



# Safe Routes to School Implementation Committee

Date: November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016

5:00 pm

Room 109, Town Hall

<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Eric Allman, Chair	Facilitator: Bergen Watterson, Transportation Planner
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<b>Attendees:</b>	Carrboro Safe Routes to School Implementation Committee
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## ----- Agenda Topics -----

1. Call to order	Chair	5:00
2. Approval of the Minutes: August 31, 2016	Chair/SRTSC	5:02
3. Walk-Bike to School Day reports	SRTSC	5:05
4. Discuss committee goals for 2017	SRTSC	5:25
5. Set meeting calendar for 2017	SRTSC/Staff	5:50
6. Discuss walking/biking safety information/tables/events	SRTSC	6:00
7. Other business/staff report/member updates	Staff/SRTSC	6:15
8. Adjourn	SRTSC	6:30
<b>Other Information</b>		
Attachment A: August 31 <sup>st</sup> draft meeting minutes		

Next meeting: TBD

**TOWN HALL IS ACCESSIBLE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT BERGEN WATTERSON AT 919-918-7329.

**Safe Routes to School Implementation Committee  
MINUTES  
August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Eric Allman, Chair  
Jonah Perrin, Vice Chair  
Tiffany Cheshire  
Kurt Stolka  
Nathan Barta

**BOARD LIAISON**

Damon Seils, Board of Aldermen

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED**

Joal Broun, CHCS School Board  
Curtis Kinnaman  
Suzanna Dupee  
Amy Rickard  
Jillian LaSerna  
Jonathan Norris  
Chuck Edwards

**1. Call to Order**

Eric called the meeting to order at 5:14pm.

**2. Introductions**

The group had introduced themselves in the time before starting the meeting.

**3. Approval of Minutes: April 11, 2016**

Tiffany arrived at 5:30pm so the group had a quorum. At 5:50pm Kurt moved to approve the minutes from April 11<sup>th</sup> and Jonah seconded. All in favor.

**4. SRTS Action Plan Review**

The group decided to start the review of the SRTS Action Plan at this point. Bergen Watterson explained the work that she and Tina Moon had done evaluate the status of the recommendations put forth in the plan. She told the group that the spreadsheet focused primarily on infrastructure improvements surrounding McDougle and Carrboro Elementary, but that the Plan included recommendations for schools to start and/or improve their SRTS programs. Eric encouraged the rest of the group to review the plan and to identify low-hanging fruit and see if there is anything that is missing.

The group discussed the Hillsborough Road/School Entrance intersection. Eric asked which improvement at this location would be a bigger 'bang-for-your-buck'. Nathan said that the crossing guard does a good job of directing students and vehicles and that the in-

road median may not be necessary. He told the group that it's only teachers and busses that enter the school at that entrance, and they are trained to drive around students. Bergen said that the curb extension could potentially be done with bollards to economically test the effectiveness before installing a concrete version of it—like on Oak Ave. and James St. Nathan suggested putting in an in-road pedestrian sign because the crosswalk is not visible to approaching cars. He also suggested extending the school zone and putting in a flashing sign to alert motorists.

Eric noted that a fault of the Plan is that it does not include Morris Grove Elementary. It was also done in 2012 so some of the data might be out of date and some intersections/corridors look different.

The group discussed improvements on the Hillsborough Road corridor. Bergen noted that the main recommendation throughout the whole report is to install a sidewalk on the west side of Hillsborough Road. The group acknowledged that this is not a low-hanging fruit and will likely not get done any time soon. Bergen noted that the recommendation to paint crosswalks across all roads that intersect with Hillsborough would be fairly easy to complete. Kurt said that the walk zone for McDougle ends at Robert Hunt. Kurt also said that he had trouble reporting debris in the bike lane—he had to create an account to use the request tracker and then no one responded. Eric said that this problem happens every year with the grass then the leaves in the bike lanes. Bergen said that she would check with Public Works to see what the best way to handle keeping the bike lanes clear is, particularly as we head into fall.

