**Seattle School Traffic Safety Committee**

**September 25, 2015 Minutes**

**Attendees**

Members: Elaine Albertson, Jen Cole, Ashley Harris, Shannon Koller, Richard Staudt, Cathy Tuttle, Rich O’Neill.

Public Attendees: None

Other Attendees and Presenters: Stephan Richard, SPS transportation

**Public Comment:** None

**August Minutes:** Approved

**Discussion of August Minutes**

* Discussion of content and format of minutes, and review of action items from August.
* Completed tasks:
  + Brian followed up with Cedar Park community member.
  + Ashley reached out to Sandra. Sandra will come next month to discuss metro policies for serving student riders.
  + Ashley and Rich agreed to add monthly agenda item on safety.
  + Ashley brought conceptual designs for 15th Ave and Columbian Way near Mercer Middle School.
  + Jen reached out to Teresa about coming to the committee. Teresa couldn’t make it to this month’s meeting but intends to attend in the future.
* Task status unknown:
  + Brian will look at the mid-block crossing at Boren STEM.
  + Brian and Richard will follow-up with the School Pool technical person.

**DECISION**: In future minutes, we will call out decisions, actions, and due dates. We will provide updates on action items at the beginning of each meeting.

**ACTION**: Elaine will update the August minutes so that the streets referenced in the Cedar Park section are 130th and 37th.

**ACTION**: Ashley will follow up with Brian on his to-do items.

**ACTION**: Ashley will reach out to Rainier Beach community to invite them to nominate someone to this committee.

**ACTION**: Rich O’Neill will follow up on stop paddles. There are concerns about contract language especially around billing and staffing for paddle photo enforcement. Need to bring people to the table to discuss aligning the program with red light cameras and school zone speed cameras.

**Mode Choice Tally Certificates**

* Discussion of how to award certificates. Options are school representatives could come to a board meeting, or someone could go to the schools. It could be difficult to get people to come to a board meeting, but perhaps schools could nominate a parent champion, rather than staff, to go. Next board meetings are 10/7 (which is also International Walk to School Day), and 10/21.

**DECISION**: Award the certificates at board meeting. Certificates can be delivered to schools that are unable to send a representative.

**ACTION**: Richard Staudt will confirm with the board office.

* Discussion of certificate content and formatting.

**DECISION**: The committee suggests the following: Add another blank so the board member signs it. Change “highest sustained increase” to “highest rate of walking and biking in [District X].” Add Seattle Neighborhood Greenway’s logo. Remove black box if it will be printed on certificate paper, or keep it if it will be printed on plain paper. Make sure the bottom of the Cascade and Feet First logos isn’t cut off. Update the SPD logo to the Chief Sealth logo.

**ACTION**: Rich O’Neill can help find a high quality new SPD logo.

**ACTION**: Jen will get changes to Richard Staudt by Friday 10/2.

* Discussion of incentives and prizes. Broadview Thompson gets to choose which incentive they want. Thurgood Marshall and Roxhill won the gift cards: 10 cards total, 5 go to each school and the principal can choose who receives a gift card. Richard can hand them out.

**DECISION**: Change the name to the Golden Shoe and Pedal Award. Not sure if can update the graphics, but maybe can put some spokes in the green circle.

**John Rogers Elementary Bus Circulation**

* The school is experiencing difficulties with student pick-up and drop-off. It has very little street footage, and it has recently grown. If buses drop children off farther from the building, then they may need staff or volunteers to supervise the kids as they walk to the school. There may also be issues with bus timing. Another option might be the side street, which looks like it might be at a trail.

**DECISION**: Committee recommendation is to separate parents from the buses. The recommended method is still under review.

**DECISION**: Richard Staudt will organize a field trip to the site soon, before our next committee meeting. Ashley, Brian, and Stephen may also attend.

**SPD Enforcement Activity Near Schools**

* SPD is planning patrols for Walk to School Month in October. They are trying to do it for Walk to School Day at the four grant schools, although officers will continue to do school zones at other schools too. While at grant schools, officers will focus on speeding, crosswalk violations, not yielding to pedestrians, distracted driving, and seatbelts. They will be highly visible.
* Discussion of difficulties getting records of ticketing. SDOT only gets data annually as an aggregate report.

**DECISION**: Rich O’Neill will see if it’s possible to get relevant data on a monthly basis.

**Metro Policies for Serving Student Riders**

* N/A, happening next month.

**SRTS Action Plan Conceptual Designs**

* Reviewed plans for improvements at at Sanislo Elementary and Rainier Beach High School. At Henderson, SDOT is considering floating curb bulbs because they are easier to remove (not sure what changes will happen with the bike master plan).
* At 16th and Myrtle, didn’t meet criteria for a rapid flash beacon, but starting there with a raised crosswalk. Discussion of sightlines with the curb bulb, and where parking is allowed.
* Plans at 18th and Myrtle include sidewalk extension.

**Crossing Guard Updates**

* Moved guard from 16th and Myrtle to Boren. Continuing to actively recruit

**Future Topics and Announcements**

1) A student is interested in making a video about walking school buses. Due to the semester schedule, we will need to move on this soon if it is of interest. Potential filming sites include Dearborn Park and West Woodland, although other schools could be included too. This may be an appropriate connection for Feet First. It would be interesting if the video was appealing for school-age kids.

**ACTION**: Jen will connect with Teresa on Monday to discuss the project. Richard Staudt will pass on Jen or Teresa’s contact information to the student’s teacher. Jen will get back to Richard as soon as possible.

2) Discussion of Cascadia student crossing at 45th, a common crossing for students going to the Boys and Girls Club. Options may include doing a parent or volunteer brigade, or a walking school bus. The school might also request consideration for a crossing guard.

3) We will circle back to the bus paddle update next month.