

Mill Valley School District

Safe Routes to School Task Force Meeting Notes

Wednesday, September 4
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

[Recording](#)

Participants

- Julio Arroyo – School District Maintenance & Operations
- Jared Barrilleaux – Mill Valley DPW
- Dominic Blurton – Parent
- Nick Bockh – Mill Valley Traffic Mobility Advisory Committee Chair
- Urban Carmel – Mill Valley Mayor
- Gwen Froh – SR2S/MCBC
- Al Grumet – Mill Valley Traffic Mobility Advisory Committee
- Matthew Hartzell, WTB-TAM/Active Mill Valley
- Jennifer Imbimbo, Aide to Dist. 3 Supervisor Stephanie Moulton-Peters
- Wendi Kallins – SR2S
- Tony Macri – Resident, Park School SR2S volunteer
- Sarah McDonald – Strawberry Point parent/PTA parent
- Mike Mooney – SR2S volunteer
- Stephanie Moulton-Peters – District 3 Supervisor
- Christina Mueller – Volunteer
- John Neville – Marin County DPW
- Katie Parson – Safety Chair
- Paula Picarelli – MVMS parent
- Lisa Rao – Almonte neighbor
- Mira Schwartz - MCBC
- John Selix – Retired teacher, TMACC member
- Jen Shriber – SR2S/Parametrix
- Emily Spady – Safe Routes Tam Valley volunteer, TMACC
- Craig Tackabery – Mill Valley DPW

Introduction (Stephanie Moulton Peters)

Stephanie Moulton Peters kicked off the meeting by expressing her support for the Safe Routes to Schools program. She shared a success story from Strawberry Point Elementary School and emphasized the importance of changing the environment to make it safer for everyone.

Safe Pathways Projects (Craig Tackaberry & John Neville)

Incorporated Mill Valley Projects

Craig Tackaberry [presented several projects](#) in incorporated Mill Valley for which the City will seek funding during the Safe Pathways call for projects. City staff used the



SR2S issues list, suggested routes, Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan, public comment, and other resources to identify four opportunities.

A large project at the intersection of Hamilton Drive and Shelter Bay Avenue will add a new crosswalk, bulb-out, and sidewalk infill. The project will serve residents from a nearby apartment complex. A land easement from the apartment complex would mitigate on-street parking reduction but it is not yet confirmed.

A small project at the Roque Moraes Drive, Kipling Drive, and Hamilton Drive intersection addresses an issue on the SR2S issues list. The project would add a new crossing across Kipling Drive, add bulb-outs, realign existing crosswalks, and tighten curb radii. This improvement will improve the walk to school for students who are dropped off and picked up near the park.

Another small project on Elm Avenue will fill a sidewalk gap across the street from Park Elementary School. It will also relocate the existing crosswalk to line up with an existing ramp.

A small project at the Nelson Avenue and Matilda Avenue intersection will be an improvement on existing conditions, under which people currently cross the street behind a stop sign. The project will add a bulb-out and crosswalk in front of the stop sign that will connect to the Freeman Park pathway.

Contact Craig with further comments or questions regarding incorporated Mill Valley Safe Pathways projects: ctackabery@cityofmillvalley.org.

Unincorporated Mill Valley Projects

John Neville described the Safe Pathways projects for Unincorporated Mill Valley. In Unincorporated Mil Valley, a project on Ricardo Lane will be put forward for Safe Pathways funding. Currently, temporary bollards are on the north side of the street for traffic calming; the project would put in a sidewalk in this location.

The County is currently working with Parametrix on speed tables and sharrows to improve Marin Avenue. However, this project will not be part of the Safe Pathways call for projects. The county tried to find a contractor but the sharrow portion of the project is too small for a contractor to take on. It will likely be combined with other engineering projects next year. The speed tables must be placed where they won't block driveways/cause flooding and need to be vetted with the community. The plans need to be finalized before funding can be considered. Matthew Hartzell offered to share case studies of speed tables in other communities that have gotten community and fire department buy-in.

Street Smarts Communications (Jen Shriber & Wendi Kallins)

Jen Shriber gave an overview of Street Smarts, an annual safe behavior education campaign that is part of the SR2S program. It features messages to educate the public on safe behaviors for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. The campaign features banners that will be displayed around the County, yard signs, and a social media component. This year's campaign will run from September 23 to November 15. For



more information, visit the Street Smarts website at <http://streetsmartsmarin.org>.

