

**Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

10:00am – 12:00 pm

Bellevue Hopelink Learning Center

### **Welcome, Introductions, & Announcements**

**In person:** Blake Geyen (Rooted in Rights), Robert Blumenfeld (Alliance for People with disAbilities), Ellen Montanana (City of Bellevue), Mike Ryan (SHS Region 6/Zone 1), Chris Bekkouri (Bethany at Silver Lake Nursing Facility), Randy Fay (Snohomish Department of Emergency Management)

**On phone:** Cliff Perry (Northshore Senior Center), Aaron Resnick (Snohomish Department of Emergency Management), Aaron Morrow (Community Advocate), Karen Johnston (MV Transit), Anne Marie Jehle (King County Metro Accessible Services), Alex Hatcher (Center for Independence), Christy Grant (Snohomish County Human Services Department), Wendy Wright (Snoqualmie Valley Transportation), Anne Kennedy (Paratransit Services)

**Staff:** Staci Haber, Bree Boyce, Cassidy Giampetro

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### **Announcements:**

- Bree Boyce is the new Mobility Program Manager overseeing RARET and the sub-regional coalitions
- Melissa Brown Rotholtz is now at UW working on transportation planning
- New job posting will be posted soon for 1 FTE RARET coordinator position

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### **Discussion: January 2020 Snow Event**

- Pierce County was not nearly as affected as Snohomish and Snoqualmie Valley as they got the most snow.
- King County Winter Weather Medical Transportation Plan was not activated.
- City of Bellevue reached out asking about transportation options for getting to shelters. After discussion with human service agencies and shelters they said that transportation wasn't actually an issue because buses were still operating.
- Mobility Transportation Resource Line received 3 calls related to medical appointments.
- Mike Ryan shared Skykomish had no power and got a lot of snow. Had no fuel for a while and limited resources which particularly affected older adults. Chief took the lead on coordinating resources, initially the focus was on gas since a lot of people had in-home generators but without power the gas stations couldn't pump. After action report will discuss this fuel issue. PSE stepped up and put a major generator in which was hooked up to a power pole which got the store and gas station running again. Some people monitoring Facebook and created a convoy and GoFundMe which raised \$27,000 and provided a lot of free food and fuel. Did some meal prep too. School had a generator where people could go get showers with hot water. By Friday things had stabilized. Some people not happy with OEM due to expectations that they would arrive immediately and solve their problems. OEM is there to support not to fix it. Part of the challenge was a lot of people wanted to get up to Stevens Pass so they had to

set up an off-road staging area for the convoy. Typically, don't get emergency declarations or other funding for snow events such as this.

- Suggestion that people should personally be prepared for at least 2 weeks to lessen the burden on these systems.
- Robert Blumenfeld shared that Citizen Corps is a 501c who can accept money where for example City of Redmond is unable to. Then can allocate these donations to things such as the convoy.
- Chris Bekkouri decided they needed to make changes from last snow event in 2019. This year included a snow blower! Others were asking to rent the snow blower. Horrible inconvenience in their building due to construction but the construction company ultimately offered to use their equipment to plow their lot. Drivers should be prepared on how to drive in the snow.
- Wendy Wright used the snow as an opportunity to train their drivers so they can practice brakes locking up, etc. at Dirt Fish Rally Sports. Snoqualmie Valley Transportation had a hard time finding people to plow their lots.
- Cliff Perry shared that Skykomish is actually in King County but really the easiest access is through Snohomish County. Thinks King County should take a closer look at this. The main roads were quite easily passable in Bothell area, but side streets were more treacherous.
- Randy Fay did not get any calls for service but there was coordination between King and Snohomish Counties for access. Need to make sure there's a mechanism in our regional plan to coordinate with law enforcement and accessibility so our drivers don't go out there and get denied. Randy plans to talk to local Sheriff's office about this.
- Mike Ryan shared there were a lot of problems with down trees and Asplundh came in and removed many of the trees without being asked or charging a fee.
- Aaron Morrow would like to hear from King County Metro about Access and their impacts during snow. Karen Johnston shared they learned a lot from last year and the TCC Control Center with Metro planned well, had snow teams available, call center staffed 24/7, and had coordinated messaging out to riders. Quite impressed given where they are with their transition. Didn't have to cancel rides but did encourage cancelations for unnecessary rides.

