

**Foothill Elementary Transportation, Safety and Recreation  
Stakeholder Workgroup  
September 16, 2009  
Draft Meeting Notes**

**Agreements:**

- The group agreed there needs to be further training and continued education for the students and parents on the drop off and pick up protocols.
- In anticipation of future bad weather, it was agreed to encourage parents and students to try out the new pick up and drop off protocols prior to an incident of inclement weather.
- The group agreed to focus its attention on bikes to follow the signs for pedestrians and to walk their bikes across intersections especially at Broadway and Hawthorn. It was agreed the method for crossing a bike is to do so on foot. This is consistent with all the intersections throughout the school zone.
- The group requested of Bill Cowern to have the pot holes, located in the “Hug and Go” lane, checked and filled.

**Action Items:**

- Susan Cousins will:
  - Bring the infraction numbers to the October meeting.
  - Check on the ownership of the concrete wall at the dead end of Iris.
- Melisa Potes:
  - Agreed to send out a preemptive reminder to parents and students to give themselves extra time in the event of a weather issue and a reminder of the pick up/drop off rules. She will also put the reminder in the newsletter.
  - Put in a call and scheduled a time to talk about the possibilities of the back gate being reopened.
  - Will talk with teachers about paying attention to hug and go and scheduling time to talk to parents.
- Heidi Sherk:
  - Is working to coordinate volunteers for crosswalk duties as well as Hug and Go duties. There is a training lined up for September 17, 2009.
  - Will look into having an adult supervisor (rather than a crossing guard) at this intersection of Iris and Broadway. Amanda Bickel is willing to help coordinate these volunteers.
  - Will look into adding an education volunteer to rove around all areas and provide education.
- Landon Hilliard will look into having a bike, skateboard, and scooter safety seminar for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders as well.
- Natalie Warshaw will research the possibility of a bike helmet and safety seminar given by the Boulder Police Department and the Boulder Hospital.
- Pat Stevenson, Jane Monson, and Landon Hilliard (if he is needed) volunteered to be traffic violation volunteers. Natalie Warsaw will do an unofficial count as well. Susan Cousins will email them the forms needed.

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## DISCUSSION

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The FSWG reviewed the work of the subcommittee and discussed personal experiences with the working of the non-engineering plan.

In general most of the FWSG's personal experience was that the non-engineering plan was working well. More people are using the hug and go lane every day. Some of the challenges mentioned, such as the "crazy stuff happening in the front of school" the group agree was about increased education, awareness and understanding. One general concern mentioned, with no easy answer, was what happens during a crisis event like severe weather or staff is missing.

The discussion and tweaking of the non-engineering plan focused on the following:

### **Signage:**

- U-Turn Signs: The group would like to see "no u-turn" signs posted on Iris. There will be signs posted on westbound Hawthorn and 9<sup>th</sup> and at northbound Iris and 9<sup>th</sup>. This will make it illegal to u-turn anywhere around the school.
- There is currently a "sandwich board" sign at 9<sup>th</sup> and Hawthorne; that redirects people to park on Grape.
- Iris & Broadway: An electronic sign has been ordered for Iris and Broadway that will warn against a right turn on red. This will be activated by pedestrians pushing the crosswalk button. The timeline for implementation could be as late as spring or over the summer for this sign due to including it in the construction timeline for Broadway.
- Walk Your Wheels Sign: The group discussed having a sign added to the north side of the school to dismount bikes. It would be helpful to have several sandwich boards stating "walk your wheels."

### **Crosswalks & Hug and Go:**

- Crosswalks
  - Iris & Broadway: The group discussed having the intersection striped to help bikers cross with less danger. The city does not mark crosswalks in the manner requested by the group. The intent for bikers is to cross during the pedestrian phase. It is not illegal to cross outside the crosswalk lines.
  - AGREEMENT: It was agreed that all crossing guards will move the cones to the sidewalk where a maintenance member of the school staff will retrieve them before leaving for the day.
- Hug and Go
  - People are pulling up too far away from the curb. One reason is there are pot holes next to the curb.
  - ACTION: Melisa Potes and Bill Cowern will look into having the pot holes filled.
  - ACTION: Bill Cowern will provide minimum street painting to the hug and go street area to delineate it from the regular part of the road. It may be a box

or just lines to indicate where to go and to keep cars closer to the curb to allow traffic to flow.

