



School/City Liaison Committee Minutes



School/City Liaison Committee Meeting Wednesday, March 1, 2006

8:15 AM to 9:30 AM
City of Palo Alto, Civic Center
Council Conference Room
250 Hamilton Ave
Palo Alto

In Attendance:

City of Palo Alto

Larry Klein, City Councilmember, Chair
Dena Mossar, City Councilmember
Emily Harrison, Assistant City Manager
Steve Emslie, Dir. Planning and Community Environment
Kathy Durham, Commute Program Coordinator
Gayle Likens, Acting Chief Transportation Official
Rob DeGeus, Recreation and Youth Services Division Manager
Chris Mogensen, Assistant to the City Manager
Katie Whitley, Administrative Assistant
Lt. Mike Densen, PAPD
Sgt. Steve Herrera, PAPD

Palo Alto Unified School District

Jerry Matranga, Associate Supt, Business Services
Gail Price, Board Member
Barb Mitchell, Board Member
Kathy Durkin, Manager of Auxiliary
Linda Lenoir, District Nurse

Handouts: 2nd Draft Healthier City of Palo Alto Resolution
Safe Routes to School Task Force update packet

1. Survey results
2. Pedestrian/Bicycle Education program statistics
3. Website Prototype

Meeting convened at 8:20 a.m.

Ms. Harrison called roll

1. Oral Communications

None

2. Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2006

Ms. Price moved to approve, Ms. Mossar seconded. Minutes approved 4-0.

3. Follow up on draft Resolution “Take Action for a Healthier City of Palo Alto”

Mr. DeGeus and Linda Lenoir asked for feedback on the second draft of the resolution. Mr. DeGeus pointed out 2 changes in the document.

1. All references to the Strategic Alliances have been taken out
2. New language from the County Resolution was added in

Mr. DeGeus asked the Committee when the resolution should move forward and if, instead of making 2 parallel resolutions as has been done in the past, if there could be one unified resolution for both the City and School District.

After a detailed discussion from the Committee, Mr. DeGeus was asked to come back in 2 months with a matrix of all the cooperative programs involving this topic for further discussion.

4. Safe Routes to School Task Force

Mr. Emslie introduced the task force. In attendance were Ann Crichton and Audrey Alonis. Mr. Emslie said the task force would be briefing the Committee on:

1. Closing the loop on the Safe Routes to School Resolution
2. Walk to School Day survey results for 2005
3. Pedestrian/Bicycle Education Program statistics
4. Update on Adult Crossing Guard Program
5. Safe Routes to School Website Prototype

Mr. Emslie turned the presentation over to Gayle Likens and Kathy Durham. Ms. Likens passed out the survey results and statistics handouts. Ms. Likens said she did not have a copy of the signed resolutions but that the District and the City both acted on their respective versions of the resolution.

Ms. Durham pointed out the results from the Walk to School Day were only from the elementary schools. She went through the graphs and charts with the Committee members.

Ms. Likens pointed out that Gunn offers incentives for biking to school that could be a model to other schools. She said the task force was very encouraged by the data on the survey results.

Mr. Klein asked if there was comparable data from other cities. Ms. Crichton said that in the national data, Palo Alto is significantly different. Mr. Klein asked if there was traffic data to accompany this. Mr. Emslie gave an over view of the traffic trends over the last few years.

Ms. Likens said that topic number 3 was also covered in the charts.

Sgt. Herrera gave the Committee an update on the Adult Crossing Guard Program. Mr. Herrera said there were 2 intersections with temporary (3 month) crossing guards, Louis/Greer and Stanford and El Camino, that have been very successful. Both intersections met the warrant requirements.

Ms. Price and Ms. Mitchell expressed how wonderful the District thinks the program is and thanked the City for funding it.

Ms. Crichton passed out a prototype of what the new Safe Routes to School website might look like. Ms. Crichton said the task force received a \$2500 grant and with that money secured a web designer. The website should be designed with maximum shelf life in mind. Ms. Crichton said that for as little as \$25 a domain name could be secured. Ms. Mossar gave a personal check to Ms. Crichton to secure the domain name.

Ms. Price suggested there be information on the website about Safe Rides, a program for teen drivers. Ms. Crichton said they are still working on identifying all the links for the website but encouraged all feedback.

Ms. Mossar wanted to make sure that this program is still working in 5 years.

5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items

Mr. Klein asked if the committee would be discussing priority setting at this meeting. Ms. Whitley said it was on the agenda for the March 29th meeting. Mr. Klein said Emergency Preparedness as well as priority setting would be on the agenda at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30