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### **Project Update: RARET Adverse Weather Driving Resource Page**

- Asked workgroup members and transportation providers to review this website and provide feedback
  - Interested in more information about tire socks
- Developing a distribution plan
  - Shared current distribution channels
  - Feel free to distribute as you see fit in your networks but let us know so we can track
  - Wendy asking how we can promote snow chain training (her husband is certified) and we will look into adding his info under additional resources
  - Ideas:
    - WSDOT
    - Sheriff's office
    - Equipment providers that provide to para transit providers
    - National Weather Service
    - WA State Traffic Alerts
    - Road Alerts
    - NW Healthcare Network
    - Volunteer organizations
    - Care givers
    - Create a checklist for providers

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## Discussion: 2019 Satisfaction Survey

- Requested that workgroup members take some time to complete the [2019 Satisfaction Survey](#)
- Feedback given:
  - Add trainings, particularly Randy's too, so we can send folks his way for emergency preparedness trainings
  - Check in with emergency managers and workgroup to do an inventory of trainings that our current group can offer in terms of training
  - Randy wanting to hold County meet and greet for vendors and emergency management to discuss the reality and what we need to do, etc.

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## Update & Discussion: 2020 Workplan

- Project 2:
  - 2.1 Randy Fay shared that it seems vendors tend to resist to participate due to liability, how they'll get paid, etc. Is it worth pushing this back so that we can do white paper project first instead?
    - Is it more like gauging interest instead such as "yes, I'm interested but cannot formally agree until we address liability and payment"
    - Use survey to providers to say this is just gauging your interest for now
- Mike Ryan shared that our common activity is moving people around and our goal is to build and sustain the alliance and reason/benefit it affords to partners. It's about outreach, opportunities to convene, assumptions that if I'm supposed to provide to Skykomish and I can't get there maybe there's a partner elsewhere willing to step in in our behalf. The key to all of this is relationship building, reference it as much as possible, massage relationships.
- Aaron Resnick shared they're excited to work with Nick and the other two counties on further coordination re: med transport and other planning efforts. And Cascadia planning/participation is really important from a catastrophic planning perspective.
- Anne Kennedy expressed the need to understand what each OEM would want providers to be trained on before an emergency. Can we agree on common elements? Providers need to know what's expected of them. Ties back to offering more trainings and really promoting them.
- Randy Fay wants more conversations about task 3.2, what it entails, and if it's in scope or not
  - Maybe clarify that 3.3 is testing the regional plan which will also tie into our pitch to Cascadia Rising that we want to test a regional plan
  - 3.2 needs to be clarified on what the intention is

Randy Fay sees this as a tiered response and would like to find out if Hopelink would be interested in supporting on a county by county basis. Would like to invite 211, particularly regarding if we had a regional catastrophic event, are there partnerships that can be forged between 211, Hopelink, other partners who could help with this?

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## Update: Inclusive Planning One-Call/One-Click, Cassidy Giampetro

- King County Mobility Coalition, through the Inclusive Planning Grant, has been working on a One-Call/One-Click system that also provides info and also potentially a platform to book rides
- Applied for FTA grant through Metro
- Feedback to ensure this is client facing but also for caregivers, providers, etc.
- Working on buy-in from transportation providers and securing funding
- Desire to have Cassidy return to provide a more in-depth update on this

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## Roundtable & Next Steps

- Workgroup members to review the Adverse Weather Driving Resource Page and provide feedback
- RARET staff to follow up with Wendy Wright about how to promote her husband's ability to provide snow tire chain training
- RARET staff to follow up with workgroup to establish inventory on what trainings we can currently provide
- Steering Committee to clarify 2020 work plan 3.2 and finalize overall work plan
- RARET staff to follow up with Randy Fay about incorporating 211 and Hopelink's involvement in partnerships with regional plan
- RARET staff to send out Cassidy Giampetro's contact information

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am-12:00pm, Snohomish County (Location TBD)

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### Regional Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Transportation (RARET) Workgroup Contact:

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