

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes January 12, 2012

Members Present:

Dan Pires, Jennifer Weiss, Hank Beck, Shelia Parrott, Chris Whitworth, Dorina Espinoza, Melanie Williams, Tim Jones, Carole Beaton, Virginia Bass, Joan Levy, Charlie Bean

December meeting minutes: Not approved. Need to review and approve at next meeting along with the January minutes.

Minutes:

Website Update:

The current status of the local SR2S information website housed on the HCAOG site was reviewed.

- A new category for 'SR2S Reports and Activities' is needed to include WA school report, District-wide workshop report, etc.
- Under 'Local organizations, eliminate 'District-wide workshop' and add Contact (department) information. For Cities of Arcata and Eureka - add Public Works as contact.
- Combine 'Local organizations/Groups promoting SR2S' and 'Links to SR2S Resources'.

Update on HCAOG Regional SR2S Tool Project:

An overview was provided on the Regional SR2S Tool project. Recommendations for County Task Force members were asked for and Steve Paine (Willow Creek CSD) and Jennifer George (Hoopa Valley Elementary) were suggested. Clarification is needed through reviewing Scope of Work to determine if parent surveys can/should be re-submitted to all the schools that received them in the fall.

County-wide Parent Survey update:

The surveys for all schools County-wide have not yet been shipped to the National SR2S Data Center for report generation. There is a need for money to ship them off. The County may be able to cover the costs. Dan Pires will also check if he can find funding through CASTO or the Masonic Lodge.

Transportation Budget Cuts:

\$248 million was cut from school transportation funding which takes place February 1st. Different schools will be affected differently due to the varying amounts of money schools will be cut. (Some districts are losing \$20/student and others are losing \$900/student). This is not a fair budget cut because it does not affect districts that have no transportation. Districts that don't have buses are not affected (i.e. Rio Dell) but will be a big cut for Eureka City Schools (ECS). ECS planned in advance for the January cuts to absorb the hit this school year but the Governors new proposition for the next years' cuts have not yet been taken into account. Buses will be replaced with cars - which means more traffic, collisions and accidents.

Southern Humboldt already sent lay-off notices to their transportation staff – they've been hit \$995/student and are laying off staff to prepare for figuring out how to make it work. Schools like Kneeland and South Fork need buses, if kids don't have a bus to ride to school, they can't get there and won't go. Each day that kids aren't in school the districts lose money further compounding the problem.

Should the Task Force write a letter to Governor Brown to request that school transportation cuts be rescinded? Can Task Force members sign such a letter (i.e. representing their jurisdiction) or should Task Force members write letters as individuals? Virginia Bass reported that the Board of Supervisors sent a letter to the Governor and will forward it to the Task Force to use as a template should they choose to.

An idea was suggested to use buses as a fee-for-service. This would be ineffective because of the high percentage of schools with students that receive free/reduced meals leaving a small number of families who might be able to pay for bus use. The fee would therefore have to be very high in order to cover costs.

Upcoming SR2S Applications:

The Humboldt County Public Works will be resubmitting their SR2S grant application for Grant Elementary for traffic calming and sidewalk infill. They need the CHP or EPD to sign off on it.

Announcements: None

Next meeting date and Facilitator: Charlie Bean will facilitate the next meeting on February 9th, 2012 from 11am – 12pm at the Community Wellness Center. Agenda items will include updates on the website, School Transportation Issues, Regional SR2S Tool, Parent Surveys, and County SR2S applications

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes February 9, 2012

Members Present:

Dan Pires, Jennifer Weiss, Debbie Hart, Shelia Parrott, Tom Matson, Melanie Williams, Tim Jones, Virginia Bass, Joan Levy, Charlie Bean, Jimmy Smith, Maria Bauman

December and January meeting minutes: Approved

Minutes:

1) Website Update:

SR2S materials on the HCAOG site were reviewed. One correction was noted as needed. Humboldt County Public Works Department was missing on page 2 under SR2S advocates and resources. Jenny and Joan will talk about who coordinates this and how information will be added to the site.

2) Update on HCAOG Regional SR2S Tool Project:

The first County-Wide Task Force meeting was held on Feb 8th to introduce the Regional SR2S Tool project. Background information on SR2S was provided and there was a good discussion about local SR2S efforts. We could still use representation from Southern Humboldt on the Task Force. Jimmy Smith said he would look into finding someone from a recent project done on the Mattole.

3) County-wide Parent Survey update:

Dan Pires mailed all the parent surveys on walking and bicycling. The schools paid for it initially and the California Association of School Transportation Officials (CASTO) said they would reimburse for the cost. The total cost was \$31.86.

