



# School/City Liaison Committee Summary Minutes



## School/City Liaison Committee Meeting Wednesday, September 26, 2007

8:15 AM to 9:30 AM  
Palo Alto Unified School District Office  
Conference Room A  
25 Churchill Avenue  
Palo Alto

In Attendance:

### City of Palo Alto

Bern Beecham, City of Palo Alto, Council Member  
Larry Klein, City of Palo Alto, Council Member  
Emily Harrison, City of Palo Alto  
Sam Peiris, City of Palo Alto  
Kathy Durham, City of Palo Alto  
Gayle Likens, City of Palo Alto

### Palo Alto Unified School District

Barb Mitchell, Board Member  
Mandy Lowell, Board Member  
Kevin Skelly, Superintendent  
Cathy Mak, Chief Business Officer  
Kathy Durkin, Palo Alto Unified School District  
Linda Lenoir, Palo Alto Unified School District  
Pete Pearne, Palo Alto Unified School District  
Penny Ellson, Elementary PTA  
Richard Swent, PTA  
James Cook, PTA

Handouts: All handouts can be viewed at 25 Churchill Ave.

Meeting convened at 8:15 a.m.

**1. Oral Communications: None**

**2. Approval of Minutes from June 26, 2007**

Ms. Mitchell moved to approve. Mr. Klein seconded. Minutes approved 2-0.

**3. City School Traffic Safety Committee**

- Gayle Likens reported on the VTA proposal to cut the VTA 88 line that serves Gunn HS that came to the committee late last year. Over the summer CPA, PTA, and PAUSD successfully worked to save part of the current 88 service, however a \$1,000,000 cut in Palo Alto VTA service citywide still will affect the Louis portion of the 88 line, reducing service for Gunn HS students, As a result of PTA, CPA, PAUSD collaborative effort, VTA board was persuaded in August to require a comprehensive review of Palo Alto transit service which must be completed by December. A kick-off meeting for this study is scheduled for Sept. 25.
  
- Sam Peiris brought good news about safety upgrades at a few schools.
  - El Carmelo – New Crossing Guard for Bryant/El Carmelo, new drop zone area at two locations; the principal and the PTA have been educating parents about the new circulation/drop-off plan new red curb. PAPD Sgt. Herrera has been coaching the new guard and parents on navigating and managing this tricky intersection, white hatch mark markers at Ramona/Loma Verde to improve pedestrian visibility, restricted left turns from school parking with signage.
  - Palo Verde – New neon signage installed. Handicapped ramp asses at Ames/Oak.
  - Duveneck – Pedestrian countdown signals at Louis/Embarcadero, installed new buttons, installed no turn on red light, moved limit line on Embarcadero to reduce vehicle conflicts, installed rat box at Louis /Embarcadero
  - Hoover – Adjusted Nelson/Charleston signal timing to force gaps between 7:30 am-8:15am to facilitate high volume of vehicle exits from campus

- Hays – Installed “No Turn On Red” at Newell/Embarcadero
  - Juana Briones – Resurfaced Maybell and added traffic calming measures; additional red curbs, Stop signs with striped/reflector islands, restricted left turns from school parking lot with signage
  - PAPD will place speed trailer once a week at schools on a rotating schedule.
  - Town and County is in Review
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- Richard Swent reported that bike counts were up at several schools resulting in shortages of bike parking. Mr. Swent is the instructor for the class “Bringing up Bicyclists”. There are 4 classes in the spring and 4 classes in the summer.
  - Penny Ellson presented campaign materials for Palo Alto Walks & Rolls campaign, taking place October 1-5. She described the event, including related raffle and collaboration with the City. She thanked health and safety partner Palo Alto Medical Foundation for donating over \$3,000 in prizes and Google for donating 40 bike safety flags for raffle prizes. Penny Ellson presented a flyer copy for California Avenue Walk to Lunch program and describes Moonlight Run Kick-off, Bicycle Parade on Oct. 6 and encouraged Traffic Safety Reps to spread the word about these fun events. She also explained an upcoming Walkability Workshop, date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.