- It is important that teachers focus on the hug and go lane and not spend time talking to parents (it is hard to not talk to parents when it maybe the best opportunity the parent has).
- ACTION: Melisa will talk with teachers about paying attention to hug and go and scheduling time to talk to parents.

### **Reminder Cards:**

FSWG discussed the draft reminder cards and offered the following comments and revisions:

- Hug and Go Morning
  - Add the specific times of 8:05-8:20 AM.
  - There needs to be the addition of a “pull forward” bullet before “students will be assisted out of the curb side” bullet.
  - ACTION: Holli Hoskins will share her edits with Jane Monson.
  - AGREEMENT: The group agreed to approve the language with the changes above.
- Hug and Go: Afternoon
  - AGREEMENT: The group agreed to approve as is.
- Crosswalk Reminder
  - Add a bullet specific to bikes and cars: yield to pedestrians.
  - Add a bullet that says: It is safest for pedestrians to cross at crosswalks.
  - Bullet #3 – Remove “crosswalks will be marked with red cones” (seems obvious).
  - Bullet #4 – Remove the words “adjacent to school”.
  - Bullet #4 – Change the wording “wait to be reminded” to “should”.
  - AGREEMENT: The group agreed to approve the language with the changes above.
- U-Turn/Three Point Turns
  - Change “a little inconvenience” to “Thanks for taking the time to keep our kids safe.”
  - Holli Hoskins, Jane Monson, and Pat Stevenson will work on a statement that indicates why (e.g. minimize time in crosswalks).
  - AGREEMENT: The group agreed to approve the language with the changes above.
- Need Your Help
  - AGREEMENT: the group agreed to approve the language as is.
- Parking
  - The group felt it was heavy with “what not to do”.
  - Add: Illegal to do u-turns on any street adjacent to the school.
  - Reorganize a bulleted list under “please do” and “please don’t” categories.
  - Bullet #2 – Remove the phrase “there is no”, start with “Drop off or...”
  - Bullet #5 - Remove the phrase: “dropping off older students or.”

- This section is unapproved by the group. Holli Hoskins, Jane Monson, and Pat Stevenson will do further work.

**Bikes:**

- Bikes at Iris and 9<sup>th</sup> are cutting across traffic and into the parking lot.
- Cyclists in the afternoon are walking down the street blocking traffic.
- Bikes and skateboarders are coming down Iris – on the sidewalk, and crossing mid-block.
- There needs to be more bike safety education – 5<sup>th</sup> graders get bike and skateboard safety in physical education classes.
- ACTION: BVSD/Landon Hilliard is looking to make the same education available to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders.
- In the past the Boulder Police and Boulder Hospital provided a brief safety class with free bike helmet.
- ACTION: Natalie Warshaw will research the possibility of a bike helmet and safety seminar given by the Boulder Police Department and the Boulder Hospital.

**Public Comment:**

There was a request for having the back gate opened. Melisa Potes has scheduled a meeting to determine if this is possible and if so what it would look like.

**Next Steps:**

- Next Meeting, October 21<sup>st</sup> - purpose: to review outstanding safety issues that remain even with the non-engineering plan in place and brainstorm engineering options to resolve the outstanding safety issues.
- Landon Hilliard will have ridership numbers from the October count to share with the group.
- Susan Cousins will present the number of rule infractions she has encountered in her days of counting violations.

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**ATTENDANCE**

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***Parents:*** Diane Harpold, Blair Norman, Erik Park, Sarah Schulte, Tom Wyman

***Neighbors:*** Jane Monson, Pat Stevenson,

***Foothill Principle:*** Melisa Potes

***Foothill Staff:*** Holli Hoskins, Natalie Warshaw,

***BVSD:*** Landon Hilliard, Susan Cousins (for Don Orr)

***City of Boulder:*** Bill Cowern

Approved: 10-12-09

***Public: 1***