

## "Discussion and Consideration of Action to Commence Safety Improvements for Safe Routes to Schools"

Over the last three months, a group of interested community members, including Council Member John Reed, Renee Goddard, Elaine Brown and myself have been meeting to discuss bicycle route safety improvements for the upcoming school year. The overall goal of the group was to improve the safety of our streets for student bicyclists and increase awareness of motorists who share the road with them. We were fortunate to have the assistance of Traffic Safety Engineer David Parisi, who was able to consult with us through Safe Routes to School funding.

The group reached a consensus that the project should be approached in two phases. Implementation of phase one would entail installation of improved signage and street markings along the way. David Parisi suggested the use of colored thermo-plastic pavement markings at major intersections in order to create vivid notice to drivers and bikers that they will be sharing the road. The project has been tentatively branded as the "Fairfax Spine" because it would run through streets along the geographic center of Fairfax. David Parisi's proposed map of the suggested route is attached hereto.

The map is substantially similar to the existing route down Bolinas Road, on Park Road and Manor Road. The new route differs in the following particulars: In the connecting section comprising Arroyo, Sequoia, Azalea, and Scenic, a specific preferred route will be chosen, possibly incorporating a single direction for bicycle traffic. Issues addressed by doing so include sight lines, grades, and usability by children, with safety being paramount.

A subsequent, related phase of the Spine would involve mapping infrastructure improvements such as modifications to stop limit lines and possible parking restrictions. These improvements would be implemented through a further community process involving notification to affected properties.

If the council supports the project, our next task will be to identify a funding source to implement phase one for the upcoming school year.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Bragman  
John Reed