



METROPOLITAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
COMMISSION



# **Petaluma Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Task Force**

## **Meeting Announcement:**

**Date/Time:** Thursday November 16th, 2023, 4:00pm-5:30pm  
**Location:** Petaluma City Hall, Council Chambers  
 11 English Street

## **Goals & Objectives:**

1. Seek input from Task Force members and the public, in order to identify barriers to active transportation, opportunities for improvement and collaboration, and set priorities for future infrastructure projects within the city of Petaluma.
2. Provide a venue for sharing of program initiatives and projects in the city of Petaluma, as well as inter-agency collaboration.

## **Agenda:**

### **1. Introductions**

- i. Bjorn Gripenburg, Active Transportation, Public Works, City of Petaluma
- ii. Christina Panza, Director, SRTS/SCTA SRTS program
- iii. Peggy Flynn, City Manager, City of Petaluma
- iv. Bruce Hagan, Safe Streets Petaluma
- v. Jennifer Remmers, Petaluma Blue Zones Project
- vi. Mike Gardner, Superintendent, Waugh School District
- vii. Elece Hempel, Executive Director, Petaluma People Services
- viii. Ken Eichstaedt, Traffic Engineer, Public Works, City of Petaluma
- ix. Esmeralda Sanchez Moseley, Asst. Superintendent of Student Services, PCS
- x. Walt Spiller, Traffic Sergeant, Petaluma Police Dept
- xi. Molly Nagel, Community Schools/Wellness Coordinator, Petaluma City Schools
- xii. Mady Cloud, PCS Trustee
- xiii. Pete Gang, Safe Streets Petaluma
- xiv. Gina Benedetti-Petnic, Assistant Director, Public Works, City of Petaluma
- xv. Colleen Barclay, Safe Streets Petaluma
- xvi. Danny Alvarez, Boys and Girls Club
- xvii. Drew Halter, Director, Parks and Recreation, City of Petaluma
- xviii. Kent Carotles, Public Works, City of Petaluma
- xix. Janice Cader-Thompson, Petaluma City Council
- xx. Sarah Hadler, SRTS Coordinator/Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition
- xxi. Deb Fox, Co-Founder, Operations and Collaborations, Cool Petaluma

### **2. Partner Announcements**

- i. Safe Routes to School Program Report: *current education/encouragement initiatives and evaluation report*
  - Dates of SRTS Activities in Petaluma:
    - 11/8 Learn to Ride at Lucchesi

- 11/14 – Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day
  - 11/30 – Walk Audit/site assessment at McDowell
  - 11/30 – 2<sup>nd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Grade SRTS lessons at McNear
  - Various dates: Petaluma Junior High “Drive Your Bike” SRTS modules being taught
  - Suggested sharing a couple of School GIS maps per meeting (can focus on those schools and invite school community/parents)
  - Walking Audit—School principal, a couple of parents, need City Engineer and Planner, Police—observe during drop-off or pick-up to see traffic patterns and to see what would be feasible; great education and planning opportunity
  - Feedback on agenda items and topics for future meetings
    - Peggy - the maps and the audits will take the majority of the time and engagement from the specific schools
- ii. City Update on Plans and Projects:
- Active Transportation Plan & Upcoming Street Projects
    - Public Works Updates
      - ATP—Open House at Community Center in late October; offer to bring the maps to local schools and focus on those areas; comments by Sunday, 11/19, can be incorporated in next revision (Mady asked for a Study session at next Board mtg); doing engagements in chunks, making revisions and refine as it goes along; BPAC meets monthly as a checkpoint to share progress; to share with school families, Jpegs are best to share on Parent Square; b/w now and March, can take feedback from the school communities
  - Safe Streets Nomination Program Update
    - 200 requests; averaging 10 a day; requests are very detailed; score all the projects, then can implement a handful of projects to make improvements
  - Slow the Fast Down Petaluma—take the pledge on the webpage (speeding is #1 cause of collisions in Petaluma)
  - Follow up from McDowell Elem—school zone signage is in and two speed feedback signs are coming; Walk Audit scheduled; Bus drivers asked to slow to 15mph on McGregor Ave.
  - Transit
    - Transit to host “Stuff the Bus” toy and food drive Dec 2, details TBD
    - Fare-free weekends from 1/25-12/31 to promote carfree visitation to downtown for holiday shopping and dining
    - Transit has been hosting Kinder field trips on the buses
    - SCBC is in the process of establishing a training for drivers on bike and pedestrian/share the road awareness
  - Police
    - Traffic actively working works M-S (street enforcement), 4 motors max on Wed/Thu, then spread out through the week
    - just launched Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) grant of \$425,000. ¾ going to DUI enforcement, rest is equipment and extra traffic enforcement. focus on primary collision factors (PCF) - speeding, unsafe turning and DUI, in that order focusing on high incident areas
    - I Street gets a lot of attention – has had 10 collisions, 0 injury collisions. North McDowell has had 168 collisions, 6 severe injury, 4 fatal: give efforts where it saves lives

- Holiday and special events coming up
  - Lights Out program – instead of giving a ticket for broken headlight, give a voucher
  - Need to replenish bike helmet stock; cannot use OTS grant to purchase
  - Lots going and with federal dollars to support.
- iii. Cool Petaluma Update
- Working with City to educate the public about what the blueprint is; input from community on reviewing the document; gives year by year actions for city/partner organizations and residents

3. [Traffic Calming Strategies Presentation](#) (Pete Gang, Safe Streets Petaluma)

4. District/site SRTS issues, concerns & opportunities – none shared

5. Other Business & Announcements – none shared

6. Next Meeting, agenda planning, & adjournment

*The next meeting of the Petaluma Task Force is scheduled for Thursday December 21st, 4pm-5:30 at the Petaluma Community Center (Activity Room), 320 N. McDowell Blvd*

*\*SRTS issues and concerns may also be emailed pre- or post-meeting to Christina Panza, SRTS Director & Task Force Facilitator at [christina@bikesonoma.org](mailto:christina@bikesonoma.org)*