4) Transportation Budget Cuts:

SB 81 was passed by the legislature. It is on the Governor desk waiting for a signature. The bill would restore school transportation funding for this year but next years budget still eliminates 100% of funding for transportation. Dan is hopeful that we won't actually see a 100% cut and there will hopefully be some bussing. Eureka City Schools is trying to eliminate \$142,000 from their budget for next year, which would eliminate 2 bus routes likely leaving only the areas outside of the city limits with buses. Those areas have more of a need than in the city limits. Melanie asked how the Eureka SR2S TF could help with an advocacy role. Can we work with HTA on their age limit for bus ridership? Jimmy is back on the transit authority board. He also said we can put these issues on city and county agendas and expand from there. Tom said the Board of Supervisors is taking charge and leading on the issue. They've been successful in the short term but the next step is the May revision where legislators need to hear we understand the need for cuts but that they need to be equitable. He also mentioned that transportation cuts could destroy rural schools. They will lose half the kids going to school and schools will lose \$42/day per student. Dan says if we know there are going to be budget cuts we should work on eliminating obstacles to walking and bicycling. Charlie pointed out that school transportation for children should be considered in cities/counties un-met transit needs surveys.

5) Upcoming SR2S Applications: Some of the work originally proposed to be included in the County's SR2S grant application may be eliminated due to the need of other projects. The County has asked if Public Health or HumPAL could help beef up the outreach/stakeholder language in their application and include more background information on local projects, equity issues and

free/reduced lunch % information to help increase likelihood of funding. Debbie asked how the Grant Elementary parents (and other community members) could find out what plans are still proposed for Grant improvements and Tom said he can post it on HCAOG website after he submits the final application. Debbie also asked about how to find information about the crossing guard grant. Joan will type up bullet points on the grant and forward to Jenny. Other Task Force members are asked to forward information on other local (Eureka area) SR2S and related projects to Jenny to compile and coordinate to post on HCAOG website.

Jimmy Smith reported there is likely no funding for projects on Broadway (Eureka) Feasibility Study, which could affect F Street near Grant and other alternate routes making traffic worse in those areas.

Announcements: Melanie asked TF members to look at the proposed House Bill that would among other things eliminate funding for SR2S, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ), and transit funds for bicycling. Check out americabikes.org

Next meeting date and Facilitator: Dan Pires will facilitate the next meeting on Thursday March 8 from 11am – 12pm at the Community Wellness Center. Agenda items will include Crossing Guard grant bullet points (compiled by Joan), Review of project list (TF members email project info to Jenny for compiling), Transportation Budget Cuts update, and SR2S grants report/update.

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2012

Members Present:

Dan Pires, Jennifer Weiss, Shelia Parrott, Melanie Williams, Tim Jones, Joan Levy, Hank Beck

February meeting minutes: Approved

Minutes:

1) Review of local SR2S related projects to be added to HCAOG Website.

- Jenny received a write-up about the City of Eureka's SR2S program at Washington Elementary.
- RCAA/NRS will also be working with County Public Health on a Community Transformation Grant to further SR2S work in the Eureka area. It is federal chronic disease prevention funding to do policy work, presentations, walk audits, support bike month effort and provide technical assistance around SR2S.
- Melanie will write up a paragraph about the bike safety work going on at Alice Birney Elementary to include on the HCAOG website. They received a \$5000 grant to further support bike safety by holding a bike rodeo in preparation for a Bike to School Day event on May 9th. The students will also participate in Eureka's Rhody Parade and the Tour of the Unknown Coast. They are also working with tools and learning how to do bike repairs and maintenance.

2) Update on the talking points for the Crossing Guards Grant.

- Joan described the County Public Works Crossing Guard grant for \$497,000 over five years. The Public Works department is still doing the paperwork so Public Health is waiting for the funding to come in and will then work out further details.

3) Update of School Transportation funding:

- Dan talked about the current status in Humboldt County. SB 81 was signed by the Governor which includes transportation funding for 2012-2013. Funding will be no less than it is this year (which is 20% less than previous years).
- The Governor has proposed including transportation funding in with the categorical money for next year. These funds are grouped into one block that can be used for anything, doesn't have to be transportation. It will be up to districts to determine how to spend it.
- After 2013, this funding will go away – school transportation will not be funded by the state so districts will have to take it out of the block of categorical funds. If districts are not mandated to provide home to school transportation they don't have to do it. (In Los Angeles the feds mandated it but states aren't responsible for funding it since they didn't mandate it.)
- Eureka City Schools board realizes home to school transportation is important and necessary and the bottom line is that budgets are driven by Average Daily Attendance (ADA) so they will lose money if kids don't go to school, which many won't if they don't have transportation. Big changes are not expected this year or next but in following years rural schools will have tough decisions to make.

4) County-wide task force:

- Jenny reported on the status of HCAOG's Regional SR2S Tool project. We are in the process still of inventorying all public schools in Humboldt County. We have completed 20 interviews, are waiting for 3 questionnaires to be returned by email, and an additional

30 messages have been left. We still need help reaching schools/administrators in Southern Humboldt but it looks like we have buy-in from Jim Stewart, superintendent of S. Humboldt School District.

5) Update on County's SR2S Grant:

- Tom was absent so the status of the County's SR2S application was not discussed. Joan and Jenny reported that the parent survey reports have been returned and they will work on getting the information/reports on the HCAOG website. These reports will also be used in developing the HCAOG SR2S Tool.

