

MEETING NOTES

March 26th, 2019; Issaquah City Hall

Participants: Dave Wagar (Kirkland Senior Council), Janie Fredrickson (Hopelink), June Palon (Kirkland Senior Council), Karen Hartman (Kirkland Senior Council), Nellie Fishburn (Imagine Housing), Mary Joe DeBeck (City of Issaquah), Monica Negrila (City of Issaquah), Robert Blumenfeld (Alliance of People with disAbilities), Sara Sisco (Hopelink), Staci Haber (King County Mobility Coalition), Vince Cronin (Kirkland Senior Council),

Staff Support: David Lynch (Hopelink)

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND EASTSIDE MOBILITY UPDATES.

The meeting began at 1:00pm and attendees provided introductions from meeting participants. David provided the group with announcements.

Redmond Community Connections

Redmond Community Connections is a partnership between King County and Redmond to identify solutions that will fill gaps in service. The Redmond loop ended in 2018, and a stakeholder working group will provide support on the next steps for Redmond. Anna Loffing and Robert Blumenfeld are both serving on workgroup. There were a lot of issues with the Redmond Loop, including low ridership. Metro is now looking to community members and additional stakeholders so that they can get more information prior to seeking a new transportation solution. Another goal is work on improving the partnership with the City of Redmond while collaborating with the working group.

One option that was floated is to pursue Ride2 in Redmond, i.e. a service being piloted that provides demand-response door to door transportation in select service areas such as the Eastgate Parke and Ride and West Seattle. A question on whether Issaquah could get Community Connections in Issaquah was brought to the group.

March Service Changes

The Seattle Squeeze isn't over, with more development and more infrastructure on the way. Recently, Bus routes and services changed. Downtown buses are out of the tunnel and now on the service streets. Downtown is highly impacted. The Westlake Customer Service center is now closed. More changes are on the way.

North Kirkland Community Van

Community Van provides trips to community members via volunteer drivers and provides services for Kenmore and Kirkland. The van is available for trips that are less than a day and are aimed at filling current transit gaps. The program is run by city of Kirkland in partnership with King County Metro. Armaghan Baghoori is the primary contact and can be reached at commvan@kirklandwa.gov or 425-587-3924.

Community van trips cost the same as a metro one-way bus fare, but the van trip is round-trip. Trips can be booked via app payment (\$2.75 for roundtrip), monthly bus card, or human services bus ticket. Volunteers are providing rides because they want to volunteer. The trips are

meant for leisure. The 7-passenger van is wheelchair accessible, and there is an additional 12-passenger van.

Kirkland Town Hall

The 45th district representative made a proposal to reconstruct ground of major intersections. The 48th district proposal included building new apartments near park n rides for easier bus access.

KING COUNTY MOBILITY COALITION (KCMC) INCLUSIVE PLANNING GRANT

Staci Haber, KCMC

The King County Mobility Coalition (KCMC) recently concluded the first phase of an Inclusive Planning grant project, sponsored by the Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living, to demonstrate the value of inclusive planning processes for coordinated transportation efforts. The target population was older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers.

The KCMC was awarded \$35,000 over seven months to undergo an Inclusive Planning process. A Steering Committee was created, with representation from participants of the target population and community partners serving the target populations.

Staci explained the *Pathway to Inclusion*, which is a guiding tool used to evaluate inclusive planning progress. Staci estimated that current coalition programs inform and consult the target population when implementing new programs, whereas they hope to have a more inclusive planning process which would engage participants in the decision-making process for programs that ultimately serve them.

The mission of the inclusive planning process was to evaluate how people find and secure transportation in the region. While there are many transportation options available to the target populations, there is a need for a more centralized information sharing process for transportation providers and increased communication to human service agencies.

Intended Project Outcomes:

- Greater diversity of stakeholder involvement in region;
- Establish precedent for inclusive planning in the region;
- Greater assessment of the role of technology in securing transportation;
- Improved customer experience in finding and securing transportation; and
- Help stakeholders claim their power in shaping transportation solutions.

Methodology:

- Three informational interviews
- Two *Mobility for All* summits (134 attendees)

- Transportation survey (369 responses)
- Four listening sessions

Using the data collected, KCMC staff identified 73 needs and 70 solutions. These were used to develop a draft Action Plan, addressing the following topics:

- Trip Planning
- Marketing and Collateral
- Affordability/Payment
- Inclusive Planning
- Built Environment

The drafted Action Plan will also be used to guide the KCMC and sub-regional coalitions to increase the use of inclusive planning practices.

