

Minutes from County Wide SR2S Task Force Meeting

October 18, 2017 10am – 11am

Task Force Members Present

- Emily Sinkhorn – Redwood Community Action Agency
- Jenny Weiss - Redwood Community Action Agency
- Melody Mallick – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Melanie Williams – BikesThere
- Elaine Hogan - Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Johnny Calkins – McKinleyville Organizing Committee
- Jenny Bowen – Humboldt County Office of Education
- Tony Seghetti – Humboldt County Public Works
- Oona Smith – Humboldt County Association of Governments
- Taylin Titus – North Coast Schools Insurance Group
- Areli Cupp - Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Jan Schmidt – McKinleyville Union School District

August Meeting Minutes: The City of Arcata postponed their Tour de Parks. Minutes Approved.

Freshwater Traffic Safety Update: Families from Garfield and Freshwater Schools approached the County to help with slowing traffic speeds from the foot of the Kneeland Hill by the park to Garfield School. There have been some improvements made in the past along Freshwater Road including narrowing the driving lanes, creating a narrow shoulder, installing speed feedback signs, etc. The community recently asked for Supervisor Mike Wilson to restart the effort and a meeting was held at Garfield School in September. The CHP, school and county staff attended along with some neighbors. Tom Matson, director of County Public Works suggested installing some speed bumps in the short term and go after a grant for longer term improvements. At the meeting, three groups formed to discuss engineering improvement possibilities near Garfield, engineering improvement possibilities near Freshwater School, and an education/encouragement group. Freshwater is similar to the community of Fieldbrook – a rural area with arterial road, school and community center. Fieldbrook was successful in receiving improvements so hopefully Freshwater will be too. RCAA will be working with the County and community towards this effort.

McKinleyville Middle School Safety Concerns: McKinleyville Union School District was selected to receive ATP technical assistance (TA) funding from the National SRTS Partnership. With SB 1 Augmentation funds, McKinleyville's Cycle 3 application that wasn't originally funded will now be funded, therefore they will not receive the TA from the Partnership as it is intended for communities who have not received ATP funding. The ATP project will focus on Morris Elementary and the High School however, Jan Schmidt expressed safety concerns around the Middle School, particularly on Central Ave at Railroad. The new improvements installed by the County end before this intersection that is heavily used. This intersection needs updates including adjusting the signal light to change more quickly, reduce the crossing distance, and north on Central Avenue there is no sidewalk. There is no sidewalk on Railroad Avenue either, which is heavily used by students.

There are some education and encouragement safety efforts underway in McKinleyville including an Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) grant received by County Public Health that is just about to start. They have funding

for bike rodeos, a media campaign around bike safety, and in-school education including helmet checks, helmet distribution, and the formation of a Bike Club at McKinleyville Schools or the Teen Center or Boys and Girls Club. Public Health will also be receiving ATP Cycle 3 funding for purchasing a bike fleet and forming a Bike Club in McKinleyville and in Fortuna.

Jan reported the McKinleyville Middle School has many students who ride bikes to school and there was a collision recently when two student cyclists got lightly tapped from behind when the driver didn't see them due to the October sun low in the sky creating a glare. Tony reported that through Measure Z, they will be upgrading signals and making ADA improvements in McKinleyville. They will resize and replace signal heads and signals will recognize bicyclists. They will also synchronize the signals along Central Avenue.

There is a possibility of using RTAP and having McKinleyville School District collaborate with the County on short term improvements. There will also be a call for ATP Cycle 4 applications which Jan would like to apply for with the County. With the current OTS grant and Public Health's Cycle 3 grant underway, that could show a good effort for starting a new ATP infrastructure project in McKinleyville.

Willow Creek Walkability Audit: Willow Creek community members have expressed concerns about walkability especially along Country Club as it connects to neighborhoods north of Willow Creek and crosses the river. There was a recent fatality on Country Club when a man riding a horse was hit and killed by a truck on the bridge.

The community group Mountain Community and Culture was allocated Measure Z funding to hold a Walk Audit on November 15 from 2:30pm – 5pm.

School/District/Jurisdiction/Organization Report Out and Announcements:

Humboldt County Public Works is nearing completion of the infrastructure improvements near Lafayette Elementary School. Education and encouragement programs will continue there through the school year.

Melanie Williams announced her event 'Moms on Bikes' on October 21 to encourage moms to ride so that kids will ride. She also announced that during Math Night at Alice Birney on October 24 she will lead bike related math activities for students and families.

Oona Smith from HCAOG shared that the repeal of SB1 will likely be on the November 2018 ballot. If passed, this could mean losing large amounts of funding for pedestrian, bicycle, and road improvements. Every county in California is approximately \$1 billion behind in maintenance and could really use this financial boost. The City of Eureka is working on a tip sheet to educate the public about it.

Next Meeting Date: December 20, 2017 at 10 am at the Community Wellness Center