The recommendations for bike parking on McDougle campus have not been done. Tiffany reported that the bike racks have been full on campus so far this year, though she thinks that it may be the recent middle schoolers who are accustomed to parking at the elementary school. She said that the Carrboro Bike Coalition gave them a new bike rack. Kurt said that UNC has some wave racks that they are trying to get rid of, but Eric discouraged Tiffany from accepting them because they need to be installed. He said that he may have some comb racks that he can help her get because they are easier to use for students and do not have to be installed. He suggested trying to have boy scouts build a cover for the bike racks.

The group started looking at the James/Quail Roost/Hillsborough intersection and decided that it is in pretty good shape. A lot of work has been done to make that intersection safer and more pedestrian friendly. Bergen said that the recommended Horne Hollow Bike Path is important to discuss at this point because there is a developer looking at putting a subdivision on the parcel that contains the current gravel path. Bergen said that she has made some recommendations to the developer to at least make a connection from the gravel to the paved portion, and she will continue to press as the application comes through the pipeline. Damon noted that there are two options: the developer could construct the greenway, or the Town could request an easement and construct the greenway in the future. Bergen said that another option could be to ask the developer to connect the greenway to the subdivision street network, which would be less

expensive for them and have the same desired effect. Damon asked what would be an effective way for the SRTS Committee to communicate their interest in this greenway project, and the group said that between Bergen, Tina, Damon and Kurt, the interest would be conveyed to the developer.

The group decided to stop going through the plan and switch to Walk to School Day.

#### **5. Walk to School Day: October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Eric noted that they brainstormed ideas for making the event better at the last meeting. It was helpful because it was right after the Bike to School Day event. Town staff said that the Proclamation for Walk to School Day will be read at the Aldermen meeting on 9/27 and they will remind the group that it is happening. Eric reminded the group that they also talked about the SRTS surveys at the last meeting and that he would coordinate with Jennifer Delcourt to get them into the schools. Eric said that he would remind the principals to officially sign up their schools for the event on the SRTS website. Jonah said that he would make flyers to hand out at Carrboro High School, though he was not sure how effective it would be. Nathan said that he would need to request permission to distribute flyers, but that he would. Eric encouraged the two high school students to find someone in administration or in the wellness committees to help them with the distribution/funding/communication aspects of SRTS at their schools. Town staff will purchase some new banners to put up in the Town locations, and probably some yard signs to distribute to each school.

Jonah alerted the group to an off-road path that he takes to ride his bike to school. It connects Woodcrest Road to Rossburn Way and has recently been made mostly impassable. It now has rocks, a ditch, and poison ivy. Town staff will look into the development permit to see how the path was classified and if there is anything that can be done about it, though it is likely under the purview of the HOA.

The group discussed promoting the event via PeachJar, and decided that it might be better to include it in newsletters or in ConnectEd, which is more like an email that goes out to parents rather than a scanned flyer. Tiffany said that PeachJar is not the best mechanism and that many parents do not read the information that comes through it. Nathan said that he would try to promote the event through the teacher email so they can remind their students about the event the day before.

Tiffany explained that McDougle calls their days ‘Walk, Bike, Bus to School Day’ to be inclusive of all the kids, regardless of where they live. She said that she needs swag for the kids to encourage them to participate. Town staff said that they have some items that they can distribute to the schools, and that Jennifer Delcourt probably has swag. Tiffany also wants to figure out a way to include staff, either by asking them to park far away and walk or walk/bike the whole way. She would like to offer some sort of incentive or raffle for the staff that they would actually want, like massages or lunch. Jonah echoed that sentiment for the high school students—food would be best. Eric said that he would

coordinate with Jennifer Delcourt to see if she has any giveaways for the schools to distribute.

Eric ended the discussion by saying that he would attend the next McDougle PTA meeting to tell the group about Carrboro Elementary's PTA policy of allotting \$1,000 to SRTS events.

**6. Next Meeting**

The group discussed whether to move the meeting time to 5:30 instead of 5. The next meeting will be on **November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5pm**, and at that meeting the group will set the meeting calendar for 2017 so they are on everyone's calendar. Bergen will type the draft minutes from this meeting and send them out along with the date of the next meeting to the whole group.

**7. Adjourn**

Eric adjourned the meeting at 6:37pm.

DRAFT