

MEETING NOTES

July 11th, 2016

King County Metro

Participants: Deborah Witmer (City of Seattle), John Rochford (King County Metro), Jill Watson (City of Seattle), Kira Avery (Snoqualmie Valley), Neil Crosier (King County DOT), Nicole Johnson (Pierce County), Pattijean Hooper (City of Kirkland), Robin Pfohman (Public Health), Ryan Warner (WSDOT), Sophia Lopez (City of Bellevue), Staci Haber (Hopelink), Zoë Jorna (Hopelink)

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting began at 9:30am. Participants provided introductions, including why they are involved with the workgroup.

Staci Haber (Hopelink) announced the recent staff changes and the recent hire of Zoë Jorna, the new Emergency Management Coordinator.

DISCUSSION: WORK PLAN UPDATE

Staci Haber provided an update to the project's work plan as outlined in the grant application. There was consensus to postpone "Workshop Two" until the fall with several proposed modifications. These suggestions included (1) conducting focus groups with key transportation providers and analyzing the results from the transportation provider survey data; (2) going to where the transportation providers are already meeting and holding smaller workshops where it is convenient for smaller, local players to discuss preparedness; and (3) emphasizing the emergency response template to the transportation providers as a technical tool for preparedness.

The idea of conducting an environmental scan, originally proposed by Francois Larrivee (Hopelink), came to the conclusion that a clear scope would need to be provided for the students. Pattijean Hooper (Kirkland) recommended contacting Robert Lord at Lakewood College (rlord@pierce.ctc.edu). Pattijean also referenced the National Organization Disability (NOD) and the Library of Congress in Washington, DC as potential resources for conducting literature reviews on this subject.

BRIEFING: CASCADIA RISING LESSONS LEARNED

Neil Crosier (King Co. DOT) was asked to brief the workgroup with a quick summary of the lessons learned through Cascadia Rising. It was said that overall we are severely under prepared due to (1) accessibility issues; (2) the deployment of resources on the ground; and (3)

a lack of staff knowledge. It was proposed that the lack of staff knowledge could be contributed to the fact that the staff was easily overwhelmed and no processes or procedures were laid out on the ground level. The next steps proposed include (1) preparing the after-action report (expected within the next month); (2) creating and implementing smaller, local exercises in order to produce local solutions; and (3) preparing and laying out responsibilities on the ground level for employees to increase preparedness.

Jill Watson (City of Seattle) asked Neil if there was capacity to provide transportation support if requested by the City of Seattle during the exercise. Neil acknowledged that Metro would not be allocating their resources or rolling stock, but the command center would be directing any Metro services during a disaster this severe.

BRIEFING: TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS' NEEDS/GAPS AND NEXT STEPS

Staci Haber lead a conversation regarding the survey results including providers feeling of their current state of readiness for providing service during an emergency, the remaining challenges and barriers to providing service, and gauging any interest in future coordination and/or resource exchange. The PowerPoint presentation will be disseminated to the workgroup and further analysis will be conducted of the survey data.

In regards to transportation companies, John Rochford (King Co. Metro) mentioned companies cannot provide a lot of depth and reach in the event of a disaster given their small size. John also mentioned a potential barrier may be the “employees” of these companies are really independent contractors so there is little to no capacity to leverage these resources during an emergency. These barriers will be a topic discussed during the transportation provider focus groups in preparation for the next workshop series.

UPDATE: 2017-2019 SECTION 5310 GRANT CYCLE

Staci Haber announced Hopelink will continue seeking funding to support this workgroup and subsequent initiatives for the 2017-2019 grant cycle. The Federal Transit Administration’s Section 5310 grant application is due at the end of September, and 20% local match support will need to be secured by that time. Staci will schedule meetings with the current match partners in the coming weeks to ensure timely submittal of the application.

FINAL ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ADJOURN

Workgroup members were encouraged to attend Deborah Witmer (City of Seattle)’s *Accessible Disaster Communications in This Digital Age* training on Tuesday, July 12th.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55am.

ACTION ITEMS

- *Neil Crosier* will invite Marcus to present formally on the Cascadia Rising Lessons Learned as it relates to transportation at either the August or September workgroup meeting;
- *John Rochford* will continue to host the workgroup meetings and will schedule the meeting room for August;
- *Staff* will receive clarification from WSDOT on the use of UASI funds for the 5310 grant match funds;
- *Staff* will schedule and meet with the existing match partners to confirm commitment in the 2017-2019 grant cycle;
- *Staff* will reach out to the transportation brokers to learn of upcoming provider meetings and determine how much time is available on the agenda and/or extending the meeting to accommodate a mini-workshop;
- *Staff* will schedule a meeting in August with the transportation “brokers” in all three counties to discuss provider contracts and barriers to providing service;
- *Staff* will determine potential participants in the transportation focus groups and schedule tentative meetings; and
- *Staff* will continue analyzing the transportation providers’ survey data as part of the pre-assessment and remaining questions to be asked in the focus groups.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, August 9th from 9:30_{am}-11:00_{am}

Metro’s King Street Center, 201 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98104

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