

## **Minutes from County Wide SR2S Task Force Meeting**

December 20, 2017 10am – 11am

### **Task Force Members Present**

- Emily Sinkhorn – Redwood Community Action Agency
- Jenny Weiss - Redwood Community Action Agency
- Mellody Mallick – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Melanie Williams – BikesThere
- Elaine Hogan - Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Taylin Titus – North Coast Schools Insurance Group
- Areli Cupp - Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Mellody Vinum – McKinleyville Union School District
- Debra Dees – Humboldt County Association of Governments
- Alexis Kelso – Caltrans

**October Meeting Minutes:** Minutes Approved. The Task Force discussed having a place for ‘Future Topics’ in the minutes.

**Humboldt County SRTS Inventory Update:** Debra began this effort in 2016 to update information about Humboldt County Schools in the SR2S Prioritization Tool. A total of 39 schools were contacted and a draft report was developed by HCAOG. Debra mentioned that many schools she spoke with gave high praise to the Task Force.

The report is outlined by districts and schools contacted within each district are listed. Enrollment numbers were included and she attempted to get estimates of the numbers of walkers and bikers. Concerns are highlighted in red. Not every school was contacted – schools to contact were prioritized by HCAOG and RCAA.

RCAA will look over the draft and make notes of updates needed before sending to the Task Force for additional feedback. After updates are made, it will be presented to HCAOG’s Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). It was suggested that when presented to the TAC, background information on the SR2S Prioritization Tool should also be presented as a reminder as to why this effort is being made. Many school safety concerns have been addressed since the development of the SR2S Prioritization Tool in 2012.

**Freshwater Roadway Safety Site Visit Update:** The Freshwater community has been vocalizing road safety concerns to the County. These concerns are primarily in the Freshwater School and Garfield School areas. The County has received prior SR2S funding and made improvements in the past, including widening of shoulders and the addition of a fog line on Greenwood Heights Road, however that area has since become prioritized for parking purposes.

Supervisor Mike Wilson organized a meeting with CHP, Public Works, and community members in attendance. Several site visits were also made. The Freshwater School concerns are primarily around their parking lot, which is school property and responsibility. Visibility of vehicles exiting the school to turn onto Freshwater Road is also a concern. Freshwater school wants to do an infrastructure bond to fund striping in the parking lot, education for parents, arrival and dismissal maps, and cutting back of vegetation.

At Garfield School, they want traffic calming in the form of speed humps. The County has already narrowed the driving lanes and reduced the speed limit to 15 mph. There is a noticeable amount of walking in the Garfield School neighborhood. The County has a Speed Hump Ordinance that Garfield School wants to apply for. The community must create a petition, get signatures, make contact with EMT/Emergency services personnel, and contact timber companies to make sure everyone is on the same page and supports the effort. They are looking to install 3 humps bracketing Garfield School. The School will then have to pay for the installation of the humps at \$2500-\$4000 each. The County will also apply for pedestrian activated flashing beacons at Garfield through SBI funding.

**Willow Creek Walk Audit Update:** Mountain Community and Culture, a Willow Creek non-profit, applied for and received Measure Z funding to conduct a Walk Audit. There was a large turnout which included Mountain Community and Culture members, neighbors, County Public Works, and CHP. The community felt there are achievable next steps and are planning to submit an RTAP application to the County.

**McKinleyville Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Update:** Humboldt County DHHS Public Health Branch (PHB) has started its one year OTS project focusing on McKinleyville bike safety. They will be starting a bike club through the Boys and Girls Club on January 8, 2018. It will be open to youth ages 11-15 from any McKinleyville school and will take place afterschool. The Bike Club will focus on maintenance and safety education and will not coordinate bike rides until the summer. Public Health is purchasing 5 bikes to use in this program. PHB staff also met with McKinleyville Middle School principal Julie, and district superintendent, Jan Schmidt to inform them of the project and solicit input/feedback. They also conducted helmet counts at McKinleyville Middle School with 40% wearing helmets (correctly) and 80% of community riders were correctly wearing helmets.

The OTS project also includes an educational campaign. PHB will be purchases coasters, coffee sleeves and banners with safety messages that encourage safe riding such as 'ride with traffic'. The Bike Club could potentially participate in Pony Express Days, the first weekend of June, to tie into an existing McKinleyville event.

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

RCAA is beginning a new ATP project at Arcata Elementary School in January.

**Melanie Williams** is a member of a Local Advisors Committee of the National SRTS Partnership. She has been doing her best to represent the Task Force as a whole and was recently interviewed and was asked for one of our best stories. She shared the Falcon Flyway project and how it was the final project of a 3 year SRTS effort at Zane Middle School. She shared that we have also be very effective at 'breaking down silos' and bringing people together.

### **Future Topics:**

- Integrating Eureka Schools to the Countywide SRTS Task Force when RMEP ends
- Re-visit SR2S Prioritization Tool to determine schools with greatest need/capacity for ATP

**Next Meeting Date:** February 28, 2018 at 10 am at the Community Wellness Center