

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

April 2, 2019 11am – 12pm

### **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
- Paul Craft – California Highway Patrol
- Tim Grimmitt – South Fortuna Elementary School
- Johnny Calkins – McKinleyville resident
- Oona Smith – Humboldt County Association of Governments
- Netra Khatri – City of Arcata
- Alexis Kelso – Caltrans
- Melanie Williams – BikesThere

**February Meeting Minutes:** Approved. The bilingual “May is Bike Month” event date has been changed to Sunday, April 14 from 1:30-4:30pm. The Pedestrian Education workshop on April 13 will be from 11am-1pm.

**Caltrans Eureka Projects Update:** Alexis provided information from a public meeting held February 28, 2019 hosted by Caltrans about upcoming projects in Eureka. Public comments are still being accepted except for the Fairfield project which is under construction.

The Koster Street Couplet project would extend 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Eureka through the balloon tract to become Highway 101 southbound. If anyone has comments, they need to get them in now while the project is being planned.

- One comment made by Melanie Williams was that the projects should include funding to provide public information about changes to the roadways so there are no surprises. Alexis took this comment and Melanie said she would provide a written comment too.
- Another comment made by Melanie was that the Transportation Manager from Eureka City Schools and any other relevant school districts should be notified and included in the decision making and planning efforts.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Street project that is intended to increase pedestrian safety will increase the lanes of traffic from 2 to 3 between V Street and O Street in Eureka. There was confusion around why lengthening the crossing distance would create a safer walking environment when studies show decreasing the number of lanes tends to make it safer for pedestrians. Alexis explained the rationale being the extra lane would cluster or clump more vehicles together at once, creating a bigger gap in traffic for pedestrians to cross Highway 101/4<sup>th</sup> Street.

**South Fortuna Elementary ATP Project Overview:** Jenny shared with the Task Force that the South Fortuna ATP non-infrastructure program is starting this month. RCAA will be providing pedestrian safety education to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade classes as well as bike safety education to 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes in April. There will also be a Walk to School Day encouragement event planned for Wednesday April 24 to celebrate Earth Day. Students will be encouraged to walk from home if safe or meet at Safeway and walk to school with adults and friends. Construction is scheduled for summer of 2020. After construction, RCAA will help develop an arrival and dismissal map with procedures for parents/caregivers.

**McKinleyville Middle School Walkability Assessment:** Areli, Jenny, and Carla have been working with a 7<sup>th</sup> grade McKinleyville Middle School Leadership Class to conduct a youth-led walkability assessment on Wednesday May 15. The Task Force is asked to attend and participate so that the students may 'shadow' Task Force members and gain a new perspective. Suggestions were made to invite Supervisor Steve Madrone as well as the chair of the McKinleyville Municipal Advisory Committee.

**Bike Month Events:** May is Bike Month and there are many events planned.

- April 13 there will be a free 'train the trainers' Pedestrian Safety Workshop from 11-1 at Azalea Hall in McKinleyville.
- April 14 is Baile, Bicis, y Ser Felices, a bilingual health and bike safety fair cosponsored by LatinoNet at the Rohner Park Fireman's Pavilion in Fortuna from 1:30-4:30pm.
- May 4 is the Mad River group bike ride as well as the Trails Summit.
- May 8 is Bike to School Day. Arcata Elementary, Alice Birney, and other schools are participating.
- May 9 is Arcata Bike to Work Day with noon rally on the plaza.
- May 12 is the Arcata Bike Rodeo on the Arcata Plaza.
- May 16 is Eureka Bike to Work Day with noon rally on the gazebo.
- May 22 is a Bike Rodeo during the school day at South Fortuna Elementary.
- Wheel in Wednesdays every Wednesday in May – a group commuter ride from Arcata to Eureka
- Pancake rides every Saturday
- Visit [bikemonthhumboldt.org](http://bikemonthhumboldt.org) for more information

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

**HCAOG:** Oona reported about opportunities to provide input on HCAOG's Mobility on Demand Strategic Planning effort. Public meetings will be held May 1 at HCAOG at 1:30pm and on May 2 from 5:30-7:45 at the Aquatic Center.

**Melanie:** Fortuna Middle School did not receive the grant from Specialized Bikes to get a fleet and start a bike education program. It would be helpful to learn the metric from which they made their selection so we can improve our chances for these programs in our county in the future.

There will be a Bike Demo April 7 at Redwood Park in Arcata 9-4.

**Emily:** Redwoods Rural Health in Redway wants a walk audit this summer or fall. RCAA will be assisting.

Residents on Golf Course Road in Bayside (unincorporated County) also want safety improvements/traffic calming and perhaps a walkability assessment.

Humboldt Sponsors provided \$1300 to RCAA to purchase bike helmets, locks, and lights. They will go to the bike kitchen but are available to students and people in need.

There will be a temporary infrastructure pop up in Arcata at the skate park from 12-6 on April 22 to understand what improvements for the Annie & Mary Trail might look like.

There will also be a public workshop and meeting on April 23 to get feedback from the public on the Annie & Mary Trail project.

**Next Meeting Date:** Wednesday, June 19, 2019, at 10 am. Location TBD, possibly in Fortuna.