

Minutes from County Wide SR2S Task Force Meeting

October 23, 2019 10am – 11pm

Task Force Members Present

- Emily Sinkhorn – Redwood Community Action Agency
- Areli Cupp – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Nicole Chappelle – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Melanie Williams – BikesThere
- Johnny Calkins – McKinleyville resident
- Elwira Salata – McKinleyville Middle School

August Meeting Minutes: Approved. Small typo on SafeTREC Street Story “crowd source”

International Walk to School Day (IWTSD) Report Out: RCAA assisted with IWTSD events at South Fortuna Elementary, Arcata Elementary and Eagle Prairie Elementary. Arcata Elementary recently finished all infrastructure improvements around school campus and school is currently hosting events to make sure parents and students are using it correctly. Comments about the IWTSD event included to avoid having walking events during trash day, to reach older students with skateboards by having a designated “roll to school” group. School is still in need of second bus driver.

South Fortuna Elementary will start infrastructure improvements during spring 2020.

Public Health assisted with IWTSD events at Lafayette Elementary, Fortuna Middle School and McKinleyville Middle School. Lafayette elementary will continue to host monthly walk to school days. Fortuna Middle School had a Walk at School on the track event as most students ride the bus to school each day and were not able to walk. McKinleyville Middle School, in partnership with Public Health and CHP, held a bikeathon event for 140, 7th graders. Ideas for next year’s event will be to include staff from the Boys and Girls Club located in Pierson Park and include a “walk from school” activity.

Lessons learned from CBC Bike Summit: Areli attended the California Bike Summit and learned about these main topics: SB127, looking ahead for the next ATP grant applications, the Clean Mobility Options for Disadvantage Communities and the LA low riders. SB127, the Complete Streets for Active Living Bill designed to make Caltrans accountable for planning and building streets for the safety of all road users, was vetoed by Governor Newsom. Even though it has been vetoed, many Caltrans district directors are making this design a big priority for their highways/main streets, we hope district 1 has the same diligence to create complete streets throughout our county.

Looking ahead for the next ATP grant applications: Per executive order N-10-19, Cycle 5 will try to support applications that align with State’s goals to fight climate change, goals include to reduce vehicle miles traveled, reduce greenhouse gas, support housing. ATP grant guidelines and workshops will come out on Nov. 2019 and possible project application deadline to be June 2020

Clean Mobility Options for Disadvantage communities grant is a project to fund transportation options such as micro-mobility (e-scooters, bike share), vanpool services & electric car-share. Grant could fund the stages of planning. Operation, outreach & evaluation, in addition of equipment, infrastructure, charging stations, etc. Any non-profit, local government (with responsibility over transportation) or tribal authority is eligible to apply. For more information on eligible communities please visit the CalEnviroScreen Disadvantaged Communities ([more info here](#)) and/or attend the forum rescheduled for November 22nd from 10 a.m.-11 p.m. at the Blue Lake Rancheria <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/clean-mobility-options->

[voucher-pilot-outreach-forum-arcata-registration-80421684423](#) . Please share with eligible jurisdictions that might be interested in program.

In addition, the LA low rider groups presented on their efforts to create a safe and positive influence in the LA disadvantaged communities through a bicycle riding and welding group. Groups aim to teach youth means of healthy self-expression through biking, art, design and welding. These positive influences encouraged kids stay out of gangs, learn possible jobs skills and helped them earn their own custom bike. Taskforce discussed the possibility to have a build (or weld!) your own bike program like this in Humboldt county, some ideas included groups such as the *makers elective class* in McKinleyville Middle School (MMS), or follow examples of the Kid Powered Vehicles from the Kinetic race.

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

RCAA: The County and RCAA worked with Redwoods Rural Health Center to host a walkability assessment on October 2nd in Redway. The need for improved walking and biking opportunities in Redway was brought forward by the Health Center as their location is only a short distance from downtown Redway but the route does not have any walking or biking facilities and has high traffic speeds. Over 25 people participated in the community walk and observation and shared concerns and ideas directly with Public Works staff and County Supervisor Fennell. Public Works has HSIP funding to improve the Redwood Dr. and Redway Dr. intersection and ideas from community members during the walk will inform designs for the intersection improvements. The walk route also traveled past Redway Elementary where previous Transportation Enhancement funding through the County made sidewalk and crosswalk improvements, though several key gaps and concerns remain. A community group will help review a draft walkability assessment report in November to solidify next steps.

County Public Works, and Redwood Community Action Agency will hold a Community Walk and Observation along Golf Course Road to share ideas and highlight concerns to improve walking, biking, running, and rolling on Golf Course Road. The walk will be held on Tuesday, October 29 from 4pm to 6:30pm at Baywood Golf Club, 3600 Buttermilk Ln in Arcata.

RCAA is currently working on a “Bikes on the Bay” grant project which aims to bring kids to local trails by bicycle in order to increase physical activity and learn about environmental topics. Program is able to provide up to 15 bikes, and it is still looking for youth groups interested in participating. Bike tours could be held during the school/after-school day (could be on an early release day, in-service or break day too).

McKinleyville: Hit and Run situation in front of McKinleyville High School on morning of 10/23/19. Community has many safety concern around Murray road due to the fast speeds of cars coming out of Murray highway exit. County Public Works will be working on an Active Transportation project including infrastructure improvements for McKinleyville Avenue and surrounding streets and education/encouragement for Morris elementary and McKinleyville High school. Grant to start on FFY 20-21.

Bikes There: After school bike clubs in Eureka, Alice Birney, Lafayette are going strong and are scheduled to be a part of Bikes on the Bay. Through the Public Health’s Office of Traffic Safety grant received for Eureka CA, staff will be hosting an additional bike club possibly with Grant elementary.

Through the ATP cycle 3 grant, Public Health will be painting a bicycle skills course at Hiller Park in McKinleyville, if funding allows, could look into additionally painting a “skill” of the course in MMS.

County Public Health: Through the ATP cycle 3 grant, staff will hold a train the trainer's event so jurisdictions learn how to host their own bike skills course/ bike rodeo events. Training will be free and open to the public, scheduled for the spring time. MMS would like to train at least a couple staff to continue bike education in school.

As a result of the May 2019 Walkability assessment in MMS, Public Health & RCAA staff will continue working with MMS to create a remote drop off project in order to address issues such as congestion in Central Avenue/railroad intersection, dangerous student behavior in Eureka Natural Foods and others.

Group would like to follow up on opening up a side entrance to school campus in order to avoid congestion on Central Avenue/railroad intersection.

****We encourage jurisdictions thinking about applying for ATP Cycle 5 grant to attend our next SRTS Taskforce meeting****

Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 15, 2019, at 10 am. Location TBD, possibly in Fortuna. Meeting would normally be held in December however group felt it might be difficult to schedule a SRTS taskforce meeting in between holidays.