

MEETING NOTES

Thursday, May 9th, 2019

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Seattle King County Habitat for Humanity Conference Room

560 Naches Ave SW Suite 110

Renton, WA 98057

Participants: Adria Briehl (Catholic Community Services), Alison Turner (City of Tukwila), Andrea Paine (KCHA), Chris Staats (DSHS CSO Renton), Jay Thomas (Rainier Foothills Wellness Foundation), Katie Drewel (Sound Transit), Lisa SanJose (DSHS), Melanie Mayock (Sound Transit), Paola Fernandez (King County Sexual Assault Resource Center), Penny Lara (KC Metro), Phillip James (Muckleshoot Transportation Manager), Regina Dove (Transportation Choices), Staci Haber (KCMC/Hopelink)

Staff Support: David Lynch (Staff Support), Eda Dedebas Dundar (Staff Support)

Welcome, Introductions & Announcements

Staff Support & SKCMC Members

The meeting began at 9:30am. David asked everyone to introduce themselves and provided the following regional updates:

- King County Metro launched Trailhead Direct Service on Sunday, April 20th. Metro is now offering weekend and holiday service to multiple trailheads along I-90 until October 27, 2019. Tukwila International Boulevard is one of the pickup points.
- KCMC Education and Outreach Committee scheduled a field trip to learn about “Via2Transit” at Tukwila Library on Friday, June 7, 2019. Via provides an on-demand transportation to Light Rail stations in South Seattle. Email Ben Tibbetts (BTibbetts@hopelink.org) to RSVP.
- Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is organizing a workshop on an electric vehicle pilot project on Tuesday, May 14th, 2019. PSE will be seeking feedback on opportunities to identify benefits of using electric vehicles in South King County and explore the potential to improve first mile and last mile gaps in the region. Hopelink and SKCMC will be providing support to PSE workshop. Adria Briehl (CCS) asked whether clients will be represented, and Staci Haber (KCMC) responded that they are welcome to attend as well.

- Staci Haber (KCMC) introduced the Inclusive Planning Grant that was received for a 7-month period in July 2018. The mission is to use inclusive planning process to evaluate how people find and secure transportation in the region. The Steering Committee is made up of 50% partners and 50% participants. They used surveys, listening sessions, and mobility summits to identify the gaps and the needs in the first 6 months and created an action plan for 2019. They are now working on the second phase of the grant. For more information on the Inclusive Planning Grant, please contact Staci Haber (SHaber@hopelink.org)
- King County Metro is currently recruiting members to be part of our Mobility Board for the Renton-Kent-Auburn Area Mobility Plan until May 17, 2019. They are looking for community members who live, work and travel within the area to advise Metro about service changes, potential improvements, and proposals as well as ways Metro can engage with the community. Board members will attend up to four planning meetings from May-October 2019. They will help Metro identify and prioritize transit service needs, examine inefficiencies in current service, evaluate tradeoffs given existing resources, and develop recommendations for the final proposal for the Plan. Mobility board members will be compensated hourly and Metro will provide accommodations for languages interpretations, meals, and childcare needs.

KCREACH Grant Opportunity and Peer Educator Program

Regina Dove (Transportation Choices)

King County Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (KCREACH) is a national grant program administered by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to reduce racial and ethnic disparities for African-born, African Americans, and Asian Americans in South Seattle, SeaTac, and Tukwila through nutrition, physical activity, and building community-clinical linkages.

Transportation Choices Coalition (TCC) is building a peer educator program for community leaders that links them with specific built environment projects in or to improve physical activity by improving the design of transportation infrastructure. TCC has received a KCREACH grant to fund 3 peer educators as a cohort from South Seattle, SeaTac, and Tukwila. The cohort this year are all University of Washington students, but live in Tukwila. The peer educators will attend a series of local leadership workshops and trainings throughout the year, participate in monthly check-ins with the Peer Educator Manager, attend community and government planning events at least once a month, organize a monthly enrollment series in the community center or a location of their choice. The Peer Education Program will run from June 2019 through June 2020.

After Regina Dove's introduction, several coalition members suggested ideas and opportunities that might help build the program: Staci Haber (Hopelink) mentioned the

travel programs of Hopelink's Mobility Management, Adria Briehl (CCS) suggested the Bus Buddy program, Alison Turner (City of Tukwila) showed an interest in partnership with City of Tukwila, and Chris Staats (DSHS) recommended a partnership with Refugee Resettlement Agencies i.e. International Rescue Committee and World Relief.