Staci explained that the KCMC recently applied for Phase Two funding for the Inclusive Planning Grant and recently learned that the grant funding was approved. The goal of the second phase is to ensure that community members are better positioned to access their community through public transportation networks.

Proposed activities include:

- Develop training curriculum for Community Transportation Navigators (recruit and train)
- Advance One-Call One-Click project
- Create Marketing/Communications Plan
- Conduct more listening sessions
- Create Inclusive Planning Toolkit

Dave Wagoner, who served on the Inclusive Planning Steering Committee, commented that there was a great cross section of community members and stakeholders on the steering committee. We should be talking about all the different types of communities and how to engage them. Dave also mentioned that the VA built something similar to a one call-one click service for veterans. "It is huge trying to get this built, but this is achievable if you have the right people in the room."

EERC members posed questions about the proposed development of a One Call/One Click Mobility platform:

- 1) Will someone be able to log in and already be screened so it shows what they are eligible for?
- 2) Would there be a way to trigger reminders for rides, specifically for people with memory issues? It would help people receive timely information. It's challenging for people to do their own screening for services.
- 3) Are you keeping find a ride? Who will own it and how will it keep going?

Questions about the Inclusive Planning Project can be directed towards Staci Haber, Senior Manager (SHaber@hopelink.org) or Janie Fredrickson, Program Specialist (GFredrickson@hopelink.org).

Vision and Mission of the EERC

EERC MEMBERS

The Group discussed the Purpose of the activity, i.e. to discuss and brainstorm a vision of the EERC that can be communicated to stakeholder groups and new members. It will help to answer common questions: what does this group do and what is our purpose? What does the future look like?

This helps new members know the purpose of the group and why EERC members attend.

A vision statement is generally an ideal and a rosy picture of what the world would look like if you achieved your mission. For example, Hopelink's vision is "a Community free of poverty." The group reviewed the drafted vision statement and took part in a group discussion to discuss potential modifications.

Our Vision: A coordinated transportation network that allows all people to move freely around East King County and throughout the Puget Sound Region.

Feedback on the drafted vision statement included:

It's Precise, to the point and broad very broad. It might be missing one important element: understanding of the transportation system by the people who are actually using it.

Another suggestion was to include network of communication that helps all served populations understand the transportation system, including a communication network that allows all people to navigate within the system.

Other suggestions included a discussion on using "safely" vs "easily" vs "freely" and whether jargon buzz words such as "coordinated transportation network" could be replaced. For example "...all people can travel easily to where they want to go."

The next step will be to modify the vision and aim for cohesive vision statement that can be brought to the group. Group members can submit feedback on the vision and mission of the EERC to David Lynch at dlynch@hopelink.org.

UPDATE: MOBILITY COFFEE TALK IN KIRKLAND

The next Coffee Talk will be focused on "Getting Around Kirkland" and will be held on Wednesday, April 24th, 2pm-4pm at the Peter Kirk Community Center. Dave Wagar from the Kirkland Senior Center will co-facilitate the event, and SeaMar will provide interpretation into Spanish. The room will be set up with coffee tables for groups of four-five people.

The Kirkland Senior Council already promoted event widely through flyers in the community. Translation into Spanish will be available, but it is still pending. Transportation experts have been confirmed, including: Community Van, Hopelink, First Transit, Access, Sound Generations

ORCA To-Go will be available, and a Community Van vehicle will be on-site, Christy Stangland & Linda Woodall will help out at the day-of the event. The first part of the event will be a structured group conversation about different ways to get around safely without a car and attendees have a chance to ask questions and share their own experiences/tips with the group.

During the second part, representatives from different transportation services (such as Transit Instruction, volunteer driver programs, etc.) will be each sitting at one of the tables and attendees are invited to move from one table to the other for individualized assistance and more specific questions.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Snoqualmie Valley Transportation Coalition (SVTC) is developing a 5-year coordinated transportation plan and will focusing on how the valley gets connected to the east side and the rest of the transit system.

ACTION ITEMS

- **David** – Complete 2nd draft of the vision and mission of the EERC and seek feedback from members.
- **David** – continue coordination of Kirkland Coffee Talk and distribute finalized version of translated flyers.

NEXT MEETING

Date: May 28th, 2019, 1:00-2:30pm

Location: Kirkland City Hall (Peter Kirk Room), 123 5th Ave, Kirkland, WA 98033

EASTSIDE EASY RIDER COLLABORATIVE CONTACT

David Lynch, Interim Staff Support

dlynch@hopelink.org / 425.943.6751