



**SAFE ROUTES to  
SCHOOL**  
FAIRVIEW PARK

**SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Wednesday, September 9, 2015  
Fairview Park City Hall, 20777 Lorain Road**

**MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

Safe Routes to School Committee (Committee) members present included Matt Hrubey, Bill Minek, Colleen Sliwinski, Paul Shepard, Erin Hoskin, Stuart Survance, Joslyn Dalton, Kathy Yarian.

Minek motioned to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2015, Committee meeting without revision. Shepard seconded and the motion passed.

Hrubey presented his Program Coordinator report, which included the following:

- On August 19, 2015, the first day of school for Fairview Park City Schools, the Committee launched its Safe Spots program. A combined 10 businesses and municipal facilities agreed to serve as safe havens for students as they travel to and from school. The program received very positive feedback and was featured in a West Life Newspaper article dated September 3, 2015. As of September 9, 2015, the number of Safe Spots has increased to 11.
- Barb Brady arranged for a paper survey to be sent home to the parents of Gilles-Sweet Elementary students to gauge their interest in the Walking School Bus program. Contact information was requested as part of that survey. The intention is to put interested neighbors in contact with one another and allow a walking school bus route to develop organically. Hoskin reported a good response from parents. She will work with Sliwinski and Sliwinski's students to compile all the response information into a spreadsheet that can then be used to map the geographic distribution of respondents. It was later discussed that Walk to School Day activities could be used to further publicize the Walking School Bus program to parents.
- Efforts to revise the Fairview Park School Travel Plan and integrate St. Angela Merici Parish School have been put on hiatus. The Committee representative from St. Angela Merici left their employ and no new representative has been named.

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The Fairview Park Safe Routes to School Committee will work to encourage students and parents to walk and bike, provide increased access for pedestrians, and engage the community, all to create a safe environment for students to travel to and from school. We will strive to improve the health and well-being of our community and encourage lifelong healthy habits.

- The Gilles-Sweet Student Safety Patrol will be recognized as part of AAA's 95th anniversary of the Student Safety Patrol program. Shepard will inform the Committee as more details become available.
- Survance's bike skills course at the Gemini Center failed to launch this summer. We believe it was due to a delay in promotion to the community. The Committee remains confident the course is a good idea. An effort to relaunch the course is currently in process.
- Meetings regarding the pickup and drop off of students on Campus Drive took place this summer between city and school officials. After much deliberation, the determination was made to rely on stricter enforcement of current traffic procedures. The crosswalk area on Campus Drive was expanded and all students are now being funneled there by school staff. Shepard reported that just having all pedestrians cross in one area has had a positive impact on the safety issue.
- Regarding the infrastructure grant project, the City of Fairview Park received and paid its first invoice from design firm Hatch Mott MacDonald in September of 2015. The City is expecting to receive preliminary design plans on September 11, 2015. That project is currently on track for construction during the summer of 2016.

The crux of the meeting was a discussion regarding the future of the Safe Routes to School Committee. The non-infrastructure grant is coming to end with approximately \$1,500 remaining to be spent. Hrubey posed the question to those present: Where do we go from here? Options discussed included everything from shuttering the group to expanding its purview beyond Safe Routes to School. After deliberation, several determinations were made: (1) the Committee will continue, (2) Hrubey will continue to serve as coordinator as we transition into the next phase, (3) the Committee will review and update the School Travel Plan as a means of seeking future funding, (4) Fairview Park City Schools' upcoming facilities planning process will be factored into the School Travel Plan, and (5) there is a desire for the Committee to look beyond just Safe Routes to School and adopt a citywide active transportation agenda. The next step will be reviewing the School Travel Plan and determining what items have been accomplished. As part of this conversation, Survance noted his concern about the safety of the Lorain/W. 223 intersection. This led to a larger discussion about biking in Fairview Park and the need to review and update Fairview Park's bike ordinances.

The last formal agenda item was Walk to School Day to be held on Wednesday, October 7, 2015. Instead of meeting off-site as we did in 2014, it was decided that the Committee would have students and parents walk to Gilles-Sweet Elementary independently and some sort of activity, giveaway, etc. would be provided upon their arrival. This would allow the Committee to better utilize its available manpower. It would also allow the Committee to host a simultaneous event at Mayer Middle School. Hrubey reminded the Committee that we have to give out the Golden Shoe Award at Gilles-Sweet again this year.

As part of miscellaneous comments, Survance reported he is planning on meeting with Lawrence Kuh of the Bay Village school district to discuss their annual Bike Challenge and how we can bring that program to Fairview Park. This meeting will likely take place once the weather gets colder and business at Fairview Cycle slows down for winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

**Minutes approved: December 9, 2015**