**Seattle School Traffic Safety Committee**

**May 22, 2015 Minutes**

**Attendees**

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

Public Attendees: None

Other Attendees and Presenters: None

**Public Comment:** None

**April Minutes:**

Will approve at later date.

**Criteria for Hazard Busing**

* Reviewed Walking Evaluation Criteria form and discussed criteria. Would be used to evaluate the cutoff street for the walk zone. Could use in walk zone around the school, or at a specific point.
* How many would have to be a Yes or a No for it to meet hazard bus criteria overall? Should the criteria be weighted? Are there any thresholds that would force hazard busing to be used?
* Additional criteria to consider for the future include: 85th percentile speed, traffic volume, condition of the sidewalk, curb ramps, pedestrian islands, proximity or frequency of crossing signals, number of collisions, steep slope conditions, on-street parking, % of adults that own cars, signal timing.
* Discussion of how to move forward with the criteria. Potentially could use to reevaluate existing walk zone boundaries. Decision to move forward as a committee to evaluate existing and potential hazard busing in the city using a systematic approach.
* Any changes to hazard busing would happen starting in fall of the 2016-2017 school year. Time until then can be used for outreach.
* Discussion of whether perceived safety should impact hazard busing criteria.
* Discussion of hours of darkness criterion and how could change throughout the year.
* Can we get information on why people are driving their kids to school? Mode choice survey data may provide an answer.
* This summer, should have the pre- and post-test results from the Basics of Bicycling class.

**Action Items for Criteria for Hazard Busing**

* Create a proposed update to the Walking Evaluation Criteria form for review at the June meeting.

**Greenways SRTS Move Seattle Levy Proposal**

* The Move Seattle Levy will likely be voted on in November. It has been proposed as a $930 million levy for street maintenance and transportation investments. Currently, $7 million of that is for Safe Routes to School projects.
* Greenways has developed a proposal to increase funding for Safe Routes to School in the levy, with a focus on schools with the highest percentage of students receiving free or reduced school lunch. Soliciting approval from relevant stakeholder groups and champions at the schools.
* Discussion of how the City of Seattle decides what is paid for by money associated with the Pedestrian Master Plan versus what is paid for through the Safe Routes to Schools Program. Pedestrian Master Plan projects are typically in highest activity centers and arterials. Safe Routes to School is mostly around schools and in neighborhoods.
* Discussion of Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board, which is currently reviewing the Pedestrian Master Plan. Discussion of relationship between Pedestrian Master Plan and Safe Routes to School projects.
* Cathy will share follow-up information relating to the Greenways proposal.

**New School Walk/Bike Maps and Messaging**

* New template for walk and bike maps for schools. Still making final adjustments.
* Discussion of draft map content and format.
* Discussion of other example maps made by Greenways and by the City of Portland.

**Mode Choice Tally in June**

* Mode choice surveys will be conducted at schools in June.
* SDOT intern can probably do data tabulation and analysis.
* Discussion of methods for administering survey. Are there options for it to become part of the curriculum, such as the bicycle and pedestrian education curriculum? Is there opportunity to administer it at other times of the year? What are the pros and cons of having specialists administer the survey as opposed to homeroom teachers?

**Recap of Bike to School Month**

* May 6 was bike to school day.
* Elementary school participation was up 23% over last year, and middle and high school participation was up 77% in their program. These are preliminary numbers.
* Will have a bigger wrap up next month for the bike club challenge.
* Discussion of recent enforcement activities. At Mercer Middle School made 44 contacts in 28 hours, mostly for speeding but also for cell phones and distracted driving. At Greenwood Elementary, made 40 contacts in 14 hours. At Wedgwood Elementary made 16 contacts in 6 hours. At South Shore K-8 made 42 contacts in 14 hours.
* Two more big enforcement activities planned for June.

**Crossing Guard Updates**

* New guard at Dearborn Park International Elementary.
* A guard at Leschi Elementary, 23rd and Yesler, retired.

**Future Topics and Announcements**

* The June meeting will be held at a different date. Ashley will send out a Doodle to help schedule it.

**10:30am Adjourn**