

Minutes from County Wide SR2S Task Force Meeting

April 25, 2018 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
- Areli Cupp - Humboldt County DHHS Public Health
- Melanie Williams – BikesThere
- Alexis Kelso – Caltrans
- Oona Smith – HCAOG
- Carol Grimes – Arcata School District
- Jennifer Nichols – McKinleyville Middle School
- Jenny Bowen – HCOE
- Netra Khatri – City of Arcata
- Tony Seghetti – Humboldt County Public Works

February Meeting Minutes: Minutes Approved.

Tony asked if we can use Outlook to send out meeting reminders. Jenny will coordinate with Mellody at Public Health to see if it is feasible to have them send it out.

Freshwater Safety Improvements Update: Since a community meeting last September, Freshwater residents have been working with the County towards pursuing speed tables bracketing Garfield School and “downtown”. They got 151 people to sign a petition and support from first responders, fire, and CHP. This item will be on the Board of Supervisors agenda in May. The County’s speed table policy states there needs to be a street light at every speed table but Freshwater does not currently have them. Some people do not want them as they will light up and change the rural character of the area. They are working with the County to find middle ground such as pedestrian scale lighting or something of that nature. They are also trying to determine who covers the electrical costs of providing that lighting.

Arcata Elementary ATP Project Status: Arcata Elementary School students have been receiving bicycle and pedestrian safety education. Pedestrian education is taught to second graders in the classroom followed by a walk in the adjacent neighborhood to practice skills. Bicycle safety education is taught to 4th graders and has been focusing on the importance of proper helmet use and bike maintenance.

The City is submitting their construction application this week and it will be on the agenda of the June CTC meeting. They are looking at some issues around right-of-way in order to make some improvements on school property, rather than City property. It was suggested they speak with Merritt Perry from the City of Fortuna or Josh Wolfe from GHD as they have had some luck on this in the past and may be able to provide some insight.

Walk and Bike to School Day at Arcata Elementary is coming up on May 9. RCAA has been working with the PTO to plan the event where they will meet at Westwood Murphy’s Market to walk or bike to school that morning. Incentives will be distributed and students that bike will receive a helmet check or a helmet if they need one.

Pedestrian and Bicycle user counts are also underway. There are five count sites and counts are being taken in the morning and again in the afternoon at all five sites for a five day period. Counters are mostly students from an HSU Kinesiology class who have been trained by RCAA. Counts will take place again at the same sites in the fall after construction has been completed.

Update on McKinleyville OTS Project: County DHHS Public Health has been carrying out an Office of Traffic Safety program in McKinleyville. There are safety slogans on banners along Central Ave. and at McKinleyville Middle School focusing on bicycle safety. Public Health has also presented several assemblies to McKinleyville Middle School students and have given away 70 helmets to students. They will be participating in Bike to School Day on May 9 with a skills course.

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

- **Melanie** reported out on behalf of Eureka City Schools as their Task Force is now combining with the Countywide Task Force. They have had ongoing bike clubs at Alice Birney, Lafayette, Winship and Zane this semester. All four schools will be participating in the Rhododendron Parade.

Ride for Reading, promoting legs, lungs, and literacy will be coming up soon at Alice Birney. Books will be delivered by bicycle to the school and students are able to take books for no cost.

There is a toolkit available to all schools on pedestrian and bicycle safety topics created by Public Health's Redwood Mobility Education Program. All curriculum and materials available to check out at HCOE. It is a great resource for afterschool program providers or any classroom teacher.

Melanie also announced that her role on the National Safe Routes to School advisory group may be able to provide technical assistance to those looking for ways to include special needs kids on bikes and provide help for broad abilities.

- **Alexis** (Caltrans) reported that Caltrans pitched 5 ideas for ATP projects and got approval for two they will be applying for. One is the County's Annie and Mary Trail from Blue Lake to Glendale; the other is for bike lanes on Broadway in Eureka.
- **Tony** (County Public Works) needs allocation for the McKinleyville ATP 3 project. Supervisor Sundberg is having County Public Works install rapid flashing beacons with Measure Z funding and now Tony is looking into being able to 'expand the scope' of his project now that several safety measures proposed in his application have already been completed by the County. It is not recommended to change the scope but expanding the scope may be possible. He will look into whether or not he can do work on the intersection of McKinleyville Avenue and Hiller Streets.

McKinleyville Middle School wants the County to submit an ATP proposal on their behalf, mainly to focus on the signal at Railroad and Central. Some of the safety concerns are on school property which are likely not covered by ATP funding. He needs to meet with McKinleyville Middle School staff soon in order to move forward with this request.

- **Emily** (RCAA) announced there will be a Confident Cycling Clinic this Sunday 10-3 at Zane. It is designed to help riders feel more comfortable cycling in traffic. All afterschool providers are encouraged to attend this free workshop.

May is Bike Month and there are many events and opportunities coming up. Check hcaog.net for info on the Bike Month Challenge or contact Emily or Mellody for information on other Bike Month events.

The third edition of the Humboldt Bay Bike Map has just been sent to the printers and we will be receiving and distributing 5,000 copies.

- **Jennifer Nichols** (McKinleyville Middle School) shared that community support is needed to encourage safe biking in McKinleyville. Perhaps Parks and Rec could send out announcements with their water and sewer bills? They will have a new SRO soon, and Jennifer will help be the liaison between them and the Countywide SRTS Task Force.
- **Netra** (City of Arcata) shared that the City of Arcata will be submitting an ATP proposal for Old Arcata Road. They are also looking at the possibility of an application for the Valley West area.
- **Oona** (HCAOG) announced that the State Active Transportation Resource Center sent out a survey asking for input on where to invest in training opportunities. She will forward to Jenny who will send out to the Task Force.

Next Meeting Date: Tentatively set for June 6, 2018 at 10 am at McKinleyville Middle School Conference Center (formerly called Azalea Center).