



Spare the Air Youth Program

Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

DATE: Tuesday, October 17, 2023
TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
WEBINAR: Zoom

In Attendance

- Tommy Bensko, BikeMobile
- Marcella Aranda, MTC
- Hannah Day-Kapell, Alta Planning + Design
- Sydney Cape, Alta Planning + Design
- George Foster, Alta Planning + Design
- Andrea-Anne Cadieux, Alta Planning + Design
- Courtney Wood, Alta Planning + Design
- Kristin Haukom, Alta Planning + Design
- Jasmine Law, TransForm
- Sarah Hadler, Bike Sonoma
- Christina Panza
- Nina Garde
- Ann Jasper
- Martha Lara
- Theresa Vallez-Kelly
- Amy Antunano
- Alisa Campbell
- Carlotta Sainato

Meeting Notes

- 1. Introductions and Agenda (5 minutes)**
 - Introductions & Icebreaker, Hannah Day-Kapell, Alta Planning + Design
 - o What bike did you want as a kid?
- 2. Presentations (40 minutes)**
 - **Theresa Vallez-Kelly, San Mateo County Office of Education School Travel Fellowship program**
 - Held a webinar in 2021 when students were returning back to school – supporting back to school travel with equity & empathy
 - Invited cities to attend
 - Had an idea for a school travel fellowship
 - Invited cities to apply and choose one or two schools they wanted to focus on
 - Someone from public works and someone from the school; at least 3 people on the team
 - Come up with an idea to improve student travel
 - Technical assistance and support from Alta
 - Non-permanent quick build materials

- Quarterly meetings with every team
- Team selection
 - Breadth and diversity of team
 - Project innovation, scope, and feasibility
 - Project location and equity consideration
- Application went out to all cities in the county
- Case studies
 - Millbrae: Student involved demonstration project
 - Crosswalks, traffic calming
 - Menlo Park: Community-led SRTS initiative
 - Local businesses agreed to be safe spaces
 - Logo development
 - Redwood City: Quick build design and implementation
 - In year 2 of the project
 - Year 1: concept plan
 - Year 2: put the project in place with temporary materials
 - East Palo Alto: Quick build to permanent installation
 - In year 2 of project
 - Traffic circle
 - Sidewalk decals with QR codes for feedback (overwhelmingly positive)
 - Working with the City to do real construction
 - South SF: Placemaking through quick build
 - Intersection mural – branded for the school
- Takeaways
 - Leverage existing funding/resources to support projects
 - Use data collected during pop-up and design plans to secure outside grant funding
 - Collaborate more effectively
 - Build relationships with local schools
- Challenges/lessons learned
 - Flexibility is key
 - Relationship building up front
 - Liability
 - Project can be more expensive than anticipated
 - Community trust takes time
- Have secured funding for future efforts
- Q&A
 - Did cities also take responsibility for maintenance of quick-build projects? Like if flexiposts were knocked over, etc.?
 - Yes! They did. We bought extra and they reinstalled as needed.
- **Ann Jasper, San Jose School Streets program**
 - 3.5 full time staff; longevity in funding; cover 80 schools
 - What is Viva Escuela?
 - “open.school streets” event
 - One school block closed to cars
 - Community partners focused on health behaviors, community issues (7-10)
 - Local elected officials
 - Background
 - UK schools experimented with this

- Resulted in 68% decrease in vehicle traffic; 30% increase of walking students; 51% increase for biking students
- Close down the street for an hour before school drop off
- Mascot: Sunny the safety squirrel
- Pledge to walk and roll – kids sign poster and it’s given to principal
- “Tell us about your experience today!”
- Community partners
 - Beautify San Jose
 - Vector Control
 - San Jose Public Library
 - Bring an RV with free books
 - Santa Clara Valley Water District
 - Parks & Rec
 - Santa Clara County Parks
- Elected officials
 - Give them talking points
- Outreach
 - Have to let every address within a ¼ radius that a portion of the street will be closed down
 - Postcard mailings (2 weeks before), neighborhood associations, school flyers, council member, school district administration
- Planning
 - Collect interest from schools Jun-Aug
 - Confirm dates with schools
 - Host planning meeting with school
 - Special events application submitted 45 days before event
 - Submit tow away application with DOT
 - Reach out to community partners for tabling
 - Postcards 2 weeks before
 - Tow away signs posted 2 days in advance
- Q&A
 - Do you pick a different school for each week during a certain time period? Like October and April or May?
 - Try to spread the love by doing it at different schools every term
 - Have any of the schools discussed closing their streets more regularly vs 1-time? Like a school street?
 - Have you considered having a format that isn’t such a big event?
 - The main reason we don’t is because of funding
 - Every street closure is \$3,000

3. Breakout Discussion Sessions (20 minutes)

- Provide participants with discussion space to share, ask, and further explore either these SRTS programs or how the 2023-24 school year has kicked off

4. Announcements and Upcoming Meetings (10 minutes)

- Next TAC Meeting
 - i. December 6, 2023
 - ii. Topics include Bike Buses (Sam Balto) & Safety language (Matt Dove)



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