

Seattle School Traffic Safety Committee
Meeting held at City Hall, 600 4th Ave, Room 370
And Online
January 20, 2023

SSTSC Attendees

- X Richard Staudt, SPS representative
Lee Bruch, community volunteer
- X Mary Ellen Russell, Chair, parent volunteer
- X Margaret McCauley (pedestrian safety advocate)
- X Marilyn Firman, community volunteer
Robin Schwartz, parent volunteer
- X Robbie Frankel, Metro Representative
- X Noa Guter, parent volunteer
- X Gary Davenport, SPD Liaison
- X Yvonne Carpenter, SPS field staff supervisor, crossing guard supervisor.
- X Diane Walsh, SDOT Representative

Other attendees

Vivian Song Maritz (School Board Member)
Marni Campbell (SPS Executive Director of Operations)
Clara Cantor

Last Month's Minutes and Action Item Update:

1. Equity Metric: Marni Campbell sent the committed the Racial Equity Analysis Tool that the district uses. All agreed that this information should be included in the transportation service standards. And in preparation of the walk boundary proposal. Vivian Song Moritz would like to be included. The School Board has the final sign off and she has a particular interest in best/most cost-effective practices in transportation. **Action: Mary Ellen, Marni (and Vivian)** and the intersection scoring subcommittee, will meet about finalizing the tool to determine walk boundaries.
2. Meeting with VA: Sara has been working on it but was not able to attend the committee meeting. **Action: Sara, Richard and Margaret's** report on VA meeting will be delayed until next month.
3. Yvonne sent Mary Ellen updates that have occurred since August for the Crossing Guard list.
4. **Action: Mary Ellen and Lee** will present progress on the SIP review team/SPS Capital Projects coordination in February.
5. Parking Enforcement: Gary was able to attend part of the meeting with his Captain and Ashley. He is not sure of the result but **Action: Gary** will check with Ashley. He and others have been patrolling the South Shore school area in the early morning and at the school release times for the past two weeks. If specific requests for patrol are made there is a good chance of a follow up. Parking enforcement is moving back to the police department and once the change is settled in this should help with any related problems. **Action: Gary will** find out if the speed van is still operating.
6. Stop paddle tickets. Marni said the contract between SPS and Kind County to review stop paddle cameras expired last summer and they are negotiating to get the program up and

running again. **Action Margaret** will check on how to get bus paddle cameras installed in more busses.

7. **Action: Diane** will bring Name Tags for next in person meeting in March.
8. **Action: Diane** will see if speed trailers can be installed near John Stanford. SDOT is in the process of deciding where new cameras should be installed, **Action: Diane** will try to schedule a 10-minute February presentation for the committee, on how they select sites for speed zone cameras.

Diane corrected the minutes to include herself as an attendee.

Richard motioned that the December minutes be approved as amended, Margaret seconded. Minutes were approved.

Updated Agenda Calendar: Noa Guter and Marilyn Firman

A lengthy and productive discussion followed. The agenda had not been updated since prior to Covid. The results of the agenda discussion are recorded by Diane and Noa. **Action Noa** will present an updated agenda in February.

Important comments include:

1. Marni Campbell was enthusiastic about the Bike to School and the Hands Up Tally events. She thinks she, Sara, and the Yearlong Excellence Squad, a new SPS committee she has formed, will be able to get these events fired up.
2. With the help of the YES Squad Marni expects to have the summer schedule lined out much earlier this year and should be able to have the information to SDOT as early as late March. This will enable SDOT to get the summer flashing beacons up and running for summer school.
3. **Action: Yvonne, and Marni** will see if there is funding/need for crossing guards for summer school.
4. Summer Sign Audit: in the past former SDOT staff reviewed signing around schools themselves. It is currently planned to continue moving forward.
5. Annual retreat to be planning in April.

Election of Officers:

Mary Ellen nominated Noa Guter for Chairperson. Margaret seconded. After discussion the vote was unanimous. Margaret nominated Marilyn for secretary. She declined. Marilyn then nominated Margaret for secretary. Marilyn said that Margaret prepared the Annual Report and written most of the letters and will be a natural fit for the role. The secretary can delegate duties like minutes according to our bylaws, Marilyn said she would continue taking the minutes as long as needed. Richard seconded the nomination. The vote was unanimous.

Noa Guter will be Chairperson

Margaret McCauley will be Secretary

Yvonne Carpenter: Crossing Guard Report:

One position was lost at South Shore but 2 new crossing guards were hired. Now three of the four positions at that school are filled with a vacancy at Rainier and Cloverdale. Three more guards will be trained next week. Someone is interviewing for the Bailey-Gatzert, Washington Middle School dual

position. This is especially exciting because Washington Middle School has been historically difficult to fill.

Yvonne asked Gary about police help at Salmon Bay. The guard at 18th and 65th is overwhelmed and threatening to quit. The previous crossing guard tried to direct traffic themselves, which is not the responsibility of the crossing guard. Richard stated this is the intersection where a crossing guard was hit by a car three years ago. Marni said this is a school where community education about traffic problems might help: handmade signs, Partnering with PTSA or parent organization, getting notices out to families about safety issues, etc..

Richard complimented Yvonne's ingenuity. She was training crossing guards at the Administration Building when a surprise fire drill occurred. She had the crossing guards out in the pouring rain crossing people, a great introduction to the reality of being a crossing guard in Seattle.

Robbie Frankel: Metro Process for Prioritizing Bus Shelters

For this presentation see:

<https://onedrive.live.com/?cid=E4E27C415FE685BB&id=E4E27C415FE685BB%2112615&parId=E4E27C415FE685BB%21202&o=OneUp>

Comments and answers to questions include:

1. There are about 3000 bus stops in Seattle. 1900 have some protections. 225 more qualify for protection based on ridership but do not have it because of a variety of reasons. Decisions to add shelters are made on an annual basis. Stops need 25 riders per day to qualify.
2. Routes are changed in Fall and Spring and Drivers may change routes in June. Currently, Metro is trying to add routes based on populations with the greatest need for bus transportation through the day, not on need to commute to work hours.
3. Metro is also considering adding shade shelters because of heat to some areas where there are no shade trees.
4. Mary Ellen asked about footings. Adding footings when there is a pavement or sidewalk project is cost effective. They are relatively inexpensive, and the shelter can be added later when there is money and/or when there is need.
5. There is coordination between SDOT and Metro about bus footing on capital projects. The best outcome is when the community/ Metro/ and DOT get together. Margaret mentioned South Center where Tukwila/Dot and Metro all worked together and made a very convenient, welcoming ambiance for the bus shelter,
6. Rebuild at Mercer School Intersection: This is an area where SSTSC has been very interested in the past. There are four footings there. There will be three shelters completed soon and the final footing is available when the ridership reaches 25.

***Note, to check about bus footings when we review school plans.

Future Topics:

- School Walk Boundary Reviews
- All transportation providers & snow routes (parent specifically asked about Ever Driven)
- Discuss Freeway Problem Exits with Greg Spotts
- Regular report from Sara Colling

Next Meeting: February 17th Primarily Remote