Announcements:

- Jenny reported that Debbie Hart called to say she couldn't be at this meeting but asked Jenny to thank Tom Mattson and Humboldt County Public Works Department for passing the no parking ordinance on Oak Street thereby acknowledging the work done at the Grant Walkability Audit.
- Public Health will be running a program for a media contest on bike/ped messages by youth
- Brad Albee from Alice Birney and his kids were on the 'Happy Trails' radio show with Emily Sinkhorn this morning. Bike Rodeo at Alice Birney will likely be on April 20 and will be held during school hours so classes can rotate through the bike safety education activities during the PE period.

Next meeting date and Facilitator: Shelia Parrott will facilitate the next meeting on Thursday April 12th from 11am-12pm. *(Note: Shelia Parrott emailed on March 14 to say she will be unable to attend or facilitate. Joan Levy will facilitate the meeting on April 12th).*

Agenda items may include:

- Outcomes of parent surveys
- SR2S grant update from County Public Works
- HCAOG SR2S Project update
- Website update

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2012

Members Present:

Jennifer Weiss, Melanie Williams, Joan Levy, Maria Bauman, Traci Kern, Debbie Hart, Tom Mattson, Michelle Postman

March meeting minutes: Approved

Change of Agenda: 5 minutes will be removed from the website update so Maria can give an update on Bike Month events.

Minutes:

1) HCAOG WEBSITE UPDATE

- Jenny gave a brief update about the website. The reports generated from the parent surveys are now available online under the Local Data section.
- Joan pointed out there is a new section on the website for current activities. Bike month information at Alice Birney (Bike Rodeo May 4th and Bike to School Day May 9th) should be added to this section. Once the activities have happened, they can be moved to a section reporting on past activities.
- Traci talked about the issue of schools in Program Improvement. Parents have choice of schools to send their children to so we see fewer students at schools of residence. Parents can choose based on whether or not there are crossing guards or other safety measures, etc. If we resolve safety issues like lack of crossing guards we will probably see more kids walking and biking to school.
 - There are many English learners that need to meet targets which also affect Program Improvement. Graduation rates at high school is also an issue.
 - Program Improvement is tied in with Title 1 federal funding. If schools aren't growing academically they won't get funding. Grant has 80% free/reduced lunch (second highest in district) and the district has a 66% transitory rate (students moving around within the district) due to high # of homeless students at Grant and Lafayette.
 - Joan mentioned that Public Health is waiting for funding to kick in for the County Crossing Guard program.

2) OUTCOMES OF PARENT SURVEYS

- Joan reported back about the return of parent surveys from Humboldt County public schools. The reports are now available on the HCAOG website <http://www.hcaog.net>

3) BIKE MONTH UPDATE

- Maria reported about Bike Month activities in May.
 - May 10 is Bike to Work Day in Arcata. There will be an energizer station at the Arcata Coop from 7am-9am with free refreshments and a bike rally with contests at noon.
 - May 17 is Bike to Work Day in Eureka with an energizer station at the Eureka Coop from 7am-9am with free refreshments. There will be a bike rally at the Old Town gazebo at noon.
 - May 10th there will be a Bike Film Festival from 6pm-9pm at the Arcata Playhouse.
 - May 19 there will be a bike gear swap
 - Bike Rodeos will be held throughout the month in Rio Dell, Arcata, Loleta, and at Alice Birney.
 - Bike to School Day will be on May 9th at Alice Birney

4) COUNTY'S SR2S GRANT UPDATE

- Tom reported that the County Public Works Dept submitted a grant for improvements at Grant Elementary including sidewalk infill near the school, a speed table at Oak

Street, and a pedestrian median at F and Oak Street. They are also seeking a crossing in McKinleyville on Murray Road at Little Pond. It will likely take several months to hear if these projects will get funded.

- The county uses 3 programs for SR2S improvements: Federal SR2S, State SR2S and Federal T funds. This recent grant is from the State.
- Humboldt County is in District 1 which gets \$1million every 2 years. We compete with Lake, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties in District 1. If these Federal funds go away it is possible that the State funding will be awarded every year.
- The infrastructure improvements at Washington came through SR2S funding received by the City of Eureka. Humboldt County received approximately \$200K of SR2S funding and Lake County received the rest. The Crossing Guard grant was a Federal non-infrastructure grant.
- The Federal funding bill collapsed so the County will be asking for letters of support from the State to allocate money into rural areas instead of putting it all into urban areas.

