**Seattle School Traffic Safety Committee**

**October 28, 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)**

**Kevin O’Neill (Seattle Police Department)**

**√ Serena Lehman (Seattle Dept. of Transportation)**

**Alyssa Smith (Parent Representative)**

**√ Richard Staudt (Seattle Public Schools)**

**√ Cathy Tuttle (Seattle Neighborhood Greenways, Citizen At-Large)**

**Other Presenters:**

Lucy Morello – Seattle Public Schools, [lmorello@seattleschoools.org](mailto:lmorello@seattleschoools.org)

Eric Sano – Seattle Police Department, Head of Traffic Safety

Cailin Henley – MPHc UW COPHP

**Public Comment**

**September Minutes:** Approved

**Review of Action Items**

* Serena contacted the parent Stephanie, fixed busing location situation, traffic officer is also now assigned to that school.
* Crossing guard was hired for Boston and 4th (Queen Anne Elementary) but she didn't want to work there so she left

**(Lincoln High School discussion was omitted from agenda)**

**Olympic Hills Sidewalk Discussion** (new item added to the agenda)

There is a new school building being built for Olympic Hills in NE Seattle. It’s scheduled to open September 2017. Parents of the school are concerned that some of the sidewalks surrounding the schools are not connected in front of residential homes on NE 130th St. SPS cannot spend funds to put a sidewalk in front of private property. The committee discussed ways to make these areas safer for children and pedestrians. One method discussed was using a simpler, less costly solution by painting the areas in front of driveways green that would mark where pedestrians are crossing.

**Finalize Golden Shoe awards - plan for greater participation**

The committee reviewed the certificate draft created by Cascade Bicycle Club. They also reviewed the draft letter that would be sent out to schools electronically receiving the award – the decision was made to switch Ashley’s name to Serena’s name. The certificated will be distributed through SPS mail. The committee discussed how to boost participating for this program. We want to give ourselves enough time to plan for 2017 and consider methods for sustaining the program, which could include engaging volunteers, and creating a subcommittee in January to tackle the Hands Up Mode Travel Survey dissemination. Cascade Bicycle Club could potentially do the Hands Up Tally while they’re rolling out their Let’s Go Program. Asking schools to do a one day tally instead of two days count might also increase participation, although the national partnership recommends two days of counts.

**ACTION:** Shannon to update data gathering conversion with Lori Dunn.

**ACTION:** Jen to send Shannon InDesign files for the Golden Shoe award

**ACTION:** Shannon to ask Cascade’s graphic designer to have shoed footprint on the certificate. Make sure to spell out organization names at the bottom of the certificate.

**ACTION:** Shannon and Jen work to put certificate packet together. Bring packets to Richard so he can help distribute through SPS.

**SRTS in Low-Income Communities**

The committee had a discussion about SRTS in low-income communities and the challenges that these communities face in terms of their kids getting to school. There are many barriers: affordability of school patrol materials, lack of sidewalks and safety infrastructure, staff are overworked, no parent or PTSA resources, finding parent champions, and the funding structure for some grants works on a reimbursement method which can be tough for many communities. The committee also acknowledged that the school district’s work focuses on equity and that staffing levels are often higher at lower income schools. Lower income schools can also have more programs for students. Ultimately, his is an on-going discussion and factor that the committee needs to consider in its work.

**Updates from SDOT about mini grant applications**

Mini grants are due Monday, October 31st. SDOT is able to accept submissions a couple days after the deadline. So far there are 8 applications, which is lower than previous years but they usually roll in late. School can potentially have 3 project going at the same time from 3 different entities (for example: one project from the school, PTSA, and community group). The school and PTSA are entities that can receive grants, but a parent or community group might face some challenges determining a fiscal sponsor. SDOT is working closely with schools that have never applied before.

**SPD grant opportunities for school safety projects**

There are overtime opportunities for officers to do enforcement at schools. Starting in November, officers will be scheduled before and after school. Three to four schools have been utilizing these grants. Last year’s grants went to Greenwood, Mercer, South Shore, and Wedgewood.

**Let’s Go Program Updates**

8 or 9 schools have not signed up for the program, and Cascade will continue to follow-up with them. There will be a teacher training in January 2017 and will also offer refreshers to the program. Cascade just wrapped up their adaptive pilot program at Lowell. Greenlake will be next in March, and Orca in May – This is funded through SDOT to support equipment and staff time. The adaptive program requires a lot of staff time because each student receives an individualized learning plan based on their mobility, visual, or mental abilities.

**Safety Camera September Stats**

The committee now has 12 full months of safety camera data. There are plans for SDOT to put in a few more cameras and is looking into where the exact locations of those will be based on locations of existing cameras, existing infrastructure capabilities, and equity. There is currently not enough capacity at SPD to install safety cameras at every school. It’s a time intensive process to review camera data the SPD is currently understaffed. The committee agreed that this section of the agenda (Safety Camera Stats) will now become a general SPD update, which will still include camera stats.

**Future Topics and Announcements**

* School start times
* SDOT SRTS annual progress
* Shannon to update committee on conversation with Lori Dunn
* Lincoln High School Design Review

**10:30am Adjourn**