

## **Seattle School Traffic Safety Committee April 22, 2016 Minutes**

### **Attendees**

Committee Members:

- ✓ **Shanti Breznau (Citizen At-Large)**
- ✓ **Yvonne Carpenter (Seattle Public Schools)**
- ✓ **Jen Cole, Chair (Pedestrian Safety)**
- ✓ **Brian Dougherty (Seattle Dept. of Transportation)**
- ✓ **An Huynh, Secretary (Citizen At-Large)**
- ✓ **Shannon Koller (Cascade Bicycle Club)**
- ✓ **Rich O'Neill (Seattle Police Department)**
- ✓ **Ashley Rhead (Seattle Dept. of Transportation)**
- ✓ **Alyssa Smith (Parent Representative)**
- ✓ **Richard Staudt (Seattle Public Schools)**
- ✓ **Cathy Tuttle (Seattle Neighborhood Greenways, Citizen At-Large)**

### **Other Presenters:**

Tod McBryan, Heffron Transportation

Connie Myers, Seattle Public Schools Capital Projects

Jeanette Imanishi, Seattle Public Schools Capital Projects

Jennifer Munde, Cascade Design Collaboration

Corrie Rosen, Mahlum

Michelle Marx, Seattle Dept. of Transportation

Sarah Pangelinan, LPD Engineering

### **Public Attendees:**

**March Minutes:** Approved

### **Magnolia Elementary School Traffic Planning**

An overview of the Magnolia Elementary School project was given to the committee. Magnolia is currently unoccupied and plans on opening Fall of 2018 with 500 students. The designers are seeking committee feedback about bus loading, bus unloading, and parent drop-off zones. There are plans for three full-sized buses and three smaller buses. The future school is bordered by W Smith St to the north, W McGraw St to the south, 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W to the west, and 26<sup>th</sup> Ave W to the east. The main entrance of the school will be in the middle of 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W. There is a very steep slope on W McGraw St, but its slope is much more gentle the next block up at W Smith St.

The committee suggests for a bus load zone on W Smith St and a parent drop-off zone northbound on 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W because there is not a lot of frontage southbound on 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W for parent drop off. Parents will be able to see their kids walk into the school at this proposed location. This would also spatially separate buses and parent drop-off

locations. W Smith St is not a good place for a parent drop-off because of a dead end, which will result in a lot of turning around. The committee also suggests the school to develop a circulation plan and have the principal be involved in this process.

There is currently no on-site staff parking, which means staff must park around the neighborhood. The north side of W McGraw St can potentially be adjusted for parking because it is not an arterial and is 25 feet wide. There is also a Metro bus stop at the south end of 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W, which interferes with traffic flow.

SSTSC will be available for another meeting for more recommendations in the future around February 2018.

**ACTION:** Brian Dougherty to look at parking possibility on both sides of W McGraw St.

**ACTION:** Brian Dougherty to share guidelines with Tod McBryan from Heffron Transportation about flashing beacons.

**ACTION:** Richard Staudt to talk to Sandra Dodge of METRO about option of relocating Metro bus stops along 28<sup>th</sup> Ave W.

### **Pedestrian Master Plan – Guest Speaker: Michelle Marx**

Michelle Marx from the Seattle Dept. of Transportation provided the committee an update on the Seattle Pedestrian Master Plan. They have been working on improvements to the plan for a little over a year now, focusing on assessing the plan's progress, updating data and prioritization methodology, updating strategies and actions, and establishing performance trends or targets.

They will be releasing a public review comment period beginning in mid May.

A change to the prioritization structure will be giving safety a higher priority in deciding projects. New safety measures are added which includes actual pedestrian crashes over the past five years, bike/pedestrian crashes, and road analysis.

The committee suggested that the walk shed to public schools to be ½ mile instead of ¼ mile.

### **Roosevelt High School 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE Bus Load Zone:**

Currently, the Metro stop conflicts with school buses at rush hour. We wonder if there is a possibility to move school buses to different spot because right now they are stopping in a travel lane.

**ACTION:** Brian Dougherty to send information to SPS Transportation about concerns for school bus loading on 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE.

### **Magnolia Elementary School Traffic Planning:**

**ACTION:** Jen Cole will reach out to Pat Craft about bus loading zone.

**Safety Camera April Stats:**

**ACTION:** Cathy Tuttle to do a month-to-month comparison for our next meeting and send Rich O'Neill an email.

**ACTION:** Ashley Rhead to send Rich O'Neill and committee new speed data around schools.

**Crossing Guard Updates:**

There are two new crossing guards at Greenlake Elementary School, one at Highland Park Elementary School on 9<sup>th</sup> Ave SW & SW Trenton St, and one at Concord International School on 7<sup>th</sup> Ave S & S Cloverdale St.

There is one less crossing guard at West Seattle Elementary School, so the remaining guard has moved to 31<sup>st</sup> Ave SW. There are still two position open there.

There are 24 approved locations that still need crossing guards.

At Sacagawea Elementary School, cars are not stopping for the crossing guards at 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and NE 95<sup>th</sup> St. There is currently no crosswalk there. The actual crosswalk is at NE 96<sup>th</sup> St and 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, which is one block north of the crossing guard post.

**ACTION:** There is a suggestion for crossing guard at 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and NE 96<sup>th</sup> St— seeing at least 10 kids walking at that location. Ashley Rhead and Brian Dougherty to do another ped count at 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NE and NE 96<sup>th</sup> St.

**ACTION:** Jen will put together crossing guard subcommittee will report back at May meeting.

**Updates from National SRTS Conference:**

Ashley Rhead met the director for the National Center for Safe Routes to School, Nancy Pullen Seufert, at the conference and found out she lives in Renton. We hope to have her come to the May meeting. Ashley will talk to Nancy about national crossing guard programs.

The Rails to Trails Conservancy presented an analysis about Seattle about top low-stress bicycle projects (such as greenway, protected bike lanes). Ashley reached out to them, but has not heard back.

A fun art idea heard at the conference was painting the back part of public staircases. This could be good for stairs that are low-use. Department of Neighborhoods could potentially fund something like this. A similar example that already exists in Seattle is painted intersections, which need permits from SDOT. Process for getting staircases painted could be streamlined.

Some schools in Europe close streets around schools during morning and afternoon pickup. Perhaps something to think about for Genesee Hill.

**Future Topics and Announcements:**

- Next month's meeting date will be kept the same to Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup>. Ashley Rhead will not be able to attend.
- Committee to discuss impact on earlier start times at elementary schools next year
- Bringing in Nancy Pullen Seufert, the Director at National Center for Safe Routes to School to speak
- Crossing Guard Sub Committee Updates to be presented at May meeting by Jen Cole
- Bike-to-School Month Updates
- SSTSC to build out committee calendar for the year
- June – street use division

**Public Comment**

**10:30am Adjourn**