5) HCAOG REGIONAL TOOL PROJECT UPDATE

- Jenny provided an update on the draft prioritization criteria for SR2S projects in Humboldt County. The first draft was presented to the Countywide SR2S Task Force and great feedback was received and revisions will be made.
 - Working with Alta Planning + Design to develop the criteria. They have worked on dozens of regional SR2S planning efforts usually focusing on kids who already walk. We are trying to emphasize the important role that school support plays in carrying out SR2S programs as well as the importance of equity as a guiding principle (car-less household, free/reduced lunch).
 - Criteria focuses on support and need (infrastructure based or income based). We are also developing secondary criteria to help decide between schools that rank closely.
 - We are using publicly available information so that the criteria can be easily updated and sustainable for years to come.
 - We will be working on the draft criteria and running schools through it to test how they play out. At the next Countywide Task Force meeting schools will be run through the criteria to select pilot schools for Walk Audits to be conducted in May and/or June. Additional schools will have Walk Audits in the fall as part of Public Health's Community Transformation Grant.
- Traci asked if an objective approach to prioritizing schools could be taken that is independent of the level of support from administrators. She expressed concern about principals moving around to different schools from year to year and therefore possibly not being aware of SR2S programs. Tom pointed out that community buy-in and administrative support is key. SR2S applications specifically ask about this and if there is no support, the County won't consider applying. Support doesn't have to come from the school principal, it could be a parent, PTA, or teacher, just need some committed person/people/group. Most of the Eureka principals are already aware of SR2S.
- Traci also pointed out that the fitness gram results could be subjective based on measurement. Often consistent oversight is lacking which can skew the data results. The outcomes have a lot to do with who is administering the tests and how they were trained. If testers are not trained equally, data may not be accurate.
- Traci was also concerned about scoring schools based on whether or not they completed parent surveys. Often its hard getting required basic medical information back from parents, let alone surveys.
 - Perhaps offering multiple ways to do survey (written or online) could help boost return rates.
 - Sending surveys home to parents at beginning of year in packets might be overwhelming. It might be more strategic to send them out separately and use incentives.
- The goal of the Tool is to get away from jurisdictions competing against one another, working together to get funding into the County, and making it possible for the County to identify need. This tool can be used for any similar funding sources.

5) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Humboldt Bay Area Bike Map second edition is now available. Will be for sale at area retailers.
- Alice Birney got a grant for the 1st annual Bike to School Day on May 9th. They will be holding a Bike Rodeo on May 4th at the school.
- There will be a Bike Rodeo Training on April 23rd.
- Next meeting date: May 10, 2012
- Facilitator: Joan will ask *Sheila Parrott* since Joan stepped in for her this month
- Agenda items:
 - Ped Safety Flag Pilot Program description/update
 - HCAOG Tool update
 - Report on Bike Events
 - News of transportation issues (if any)

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes May 10, 2012

Members Present:

Jennifer Weiss, Joan Levy, Tom Mattson, Sheila Parrott, Dan Pires, Carol Beaton

April meeting minutes: Will need to review again and approve at next meeting.

Change of Agenda: 5 minutes will be removed from the website update so Maria can give an update on Bike Month events.

Minutes:

1) HCAOG REGIONAL TOOL PROJECT UPDATE

- Jenny presented the draft prioritization tool that HCAOG is working on to build capacity at all public and charter schools in Humboldt County to engage in SR2S programs. The tool will help establish a method to identify and prioritize SR2S projects on a regional basis.
 - The first section of the tool looks at school readiness and support using information gathered from school inventory questions. This section looks at whether schools have administrative support, ongoing SR2S activities/discussions at the school, if there is an SR2S champion, SR2S policy in place, if there is an active PTA, and if schools completed SR2S parent surveys.
 - The second section looks at need from based on publicly available data. This includes percentage of students receiving free/reduced lunch, percentage of students in Healthy Fitness Zone based on Aerobic Fitness testing, and student enrollment.
 - The third section looks at need using GIS-based data included pedestrian facilities, posted speed limits, existing bicycle and trail facilities, percentage of carless households, and collision frequency from TIMS data.
 - There is secondary criteria for schools that rank closely that looks at whether schools have received previous funding for SR2S projects or pedestrian safety improvements and if the schools have had prior walk audits.
- We are currently working on dealing with missing data (Aerobic Fitness, schools that didn't return inventory questions, etc.).
- The schools that came up on top were Grant, Alice Birney, S. Fortuna, Freshwater, Hoopa, Toddy Thomas, and Lafayette. When running through secondary criteria, most of those schools have had improvements or walk audits so the school that came out on top for a walk audit was Redwood Prep and Toddy Thomas (for a school within city limits) and the school in the unincorporated area is Hoopa, however there has been a recent pedestrian assessment there so we may not need to duplicate efforts. We will do research to determine if we should pursue a walk audit in Hoopa. Otherwise we will likely look at doing one in Orick.

2) BIKE MONTH EVENTS

- Maria was absent so Jenny and Joan reported about Bike Month activities in May.
 - We participated in the Alice Birney Bike Rodeo on May 4th ; and Bike to School Day at Alice Birney was yesterday with kids riding from Zoe Barnum and walking from Winco. It was great fun and had good turnout.
 - This morning was Bike to Work Day in Arcata. There was an energizer station at the Arcata Coop from 7am-9am with free refreshments and there will be a bike rally with contests at noon.
 - May 17 is Bike to Work Day in Eureka with an energizer station at the Eureka Coop from 7am-9am with free refreshments. There will be a bike rally at the Old Town gazebo at noon.

