

**PEDESTRIAN & TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**November 20, 2008**

**8:30 – 10:00 AM**

**LOCATION: City of Bloomington**

**ATTENDEES**

Amy Marohn	City of Bloomington	Marc Culver	City of Maple Grove
Matt Pacyna	SRF Consulting Group	George Calebaugh	SEH
Tim Plath	City of Eagan		

**Topic I - Summary of a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project**

Tim Plath (City of Eagan) provided a summary of the Red Pine Elementary School SRTS project. A non-infrastructure SRTS grant application was submitted by the school in January 2007 and consisted of a variety of programs covering the engineering, education, enforcement, and encouragement spectrum. The school was notified of the grant award in April 2007 and prepared a Project Memorandum which approved by Federal Aid in September 2007. The engineering portion of the grant was completed May- August 2008 and provided for the development of a school route plan as well as creation of a web-based program to present the school route plan to students/parents. This program is a Google Maps based application which is hosted by the school’s website and allows students/parents to input their address and view safe routes to school. The page can be viewed at (<http://www.district196.org/rp/SafeRoutes/RedPineSafeRoutes.html>).

The group also discussed a variety of issues surrounding school routes and winter trail/sidewalk maintenance policies. Additionally, other pending SRTS applications were discussed.

**Topic II - Overview of a Local Street Traffic Calming Project/Trial**

The City of Bloomington has an established Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy and Procedure to address concerns regarding traffic volumes and/or speeds. Amy Marohn (City of Bloomington) provided an overview of a recent traffic calming study, the Rich Road Traffic Management Study. A neighborhood petition requesting consideration of traffic calming devices was received by the City of Bloomington. Traffic data was collected which found the average speed on Rich Road to be 27 miles per hour, the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed to be 32 miles per hour and the average volume to be approximately 1000 vehicles per day. The City then held an

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Informational Open House with the neighborhood prior to the installation of temporary speed tables.

The City was able to acquire/borrow three temporary speed tables for the speed table trial. The temporary tables were installed along Rich Road at approximately 300-foot spacing. Installation of the temporary speed tables was completed by a six-person crew and took four hours for each table to be installed. The temporary speed tables resulted in an approximate 10 mile per hour speed reduction at the tables, an approximate 5 mile per hour reduction between tables and no change in speeds 300 feet away from the tables. The temporary speed tables had no effect on traffic volumes. The estimated cost of the speed table trial is \$60,000.

A public information meeting was conducted and a survey was mailed to the neighborhood after the speed table trial was complete. Of the 300 surveys mailed, 17 residents indicated they would like speed tables permanently installed while 121 residents did not want permanent speed tables installed. Based on the survey and voluntary assessment results, the project ended after the trial and no permanent devices were installed in accordance with the City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Policy and Procedure.

### **Round Robin**

Tim P- Asked about enforcement of "wrong way" drivers who make a U-turn around the splitter island in roundabouts. Conclusion of the group was "One Way" signing should allow police officers to issue citations.

Tim P- Asked if any other communities have installed enforcement lights on traffic signals to assist with red-light-running enforcement. Maple Grove and Bloomington have not installed any enforcement lights. George C indicated that Burnsville has installed enforcement lights and may be talking about installing more.

Marc C- Indicated that audible pedestrian pushbuttons were recently installed at a county road intersection in Maple Grove.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on **Thursday, November 20, 2008 at the City of Eagan.**

Meeting Agenda – 1) Update on the City of Richfield's Stop Sign Policy; 2) Review the NCITE "Guidance for the Installation of Pedestrian Crossing Facilities"; and, 3) Identify topics for 2009 meetings.