

Minutes from County Wide SR2S Task Force Meeting

February 15, 2017 10am – 11am

Task Force Members Present

- Jenny Weiss - Redwood Community Action Agency
- Emily Sinkhorn - Redwood Community Action Agency
- Melody Mallick – Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Melanie Williams – Bikes There
- Johnny Calkins – McKinleyville Organizing Committee
- Taylin Titus – N. Coast Schools Insurance Group
- Netra Khatri – City of Arcata
- Julie Johansen – Toddy Thomas Middle School
- Oona Smith – Humboldt County Association of Governments
- Beth Wylie – Fuente Nueva Charter School

December Meeting Minutes: Approved.

Joint Use Priority Areas/School Follow Up Discussion: As a follow up to an agenda item about Joint Use Agreements during our last meeting, Task Force members were asked to suggest schools or communities that would benefit most from having a Joint Use Agreement between a city and a school or school district. Jenny suggested Lafayette, Grant, South Bay, Dows Prairie, and Toddy Thomas as locations that are not within walking distance of a park or recreation area. Julie shared that the Toddy Thomas campus is often used by older residents that walk the track after school hours and on weekends. It is possible that the ballot measure funds used at Fortuna Middle School several years ago may have required an agreement between the school/district and the City. Emily shared that in Eureka, they are updating their General Plan, and there is language that supports Joint Use Agreements with schools although the implementation measures have yet to be defined. Melanie asked if bike skills courses could be painted on school grounds with Joint Use Agreements so that children could practice skills. Involving Parks & Recreation Departments at our meetings to discuss further could be beneficial. Changelab Solutions has a template/checklist on implementing Joint Use Agreements. Emily suggested considering Joint Use Agreements when updating Prioritization Tool school inventory summaries. Asking schools whether or not they have a need or desire should be a first step. Walking clubs or similar entities could also be a means of support and a way to start small, by asking for specific time/s groups or clubs could use school facilities.

Fortuna ATP Cycle 1 SRTS Program: The City of Fortuna has contracted with RCAA on the Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 1 Project. Infrastructure improvements including sidewalk infill, intersection improvements, and traffic calming will be installed this summer. Toddy Thomas has a 100 Mile Club where students log miles walked or run throughout the year with the goal of hitting 100 miles. Students have been able to walk or run laps before school but staffing issues have been limiting their ability to do that. Through the Fortuna ATP Cycle 1 program, RCAA will be leading assemblies for 5th and 6th graders through the 100 Mile Club on pedestrian and bicycle safety. A districtwide safety workshop will be held during the Apple Harvest Festival on October 7 and pedestrian and bicycle safety lessons will be taught to all Toddy students (grades 5-8) during PE and Science classes.

Update on Arcata's School Zone Speed Reduction Efforts: The City of Arcata's Engineering Department will be making a staff recommendation to the City Council at tonight's meeting asking them to pass AB321 (the Safer Schools Act) by a resolution to reduce speed limits in Arcata school zones and expand school zones from 500 to 100 feet. The resolution is expected to pass and once it does, City staff will contact each school to make a determination on whether or not the speed limit will be reduced to 15 mph. There are certain criteria that schools must meet in order to be eligible. It has been suggested that we share with the State Active Transportation Program Technical Assistance Resource Center (formerly TARC) about our successes with AB321 in order to share a useful tool with similar rural communities. Arcata will be sending out a press release to inform the community. Fuente Nueva will post information on the speed reduction in their newsletter and on their website. Melanie mentioned that during Arcata's Bike Month Bike Rodeo in May there will be a family ride and she is hoping they can ride past a school with a 15 mph sign to show it off and discuss the effort.

School/District/Jurisdiction/Organization Report Out:

- **Arcata** – The City has submitted forms for the environmental work on their ATP project at Arcata Elementary School. They will be going out for design in March and hoping to get the funding for non-infrastructure in June and start the final design. Construction should happen in the summer of 2018.
- **McKinleyville** – McKinleyville has a Facebook page where people post news, issues, and concerns. Recently there was a post by someone (a teacher at Morris?) asking drivers to slow in front of Morris School. Johnny has wanted to engage McKinleyville schools, parents, and administrators to join the Countywide Task Force so he offered to message the person who posted to alert them about the Task Force.
- **BikesThere** – Melanie raised the issue that inter-district transfers are being discussed at the Eureka City Schools board meeting tonight. Perhaps this could be put on a future Task Force meeting agenda.
- **Fuente Nueva Charter School, Arcata** – Fuente Nueva has applied for Safe Routes to School (SRTS) technical assistance that is being offered through the SRTS National Partnership. If selected, they would receive assistance assessing needs, hosting a public meeting, and preparing a report that could be used in an ATP (or similar) grant application. The County will be the primary lead and will work with the City of Arcata on the project if selected, because the school is located on the border of City and County jurisdictions.

Announcements:

- None. Most items were discussed during the report out.

Next Meeting Date: April 12, 2017 at 10 am at the Community Wellness Center