- Tonight there will be a Bike Film Festival from 6pm-9pm at the Arcata Playhouse.
- May 19 there will be a bike gear swap

3) CHANGES TO CA'S MUTCD

- Caltrans recently adopted the federal changes to the MUTCD. Jurisdictions can make changes if they follow the guidelines.
 - Changes were made to the school zone. It was reduced from 25mph to 15mph.
 - The manual changes could be used as a tool at walk audits if it is a good fit.
 - Bob Kunkell is the Northern California alternate on the CA traffic device control committee. If an issue/request comes up in the community it can be adopted as a pilot program. It will then be tested and adopted if appropriate.
 - A HAWK device (pedestrian activated hybrid beacons) would be great at Myrtle and Tydd but cannot install one because they are only allowed to be used 300 feet from an intersection (midblock).

4) REVIEW/UPDATE WALKING AND BIKING GUIDES AT ALICE BIRNEY AND WASHINGTON

- Joan pointed out that there have been several infrastructure changes since the creation of the walking maps for the two schools. Public Health has funding to make the changes and re-print. For Alice Birney:
 - There is a new signal at Central and Harris.
 - Remove 'future traffic light'
 - Change wording of 'signalized crosswalk' to 'ped-activated light' in legend.
 - There is a ped-activated light at Spring and Henderson
 - Move the crosswalk to the west side of Henderson on Spring (ped-activated). Crosswalks there are on north and south sides (not east)
 - Add crosswalks to all signals or remove crosswalks from signal on McCullens.
 - There is a signal at Harris & E.
- Changes to the Washington map:
 - The crosswalk on Harris is on the west side of Harris at Dolbeer. It is ped-activated.
 - There is a new signal at Walford. Label that street as Walford.
 - Add crosswalk on Harrison near Togo and 23rd (by Ramones).
 - The crosswalk at Russell should be north.
 - Add crosswalk to Dolbeer and Russell (on north side).
 - Add stop signs at Hemlock and Walnut.

5) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next meeting date: June 14, 2012
- Facilitator: Dan Pires
- Agenda items:
 - HCAOG Walk Audit updates (Jenny)
 - Maria present on OTS grant update
 - Transportation update from Dan?

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes August 8, 2012

Members Present:

Joan Levy, Chris Whitworth, Jennifer Weiss, Sheila Parrott, Gary Whitmer, Dan Pires, Charlie Bean, Maria Bauman, Michelle Postman, Brad Albee, Melanie Williams, Debbie Hart, Tracie Kern, Rex Bohn, Virginia Bass, Hannah Graff, Laurie Alexander, Georgeanne Fulstone-Pucillo

April and May meeting minutes: Approved

Minutes:

1) HCAOG REGIONAL TOOL PROJECT UPDATE

- Jenny gave an overview and update on the draft prioritization tool that HCAOG is working on to build capacity at all public and charter schools in Humboldt County to engage in SR2S programs. The tool will help establish a method to identify and prioritize SR2S projects on a regional basis. All Humboldt County Schools were run through the criteria in order to select 2 pilot schools for Walk Audits – one within a City, and one in the unincorporated area of Humboldt County.
 - Shelia asked if we should change the weighting of existing infrastructure to more closely match the weight of Free and Reduced lunch recipients. We will review this with Alta Planning + Design.
 - Redwood Preparatory Charter School and Toddy Thomas Middle School in Fortuna were selected for a joint Walk Audit which was conducted in June.
 - The Fortuna City Engineer simultaneously prepared a report and recommendation to the Council to adopt a school speed zone policy. The Council adopted the policy at the meeting following the Walk Audit. Signs have been purchased and they are working on installation. RCAA staff will continue to coordinate efforts between the City and the school board.
 - RCAA is working with Alta Planning + Design on developing Walking Maps for Redwood Prep and Toddy Thomas as well as maps showing improvements needed. The maps can be used for grant applications in the future.
 - The next Walk Audit will take place on Thursday September 20 at Dows Prairie Elementary. Other schools ranked high but Dows Prairie was selected based on secondary criteria (if the school has had a walk audit recently, received funding, or had recent improvements).

2) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE OF TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANT

- Maria reported that County Public Health has an Office of Traffic Safety grant for which they are focusing on getting schools to adopt bike helmet policies. It is a California state law that children under 18 must wear bike helmets. A bike policy would be adopted by a governing board, be made public by sending a letter to parents, incorporate bicycle safety education, and could include having children sign a pledge to wear their helmet after which they would be issued a bicycle license. It could also include bike and helmet fitting education.
 - Michelle asked if there are schools with existing policies and how Public Health should proceed to get policies in place. Laurie offered to look into whether or not the SR2S policy includes bike helmet information. If not, she can work with Public Health to put a board policy in place for Eureka City Schools (ECS).
 - Georgeanne brought up the fact that practice is more an issue than policy. Individual schools have handbooks with policies and a bike helmet policy could be included – possibly in time for this school year if a sample policy is provided to schools quickly.
 - Focusing on rewards rather than punitive action is more desirable. ECS has a 4-to-1 program across the district where for every correction a student receives, they should receive 4 positives. Schools issue ‘positive person cards’. At Grant they issue ‘positive paws’ – each classroom collects them and they have a drawing each month where the winner’s name is announced over the intercom. Positives for the bike helmet policy could be riding safely, walking your bike when appropriate, wearing a helmet, etc.

