

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

February 13, 2019 10am – 11am

### **Task Force Members Present**

- Emily Sinkhorn – Redwood Community Action Agency
- Jenny Weiss - Redwood Community Action Agency
- Carla Avila-Martinez - Redwood Community Action Agency
- Areli Cupp – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Mellody Mallick – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Philip Johnson – Humboldt County Association of Governments
- Netra Khatri – City of Arcata
- Alexis Kelso – Caltrans
- Melanie Williams – BikesThere

**December Meeting Minutes:** Approved.

**ATP Projects in Fortuna and McKinleyville:** Melanie and Areli shared ATP 3 educational and family events that are coming up this spring including a Bicycle Skills Course Trainers Workshop on March 28 at Rohnert Park Recreation Hall in Fortuna and a Trainers and Community Pedestrian Education Workshop tentatively scheduled for April 13 from 10am-1pm at Azalea Hall in McKinleyville. There will also be a family oriented, bilingual celebration of “May is Bike Month” in Fortuna tentatively scheduled for April 12 in the late afternoon/early evening. Jenny will forward information about events once schedules are finalized.

In addition, the ATP 3 project will host a project helping McKinleyville Middle School Leadership students conduct a youth-led walk audit on May 15. We hope SRTS Task Force members will attend so students can shadow them during the walk. There will also be a bike education program with a 7<sup>th</sup> grade PE class at Fortuna Middle School beginning at the end of May with the goal of teaching bike safety skills to prepare students for an end-of-year group ride.

**SRTS Prioritization Tool:** The SRTS Prioritization Tool was originally developed in 2012 to help jurisdictions determine which schools have the greatest need and capacity for SRTS programs. The Tool analyzes internal need, external need, and school readiness and assigns a numerical score. Many high ranking school have already received funding for infrastructure and education/encouragement programs. HCAOG is prioritizing a Tool in their Overall Work Program. They have already updated the external need data through GIS and made some tweaks to the scoring, such as adding points for high collision rates, and for carless households. Debra Dees completed an updated school inventory last year to assess school readiness. The Task Force will be asked for input as we run schools through the Tool again and it will also go before the HCAOG TAC. Using the most recent scores, one to two walkability assessments will then be conducted, likely next school year.

**Bike Transportation Planning and Design Workshop Key Points:** Caltrans offered a course on planning for bicycle design and Alexis shared some key points. There are four types of riders ranging from beginning/inexperienced (no way/no how) to strong and fearless. There are also differing levels of traffic stress (LTS) riders face based on what facilities are available to ride on, ranging from separated trails to bike lanes in the road mixed with traffic. The level of traffic stress looks at volume of cars, speed of cars and the distance between cyclists and vehicles. LTS is not tied to bikeway facilities – you have to look at local conditions to determine LTS and what level of separation between cars and bikes is needed. Gaps in connectivity will likely cause people to choose not to ride. Most US cycling facilities fall under LTS 3 which is a bike lane next to parked cars, however most new cyclists would prefer protected bike lanes. To

encourage new riders, facilities need to be designed to reduce the level of traffic stress and make better connections.

**Middle School Bike Education in Arcata:** The City of Arcata is interested in setting aside funding to reach middle schools in Arcata with bicycle safety education. Netra would like to set up a meeting with BikesThere, Public Health, and RCAA to determine the best strategy for assessing school interest and planning for a sustainable education program in Arcata. Netra will send potential meeting dates to Jenny who will forward to Public Health and BikesThere in hopes of setting up a meeting in the next couple weeks.

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

Melanie: Four local youth are traveling with a chaperone to New York for the Youth Bike Summit this week. When they return, they could likely speak about their experience on Happy Trails or at other community event opportunities.

The Rhododendron Parade is Saturday, April 28 and Lafayette and Alice Birney Bike Club students will be participating.

The Tour of the Unknown Coast has moved its date to June 8 and local students will be riding the 10 or 22 mile ride. Contact Melanie if you would like to participate.

Netra: The City of Arcata will host a Bike Rodeo in Arcata on either May 12 or May 26.

Alexis: Alexis announced she is leaving her position at Local Assistance but staying on in the Planning Department at Eureka Caltrans. She will bring her replacement to introduce them to the next Task Force meeting.

Jenny: Arcata Elementary School is again out a bus driver and they've re-started a daily Walking School Bus in the morning at 8am from Westwood Murphy's Market. It is expected to be temporary until they train a new bus driver.

**Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday April 2, 2019, 2019 at 11 am. Netra will confirm if the Arcata Transit Center is available for our meeting location.