informative street safety presentation
4. Reviewing options for additional parking near Hidden Valley School. In the past the school was a ‘neighborhood school’ and parking was not needed or planned for on the campus.

5. The [Butterfield Corridor Safe Streets Committee](#) web page is live!
6. The partnerships within this committee have been very positive and effective because it is coming from the neighborhood grass roots.
7. A request was made to install speed zone detectors for traffic traveling in both directions on Butterfield. This would serve residents and the schools.

### **Oak Manor**

The Committee is being established similar to the Butterfield Committee. One of the primary issues at Oak Manor are speeding vehicle coming down from the top of the hill/road. Drivers have lost control and run off the road on to neighbors yards. The neighbors realize these issues are with individuals living in the neighborhood not visitors.

The Manor School Principal and the SR2S Team Leader have been invited to assist the committee and will be including safety messaging in school's enews blasts.

#### Issues:

- The committee is considering installing a 'speed feedback sign'.
- The crossing guard has requested the cross walk stripes be repainted
- The light at Oak Tree is not constant
- The lights at Oak Manor need to be improved. Suggestion to install solar powered lights.
- Considering painting the curb red (no parking to increase visibility) at Drake and Oak Manor. In previous years students on bikes and walking were directed to get up on the sidewalk as they approached the school. The goal was to direct students away from using the intersection and use the sidewalk. The back gate to the schools was provided for the students coming from the sidewalk. Over time this behavior has changed.

Fairfax PD officer suggested installing 'plastic, white deliniator poles' to keep vehicles from cutting the corner too tight.

The next step is to schedule a “walk audit” and determine who should be invited as this area is managed by the county and the town.

**Police update:**

Butterflied Road was shut down the week of April 22 when a driver hit a utility pole. The amount of traffic generated was a strong indicator of what happens when one lane is shut down. The officers did a great job of managing the problem.

**School Activities**

**Family Biking location-** The workshop planned for April at Brookside school will happen (and was a great success)

**Report from schools**

**Manor-** The cereal cups are still a big hit on Wednesdays, 25 gift cards were raffled, SR2S magnets and pins are also handed out. The school energy is up due to the Go Green Challenge. The school would like to conduct a different challenge next year. Bike to School Day has received a good deal of support from local businesses along with a number of parent volunteers. The bike racks are  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  full each day

**Wade Thomas-** The Walk and Roll Wednesdays are very consistent. The Golden Wheel and Active 4 Me are also well supported by students.

Joe is designing his a check in/kiosk for the students to “self check in”. The kiosk would have a fun monkey face theme. The device would be solar powered with cellular connection. The “self check in” would reduce the continued need for parent volunteers. It was suggested Joe get support from the White Hill Maker Program students.

There are 400 students in the school and 180 are registered with Active 4 Me; on average 80 students arrive to school using a unique green travel. Parents do appreciate receiving an email when their child has arrived at school.

Renee recommended the school keep parents involved in the check in process by welcoming students to school and keeping the human interaction.

**Brookside-** Walk and Roll Wednesday and one random day continue with great success and student involvement. Most of the schools population is signed on to Active 4 me. The team leaders know that many of the students do travel green but they do not visit the check in table. The monkey face check in scanner would be a fun improvement.

Safe Routes to Schools would like to post more of the schools events on the SR2S Facebook page. The requirement for photo release continues to be a challenge.

Deb Merton will be stepping down as SR2S Team Leader at Brookside. She has a replacement and she will help out at the start of the next school year. Next year they would like to get more students involved with the scanning, reduce the food treats and encourage the positive intrinsic rewards.

### **Yellow Bus Update**

The yellow bus program will be in place for the next school year. The contractor has been secured. On May 18 registration/sales will be open to parents.

The White Hill and Butterfield routes will be the same. Hidden Valley will have two new routes in the San Francisco and Memorial Park neighborhoods with a route from downtown Fairfax. There will be one new Brookside route too.

Marin Transit is working with the school district on a FAQ information page. Students are encouraged to be signed up by June 30 for the next school year. The yellow bus program will be a more personalized system inviting parents and students to get to know their bus drivers. The system plans to have a text messaging program to notify parents when the buses are running later. The program will be continually reviewed for improvements.

Funding sources continue to be researched to off-set the costs to families; one example is to use the buses during school hours for field trips, find local parking to reduce fuel consumption and having other schools make use of buses.

The program will have three payment options: full year, every day all year and semester. The full year will have a payment plan option. The passes will be color coded for the different payment plans. In time the drivers will get to know the students. There will be a replacement fee for lost bus passes. There will be 440 seats for White Hill students, there will probably be a need for more seats in the afternoon. The Hidden Valley routes will have 144 seats and Brookside will have 72 seats.

After the meeting the cost did go out to the parents:

	Annual (AM/PM)	Annual (one-way)	Semester (AM/PM)	Semester (one-way)
Single Payment	\$600.00	\$365.00	\$330.00	\$200.00
Monthly payments	\$60.00 X 10	\$36.50 X 10	\$66.00 X 5	\$40.00 X 5

Task Force members commented on what a wonderful job Robert had done manging the yellow bus program! The program will surely increase the number of students traveling by bus.

**Next meeting and agenda**

The next meeting will be on September 11 at 10:00am in the Blue Room.