For more information about the Peer Educator Program, and for ideas and opportunities that you would like to share with peer educators, please contact Regina Dove (regina@transportationchoices.org)

Presentation: Sounder Expansion Projects in South King County

Melanie Mayock and Katie Drewel (Sound Transit)

Sound Transit is the regional transportation provider created to support regional transportation needs. Melanie Mayock and Katie Drewel provided updates on the 3 recent expansion projects: 1) System expansion 2) Kent and Auburn stations 3) Sounder Capacity expansion

System Expansion

Sound Transit carries 160,000 daily riders and with the population growth, it is projected that in 2040, this number will be between 550,000 and 700,000. To meet the growing demand of ridership, Sound Transit is working on 5 system expansion projects in South King County: 1) Federal Way Link extension, which is starting this year, 2) Tacoma Dome Link extension, 3) S Boeing Access Road light rail infill station, 4) I-405 BRT 5) Sounder station parking and access improvements

Kent and Auburn Stations

Sound Transit is working to improve access to the Kent and Auburn Sounder stations for drivers, pedestrians, transit riders, and bicyclists. Currently, Kent and Auburn parking garages fill up early every weekday. A new parking garage at East James Street and Railroad Avenue North was approved by Sound Transit Board in November 2017 to improve access to Kent. The new garage will hold 530 parking stalls, along with pedestrian, bicycle, and transit improvements. The new Auburn parking garage will be located at 1st and A streets, and will hold approximately 535 parking stalls. It will include improvements for bicyclists, pedestrians, and transit riders.

Sounder Capacity Expansion

ST will expand Sounder platforms to support longer trains, increasing rider capacity by up to 40%, will include potential track and signal upgrades, and will consider station access improvements for pedestrians, bicyclists, buses and cars to meet growing

demand during peak travel times and the potential for expanded schedule options at other times.

For more information about Sound Transit expansion projects in South King County, please contact Melanie Mayock (melanie.mayock@soundtransit.org) or Katie Drewel (katie.drewel@soundtransit.org)

Presentation: February 2019 Snow Event and Transportation Challenges

David Lynch (Hopelink)

The Regional Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Transportation (RARET) workgroup aims to increase life-sustaining transportation services in the event of a major emergency for vulnerable populations, including older adults, people with disabilities, low-income individuals, and other groups in the Puget Sound Region (Snohomish, King, and Pierce County). Workgroup members include emergency managers, mobility managers, transportation providers, and human service providers across the region.

RARET currently has six strategies:

1. **Gap Analysis:** Identify what and where the gaps are in transportation for vulnerable populations before, during, and after an emergency.
2. **Coalition Building:** Support and strengthen partnerships between transportation providers, emergency managers, human service agencies, and vulnerable populations.
3. **Preparedness:** Ensure the supply (providers/organizations) and demand (riders) are as prepared as possible to operate/function during an emergency.
4. **Resource Identification:** Assess and distribute the availability of transportation resources in an emergency.
5. **Coordination:** Develop a coordinated network to operate in an emergency.
6. **Communication:** Ensure the coordination network and demand of transportation in an emergency is clearly communicated and comprehended by all relevant stakeholders.

In 2018, RARET hosted business continuity trainings for transportation providers, to ensure they are better prepared to operate in an emergency. RARET also coordinated trainings for critical transportation support staff (i.e. Medicaid Brokerage call center representatives) to provide tools for alternative commute planning.

In February 2019, the RARET workgroup participated in King County's emergency response to coordinate transportation for individuals in need of critical or life-sustaining medical transportation. In anticipation of the snowstorm in February, RARET staff support was contacted by staff at Seattle-King County Public Health to participate in the Winter Weather Mobility Taskforce and implement the Winter Weather Medical Transportation Procedures. These Procedures were developed in 2014, to coordinate transportation to individuals in need of life-sustaining or critical medical treatment.

In partnership with the Winter Weather Mobility Taskforce and with support from Hopelink's IT department, RARET mobilized a Hopelink Mobility Triage team, to triage calls from medical facilities requesting transportation on behalf of patients with critical medical needs. The Triage team engaged in resource matching and escalation of requests to transportation partners, included Hopelink's Medicaid Brokerage and Access Transportation.

Transportation Partner Response

- Hopelink's Medicaid Brokerage transitioned to providing life-sustaining medical transportation trips, and coordinated over 20,000 trips during the snow event.
- Access Transportation provided 162 same-day life sustaining trips and was able to accommodate for 125 non-ADA eligible trips for individuals needing critical services who were not normally eligible for Access services. Access also accommodated for a few cross-county trips.

The Northwest Healthcare Response Network (NWHRN) played a critical role in disseminating information about the Hopelink Mobility Triage Team to approximately 146 medical facilities in King County. The Hopelink Mobility Triage Team was available between 7am-7pm, daily from February 11th-18th, and coordinated transportation for five individuals.

This event served as an opportunity to assess the role of RARET in an active emergency and the capabilities of transportation partners to assist. An After-Action Report was published following the February 2019 snow event, outlining the efforts and processes for RARET staff support and Hopelink Mobility staff who assisted with coordination of transportation requests. The After Action Report will be attached in the post-meeting email.

At the end of the presentation, David Lynch (Hopelink) asked for ideas from the coalition members on how the SKCMC possibly could partner with RARET and on what challenges coalition members experienced during the February 2019 snow event.

For more information about the RARET workgroup and upcoming projects, please contact David Lynch (DLynch@hopelink.org) or Melissa Brown Rotholtz (Mbrown@hopelink.org).

ACTION ITEMS

- Eda will send out a survey to SKCMC members and partners and seek ideas for the SKCMC Action Plan from coalition members.
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NEXT MEETING

Thursday, July 11th, 10:30 – 12:00
Location: TBD

SOUTH KING COUNTY MOBILITY COALITION CONTACT

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