- Public Health is also working on a public safety campaign aimed at motorists and pedestrians/bicyclists.
 - “I Brake For People” graphic to be used for bumper stickers.
 - Eureka Traffic Safety Commission would like to work on a safety campaign too. A statewide campaign “It’s up to All of Us” was highlighted during a recent webinar and could be an effective tool here too.
 - A pilot pedestrian flag program will be kicking off soon in Fortuna.
 - It would be helpful to have the stickers/materials at Back to School Night or other school events if available.

3) GRANT ELEMENTARY CYCLE 10 FUNDING UPDATE

- Chris reported on the recent award the County Public Works Department received for infrastructure improvements at Grant Elementary. It was initially to be for work at McKinleyville High (Murray Road at Little Pond) but only \$300,000 of the \$450,000 was awarded so there will not be any improvements made in McKinleyville. The improvements at Grant will likely go in next summer (2013) and will include:
 - Sidewalk infill on G Street. Chris will coordinate with Sheila if any of this work falls in City limits.
 - Speed table (raised crosswalk) on Oak Street. The County will work with emergency responders and try to encourage drivers to use the next street up to avoid the school zone.
 - F Street at Oak will get bulbouts and a center median island. The County will coordinate with Dan and the school bus drivers when designing to make it work for buses. CR also uses this area as a truck driver training area. The County should also coordinate with CR and possibly move their training to a new location.

4) REVIEW/UPDATE WALKING AND BIKING GUIDES AT ALICE BIRNEY AND WASHINGTON

- Updated maps were presented and Jenny will email them out for Task Force members to review and email her back with comment and/or edits.

5) FALL SR2S PARENT SURVEY DISTRIBUTION

6) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- California Department of Public Health asked for examples of schools that could show mode shift and/or collision reduction attributed to SR2S programs. Alice Birney and Grant were both highlighted for their recent work and TARC created Success Story sheets that will be available as a resource and on their website. Jenny will email copies to the Task Force.
- Public Health is gearing up to begin the Crossing Guard Grant. They are hiring a Health Educator and will begin the program soon. It is a 5-year grant with the first year being a planning year.
- **Next Meeting:** Thursday September 13, 2012 @ Community Wellness Center, 11am
- **Facilitator:** Melanie Williams
- **Agenda items:**
 - Survey updates
 - Bike Helmet Policy updates
 - Walking Map follow up

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes September 13, 2012

Members Present:

Joan Levy, Chris Whitworth, Jennifer Weiss, Sheila Parrott, Gary Whitmer, Dan Pires, Debbie Hart, Kathy Cloney-Gardiner, Hannah Graff, Laurie Alexander, Georgeanne Fulstone-Pucillo

August meeting minutes: Approved

Minutes:

1) ALICE BIRNEY AND WASHINGTON WALKING/BIKING MAPS

- Task Force members reviewed maps and were asked for comment. Chris mentioned the area near Fern Street has no through streets but the Task Force agreed it was still within a 30 minute walk.
- Other Task Force members will submit any other changes/edits to Jenny ASAP
- Dan Pires will see that the maps are printed and distributed at Alice Birney and Washington prior to International Walk to School Day on October 3rd.

2) HCAOG REGIONAL TOOL PROJECT UPDATE

- Jenny gave an overview and update on the draft prioritization tool that HCAOG is working on to build capacity at all public and charter schools in Humboldt County to engage in SR2S programs. The tool will help establish a method to identify and prioritize SR2S projects on a regional basis.
 - All Humboldt County Schools were run through the criteria in order to select 2 pilot schools for Walk Audits. A walk audit within a City was held in June in Fortuna, and a walk audit in the unincorporated area of Humboldt County will take place at Dow's Prairie Elementary on September 20th.
 - The admin draft of the tool is nearly complete. The HCAOG TAC will review it at their next meeting. At that time it will also be open for public comment and will be emailed out to Task Force members for review. The final tool will be reviewed at the HCAOG board meeting in November.
 - Sustainability of the Tool and County-wide Task Force was discussed. One possible option might be to combine the Eureka and County-wide Task Force meetings. Because there is a higher population in Eureka, more effort would likely go there so the meeting could 1 and ½ hours with the first part dedicated to Eureka and the second half to the County. Members could stay or leave for part or both.

3) INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY

- Debbie reported on activities taking place at Grant Elementary. They will have Walking School Bus and are sending out a letter to parents about how to prepare and information on volunteering. They are researching remote drop off locations, would like to cross at F to show the community that is an active crossing area. They will have banners, a poster to sign and Debbie and Jenny will also be talking about IWTSD on the KHUM Happy Trails radio show the day before, on October 2 at 8:30am.
- Washington Elementary will also be participating. They are encouraging walking and biking from home or meeting at a remote drop off at Sequoia Park. The school bus will stop at the park so kids who ride the bus can participate. They will borrow a

Walking School Bus from Jenny/RCAA. They plan to do monthly Walking Wednesdays this year!