Mill Valley residents can pick up free yard signs from City Hall starting the week of September 23.

Wendi Kallins explained that people can also help share the message through social media. The Street Smarts website features a Social Media tab with newsletter templates, graphics, and email signatures that can be downloaded and shared. Wendi will also share a 'tip of the month' starting in October to keep the messages circulating outside the campaign dates. Task force participants offered to share the messages through the Tam Valley PTA, School District, MV Connect, and the City's social media platforms.

Encouragement and Education/Student Surveys/E-Bike Parking (Gwen Froh)

Education & Encouragement

Gwen Froh discussed the latest updates around SR2S education and encouragement. The program has developed a video, PowerPoint presentation, and other information for back-to-school nights encouraging parents to walk, roll, and carpool with their students. The Buddy Up contest is currently live, and people can nominate students until November 15. Fall events include Walk & Roll Wednesday, International Walk & Roll to School Day, and Ruby Bridges Day. SR2S has a Vitamin D theme for the year, encouraging students and families to reap the health benefits of active transportation to school.

Looking ahead to the spring, SR2S will run a carpool campaign December through February, when rainy weather can discourage walking and biking. There will also be a celebration in the spring as SR2S turns 25.

Student Surveys

Student tally surveys will be carried out in the fall using a new format. Students will be polled about the transportation modes they use to get to and from school.

E-Bikes

SR2S has a new [E-Bike Education](#) section of its website. The page includes information for administrators, including e-bike registration programs at schools as well as useful information for parents.

Additionally, all middle school classes in Mill Valley will receive e-bike education.

AB-1778 is currently on the governor's desk. This would prevent students in Marin County under 16 years old from riding any Class II e-bikes. Many bikes designated as Class II and require them to wear a helmet. In addition, Class II bikes with engines over 750 watts and/or speeds over 20 MPH have been deemed illegal

Parent Volunteers

Park, Edna Maguire, and Tam Valley all have parent volunteers for the year. Sarah McDonald will discuss safety conditions and volunteers with the Strawberry PTA



executive team. Old Mill still needs volunteers. SR2S has scheduled a meeting with the principal to discuss.

Other Issues

Rosemont

Public Works is looking to add a traffic signal at Rosemont Avenue and Almonte Boulevard. They are currently modeling traffic patterns to ensure that a signal won't adversely impact congestion, and the project is still in the design phase in coordination with the City. Lisa mentioned that the neighborhood is also concerned about the lack of a safe walking path along Rosemont; several children have been hit by cars there.

Caltrans and Shoreline

John shared some information about potential bike lanes on Shoreline following an inquiry. There had previously been some discussion about Caltrans having a bike lane in their bike plan; perhaps Caltrans could add this to the work they're already doing. .

Strawberry

Students who live behind Strawberry Village currently need to ride down Redwood Highway to get to the overpass; this is a challenging route for active transportation users. This segment is in the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Plan as a proposed Class II bike lane. The City will need to make road modifications to get the necessary width for bike facilities. They are waiting for Caltrans to finish barrier improvements before planning road widening as they will be moving utility poles. John will check with the Bike Coordinator for more information on this, including a potential timeline.

Urban described a planned Class IV bikeway, slated for 2026, that would go across the Highway 101 and connect to Strawberry.

Sycamore

Mike asked about ways to slow traffic on Sycamore. AB-43 was previously looked into to slow speeds in the Sycamore Triangle area. This has been used to reduce the speed limit in front of East Strawberry School but may not be appropriate for Sycamore. The City has had some conversations with the police department about tightening enforcement with specific locations in mind. Messaging/education to the neighborhood can also help. Emily shared that she has also had luck encouraging good behaviors by creating connections and building community in the neighborhood.

Next Steps

- Sarah will send Craig information on drop-offs and pick-ups at Hauke Park
- Matt will share case studies and other materials to help w/ public outreach about the Marin Ave speed tables
- Christina will add the e-bike information to one of the upcoming PTSA



newsletters at Mill Valley Middle School

- John will look into timing for the Redwood Highway bike lanes. HE will also check with the Bike Coordinator for more information about the Strawberry bike lanes

Next Meeting Date

- January 15, 2025, at 9:30 AM

