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**MEETING NOTES**April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020

10:30am – 12:00pm

Virtual Meeting

**Attendees:** Amy Biggs (SVT), Robert Blumenfeld (Alliance of People with disAbilities), Jamie Burrell (City of North Bend), Lane Covington (Representing Kathy Lambert's office), David Egan (Community Representative) Marianna Hanefeld (WSDOT), Adair Hawkins (Carnation City Council ), Corey Holder (Metro), Brock Howell (SNOTRAC), Carol Ladwig (SVT), Steve Leniszewski (City of Duvall), Kim Lisk (Carnation City Council), Jesse Reynolds (City of North Bend), Gunner Scott (Metro), Valerie Stewart (Sound Generations), Dan Story (DSHS), Ben Swanson (City of Monroe), John Taylor (King County Local Services) Mandy Wes (Alliance of People with disAbilities).

**Staff support:** Bree Boyce, Nathan Emory, Victor Londono-Quintero, M'Liss Moon

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**Welcome and Announcements:**

- M'Liss shared that Staci has had her baby and will be on parental leave until mid – July.
- Marianna Hanefeld is now the Central Puget Sound Community Liaison for WSDOT, and she announced funds will be available soon with the newly passed Cares Act and she will send more information soon. SVT is on WSDOT'S radar to determine support with Cares Act funds, more to come.
- Brock Howell is the new Executive Director for SNOTRAC.
- Dan Story from DSHS says food assistance programs have increased their flexibility and are maximizing the income requirement so more people can qualify, and they will extend that benefit to single people and households that haven't been eligible in the past.

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**Updates:****5 Year Transportation Plan:**

Due to COVID-19 quarantining, staff is revising 5 Year Transportation Plan distribution to be in two phases. The first will be distribution via email and social media outlets. Please share any ideas for social media outlets, organizations, and people who would benefit from hearing about the plan to M'Liss at [mlmoon@hopelink.org](mailto:mlmoon@hopelink.org).

A request was put forth for volunteers to participate on the Task Force to work on the 5 Year Plan's Priority Projects list and presentation support. It was explained that last year the Task Force meetings were geared toward a specific action/task and meeting invitations were sent to all coalition members. The current request is to have a smaller group of individuals committed for the rest of the year with a plan to review participation in 2021. In addition to a task force group, subject matter experts will also be called upon depending on which project is active. Our aim is to have a diverse task force representing all cities and demographics impacted by future projects. All SVTC members are encouraged to consider and make recommendations to staff for other possible participants and subject matter experts.

The proposed meeting schedule is every other month from 10:30-12:00pm, second Friday of the month just like our regular SVTC meeting. An email will be sent within the week to discuss more about the Task Force with those who signed up and a virtual meeting will be scheduled in the next two weeks. We will confirm then if my proposed meeting schedule works and that our first meeting be May 8th 10:30-12:30pm.

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## **Presentation:** RARET' COVID Updates

*Bree Boyce and Nathan Emory*

The Regional Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Transportation ([RARET](#)) workgroup is composed of emergency managers, transportation providers, human services, and community advocates in Snohomish, Pierce, and King Counties. The focus is how to increase critical transportation services for populations with access and functional needs including older adults, people with disabilities, English-language learners, and others in the event of an emergency. Example RARET projects include serving as a Medicaid liaison during the 2019 snow event and producing an [Adverse Weather Driver Training Resource page](#).

They are working on getting partners together to support the community with functional needs in a regular basis and in emergency situations. Currently, RARET is tracking changes in transportation due to COVID-19 and is providing a weekly updates through a [Transportation Impact Summary](#). The goal of this effort is to increase situational awareness, gather ideas of how RARET can support without duplicating efforts, and to outline transportation provider's level of operations, the community's needs, and how transportation can help fill these gaps.

During COVID-19, RARET has established weekly meetings with Pierce County partners want to replicate this in King and Snohomish Counties. For example, Pierce County partners have shared about the emerging need of people experiencing homelessness who are having trouble getting to their methadone treatment, accessing food, and healthcare. RARET is able to use the weekly check-in calls with providers as well as the weekly Transportation Impact Summaries to help address this need.

RARET staff opened the discussion up to coalition members to hear how COVID-19 was impacting their business/operations:

- Brock Howell shared that he was also trying to track similar information in Snohomish and that he would collaborate with RARET on this
- It was shared that STTS was 100% shutdown due to drivers being under quarantine
- It was suggested to ensure the transportation provider list included Tribal partners such as Snoqualmie Tribe and Muckleshoot Tribe
- At SVT all busses are running despite a 60% drop in ridership, community members are still using SVT to get to life sustaining treatments, to food banks, and provide support for seniors. They have been able to keep a revised version of routes available and are helping support other customized requests from the community. Letters have been sent to Metro to discuss equity since route cuts have been detrimental to residents trying to get to work.
  - SVT is operating with 16 drivers, 15 vehicles, doing deliveries from 5 food banks, 2 senior centers, and are also able to drop off prescriptions through ScriptDrop. Amy shared it is best for clients to work directly with their food bank, senior center, etc. and for the center to in turn work with SVT to meet their needs.
  - All of these adjustments are new to their typical operations, but most riders used SVT services prior to COVID-19
- Duvall Community Van's latest news is that Metro has paused fare collection and waived the minimum of two rider requirement. Community Van is being used to transport people to food banks and grocery stores. Reaching out to school districts and senior centers to let them know Community Van is an available resource. They are also able to transport goods instead of people during this time so can offer food delivery.
- Hyde Shuttle has been delivering hot food to seniors and providing prescription pickup and delivery.
- Metro is launching a public education campaign to support physical distancing on busses.
- Jesse Reynolds shared that the Federal Transit Administration announced a recently passed federal coronavirus relief package. The Puget Sound region will get about \$538 million, with funding to be distributed to Metro, Sound Transit, Washington State Ferries and some smaller systems including Community Transit and Kitsap Transit. King County Metro executives estimate the agency will receive

about \$248 million, which would cover projected losses in the near term. SVT needs to be supported in gaining access to those funds since they are a non-profit and “can’t request it themselves.”

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**Action Items:**

- Bree and Nathan will follow up with requests to be added to the RARET newsletter and connect with the Muckleshoot and Snoqualmie tribes.
- Bree and Nathan will follow up with Gunner’s request to be sent an outline of RARET plans.
- Bree and Nathan to follow up with Brock’s request to coordinate COVID-19 tracking efforts.
- M’Liss to send out follow up email on Task Force request.
- M’Liss to send out SVT’s steps for deliveries from food banks.

*Next Meeting:*

**SVTC Task Force:** Proposed for May 8<sup>th</sup>, Call In, from 10:30-12:00pm

**General Coalition Meeting:** June 12<sup>th</sup>, location TBD, likely Call In, from 10:30-12:00pm

Snoqualmie Valley Transportation Coalition Staff Support:

**M’Liss Moon**, Mobility Coordinator

mlmoon@hopelink.org

425.943.6753