- Alice Birney will also be participating with a bike train and a remote drop off from Winco Parking lot.
- The City of Eureka will be adopting an IWTSD proclamation on October 2 at 5pm. The County Board of Supervisors will adopt a proclamation on October 2 at 9am. The City of Fortuna is also adopting a proclamation on October 1 at 6pm.

4) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There is a free webinar on Wednesday, Sept 26 discussing the "It's Up to All of Us" statewide pedestrian safety education campaign. It is important for any future CDPH grant recipients to participate if they want to apply for "It's Up to All of Us" mini-grant funds this winter.
- The SR2S National Conference will be held in Sacramento in 2013
- There will be a webinar on Local School Wellness Policies on Thursday, September 27th from 3:30-4:30. This will be hosted at the CWC if anyone wishes to join.
- **Next Meeting**: Thursday October 11, 2012 @ Community Wellness Center, 11am
- **Facilitator**: Melanie Williams
- **Agenda items**:
 - Survey updates
 - OTS Safety Campaign update
 - Bike Helmet Policy updates
 - IWTSD updates
 - Report on Pro-Walk/Pro-Bike conference

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes October 11, 2012

Members Present:

Joan Levy, Jennifer Weiss, Dan Pires, Tom Mattson, Carol Beaton, Melanie Williams

September meeting minutes: Approved

Minutes:

1) INTERNATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL DAY REPORTING

- Alice Birney had a good turnout of 200+ participants. They had a CLIF Bar sponsorship which provided snacks and a banner for kids to sign. Channel 3 covered the event on the news. This is a day to model good walking behavior. There is a need to use it as a teachable moment and steps should be made for next year to provide training or at least an overview of safe walking behavior before the walk. Materials and information should be provided in English and Spanish.
- Washington Elementary also participated. 22 students returned permission slips and rode the bus to the remote drop-off and walked to school from there with everyone else. There were no requests from Alice Birney for students that ride the bus to participate.
- Grant and Lafayette also participated but do not know if Zane did. We should try a push to include them more in the future.
- City of Eureka adopted an IWTSD proclamation and students from Alice Birney were present that spoke to the Council.

2) REPORT ON PRO-WALK/PRO-BIKE CONFERENCE

- This conference took place in Long Beach, CA. The emphasis was for planners and engineers with a focus on the importance of how communities are designed. Melanie Williams, Maria Bauman and Alyson Hunter (Caltrans) were our local reps. They split up to attend different workshop sessions and reported to each other.
 - Melanie went to the SR2S National Partnership meeting.
 - They had a good explanation on MAP-21. Their website <http://www.saferoutespartnership.org> provides a good slideshow on how MAP-21 impacts SR2S.
 - Robert Ping talked about how fining (or doubling fines) in school zones can create SR2S funding. Arizona has double fines in school zones. Illinois has \$50 added to fines in school zones and school districts get the money. Washington has maximum fines in school zones. One school district hired a remote drop-off supervisor using school funds...then they saw an increase in parents using it to drop off their kids. Something to consider for the district in the future? Another district used actual bus schedules to create Walking School Bus schedules.
 - Some school PTA's are creating SR2S subcommittees- something else to consider promoting locally?
 - An important point was made emphasizing engaging youth in programs and using youth voices as a powerful tool.
 - Dr. Dick Jackson ('Weight of the Nation') presented on science as critical to promoting the cause. Top articles are on physical activity so using data is important and playing on our strengths to help us move in the right direction.

- Maria went to a presentation by the Department of Transportation Bike Coordinator. The Rails To Trails Conservancy developed an interactive map that shows collisions, active transportation stories, county health data, & bike infrastructure. Found at www.railstotrails.org/beyondurbancenters
 - They discussed the fact that walking/biking matters in small towns as much as in urban areas and takes place almost as much.
 - The SR2S conference will be in Sacramento in August 2013.
 - The many mobile workshops were a big part of the conference. It gave opportunities to look firsthand at infrastructure and projects such as 'parklets', mini 'parks' made out of parking spaces. One restaurant that opened a parklet created enough additional business to hire 3 employees.
 - Maria and Melanie won a cool cruiser bike in a raffle!

3) PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATES

- OTS Safety Campaign: This grant has wrapped up. There is a pedestrian/motorist campaign taking place. Bumper stickers and posters that say 'I Brake for People' are available. There is a radio PSA being played currently as well. The City of Eureka will be hanging big banners across 5th & C Streets and Harris & Spring Streets.
- Bike Helmet Policy: Eureka City Schools already has a bike helmet policy. Public Health is available to help them enforce if necessary. They can also create an incentive program if there is interest.

4) PARENT SURVEY UPDATES

- Jenny reported that schools are distributing and collecting SR2S parent surveys and sending them back via HCOE's courier service. We will be sending them off to the national center for data entry soon. The national center will continue to provide the data entry service through January 2013 and are looking for funding to continue the service in the future.
- There is a new tool available to compare surveys from year to year.

5) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Funding for how TA program dollars will be allocated is a major battle right now. The plan is heavily weighted toward MPO's. More money should go to rural areas.
- SR2S conference will be in Sacramento in August 2013. Perhaps the Task Force can put together a presentation? We have a lot to share.
- LatinoNet Health Fair (and Bike Rodeo) is this Saturday at CR.
- RCAA applied for SR2S Kids Plate grant
- Dan sent 600 maps to Washington and Alice Birney before IWTSD
- Alice Birney is having a fundraiser for the Bike Club on October 25th. Eat at Applebee's and 15% of your purchase (with coupon) will go to Alice Birney Bike Club.
- Upcoming Kidical Mass events: Pumpkin Patch Ride Oct 20, Major Taylors Birthday November 10th, Holiday Lights Ride December 15th. More info at www.humboldt-kidicalmass.com
- **Next Meeting:** Thursday November 8, 2012 @ Community Wellness Center, 11am
- **Facilitator:** Dan Pires
- **Agenda items:**
 - Kids Grant update, other?

Adjourned

Eureka SR2S Task Force Meeting Minutes November 8, 2012

Members Present:

Joan Levy, Jennifer Weiss, Dan Pires, Tom Mattson, Carol Beaton, Melanie Williams

October meeting minutes: Approved

Minutes:

1) REDWOOD CROSSING GUARD GRANT UPDATE

- Maria Bauman of County Public Health will be the lead on the grant. It is a 5-year grant to build a support base for adult crossing guards in Humboldt County. They want to create a manual for Humboldt County School Districts to implement crossing guard programs. The first year is a planning year to train law enforcement officers to be crossing guard trainers. They are looking for a curriculum now. TARC may have a curriculum in the spring. They will take the plan and sample policies to schools to help troubleshoot concerns at workshops and meetings to hopefully get buy-in from schools.
- They will create a tertiary criteria for the HCAOG Tool focusing on crossing guards. This will help identify priority schools to work with. They will start with existing crossing guards and get them trained then use the criteria to select other schools in Eureka and Fortuna. Next they will use the criteria to identify other schools.
- After year one, we should know who we will be working with, trainers will be trained, crossing guards will get trained next and hopefully add new guards in the next years.
- Schools will also receive pedestrian and bike safety education beginning in the Fall of 2013.
- Training will be part of it – the program needs to ensure that there is a good screening process, that crossing guards are consistent, that there is a substitute always available, and that crossing guards follow proper protocol. There will be programs for volunteers and paid crossing guards since not all schools have funding.
- Safety credits were an idea for funding, but it is only \$2500/year and the funds typically are spent early in the year for preventative safety projects.
- Rancherias and tribes may be good resources for funding.

2) SR2S POLICY STRATEGIES

- Melanie watched a Mark Fenton SR2S webinar about refreshing and reframing SR2S programs. The webinar looked at how to keep SR2S going – beyond the time that parent champions leave schools. Addressing policy is a way to create environmental change that lasts. The Task Force has done great work: partnering, walk audits, so policy work would be a good next step.
 - The ECS superintendent is talking about staggering start and dismissal times next year. Because of staffing, this is an effort to fill each grades' classrooms and eliminate combination classes. Lafayette will be the primary school, once those classes are full, then kids get sent to Washington, then Grant then Alice Birney.
 - The ECS parent transportation plan doesn't cover driving, just bus riding, walking and bicycling. Can it be added?
 - Should we think about working on policy that allows student dismissal at each school by mode? For example, kids that ride the bus but leave campus first,

followed by walkers and bicyclists, then kids in cars. The idea is to create a safer environment for walking and biking by eliminating some cars at the time that kids walk and bike.

- What would a policy look like that addresses this? This is something we can work on as a Task Force but we need to think about how to frame it so that it is appealing to everyone. We don't want to 'punish' drivers but rather incentivize walkers. We will need to think about what to call it such as 'Safe Exit', or 'Dismissal by Mode'.
- Winship will also be reopening next year as a 6-7 grade school. Zane will be 6-8. The following year Winship will also be 6-8 so we will have 2 middle schools in Eureka.
- A subcommittee (Melanie, Joan, Maria, Jenny) will begin to meet and discuss this work project.

3) DISCUSSION OF TASK FORCE COORDINATION

- Jenny talked about the HCAOG Prioritization Tool project nearly being complete. The County-wide Task Force will continue to meet and prioritize its own work/projects. We may want to combine meeting dates, have one TF meet, then the other back to back. We will see if the County TF members can meet on Thursdays at 10 with the Eureka meeting following at 11. We will look into other meeting days/times as well.

4) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 'I Brake for People' stickers going on all Eureka city cabs, rendezvous vending trucks and City of Eureka Vehicles.
- Charlie Reported that the ETSC is looking to fund posters possibly going up on County public buses.
 - \$200 to put 2' x 4' posters inside 18 buses.
 - \$175 for outside decal + \$150/month.
 - \$125 for rear outside sign + \$150/month
- Reminder: SRTS conference in Sacramento in August 2013
- **Next Meeting:** We will skip the December meeting. If County-wide Task Force agrees on date, next meeting will be Thursday January 10, 2013 @ Community Wellness Center, 11am
- **Facilitator:** Charlie Bean
- **Agenda items:** Please email agenda items to weiss@nrsrcaa.org

Adjourned