

## **MEETING NOTES**

May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021

1:00pm-2:30pm

Zoom

Participants: *Alex O'Reilly (City of Bellevue), Betsy Maxwell (City of Kirkland), Catalina Gomez (Hopelink Mobility), Chris Lovings (Eastside Legal Assistance Program), Chris Randels (Complete Streets Bellevue), Christy Stangland (Bellevue Human Services), Corey Holder (King County Metro), Elizabeth Maupin (Issaquah Nourishing Networks), Griffin Cole (Catholic Community Services), Gunner Scott (King County Metro), Jen Boone (City of Kirkland), Linda Woodall (Eastside Friends of Seniors), Nellie Fishburn (Imagine Housing), Pran Wahi (Indian American Community Services), Rori Kirkpatrick (City of Sammamish), Sam Nigh (SHAG), Sarah Boden (Beeline Transportation), Sol Dressa (Move Redmond), Tammy Waddell (Nourishing Networks)*

Staff Support: *Maggie Harger, Bree Boyce, Camille Heatherly*

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## **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting began at 1:00PM and attendees shared introductions.

Attendees responded to the icebreaker: What have you observed to be the most urgent or drastically underserved need within the communities you represent?

Responses included:

- Strict qualifications for some transportation services
- Same day transport is difficult
- General education and educating communities
- Off-peak travel
- Older adults getting groceries, especially if they earn too much money for some programs
- People getting surgery who need someone to sign them out, which many transportation services cannot do
- Getting folks interested in going back into society after COVID

Camille opened the meeting with announcements and agenda review.

### ORCA Cards for Youth Riders

The \$5 fee for ORCA youth cards has been waived, but youth still must add their own money for fare. Youth pay \$1.50 for the bus. Find more information on Sound Transit's [press release linked here](#).

Please contact Camille Heatherly at [cheatherly@hopelink.org](mailto:cheatherly@hopelink.org) or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.

### Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Plan

Puget Sound Regional Council launched the Future of Transportation Survey to support the region's work in transportation. Take the [survey](#).

### United Way of King County Food Delivery

Free, weekly home delivery of groceries in partnership with King County food banks, Safeway and Doordash. Information available on [United Way of King County's webpage](#) in English, Spanish, Chinese, Amharic, Korean, Russian, Somali, Tagalog, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese.

### Complete Streets Series

Sol Dressa, Transportation Specialist at Move Redmond, announced the second event in the Complete Streets Series: Making Bicycling Accessible for All. Webinar was held on Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>.

### King County Metro

Corey shared that on October 7<sup>th</sup> King County Metro's fall service change will bring back some routes that had been discontinued in 2020, including 249 and 246 on the eastside. Metro routes 225, 271 and 255 will also see some off-peak trips restored. The South Bellevue Park & Ride will also be re-opening in the fall.

Reminder that the Transportation Resource Line is available to help people find transportation resources. The number to call is 425-943-6760. For more transportation options visit [FindARide.org](#).

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### **TRANSPORTATION RESOURCE LINE AND COORDINATED VACCINE HELPLINE**

*Catalina Gomez, Hopelink Mobility*

Catalina began to share about the Vaccine Transportation Helpline. This is intended to help folks find transportation to their vaccine appointment. The line is available in multiple languages. To reach the helpline, call 425-943-6706 or complete the [online intake form](#).

Catalina shared the data dashboard: 72% of all rides were fulfilled, 21% were cancelled, and 7% were unfulfilled. Limited mobility is a repeated concern from callers. Most clients are older adults or people with mobility limitations.

Pran asked about the ride chart's different origin city and destination city distributions. He asked if there were ride requests that traveled one-way. Catalina clarified that most fulfilled ride requests are round-trip. She suggested that the location of most vaccine hubs in major cities would likely cause such different origin and destination locations.

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#### **VOLUNTEER DRIVER PROGRAMS PROJECT**

Camille shared that the Volunteer Driver Programs Project webpage has volunteer page has officially launched on [FindARide.org/volunteer](https://FindARide.org/volunteer). The project's finalized deliverables include guides for interested volunteer drivers and potential service users.

The driver guide is tailored to potential or existing volunteer drivers. It has information about qualifications, training practices, service regions, benefits and more. The rider guide is tailored to potential riders of volunteer driver programs. It helps people understand which volunteer program might work for them. Finally, there will be a recruitment toolkit which will provide volunteer transportation service providers with resources about promotion, recruitment, and retention of volunteers.

Pran asked if the recruitment process like sound generations. Camille clarified that this is simply a list of all volunteer driver programs, and Sound Generations is included on this list.

This matching service will be available for about three months (until September) so we can see if it helps increase volunteer numbers for the volunteer driver programs. Interested volunteers can fill out the [Volunteer Interest Form](#) to get more information and individualized program support.

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#### **MOBILITY EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

Camille shared that the other half of her job is conducting education and outreach projects. She hopes to integrate this more into coalition work. The Getting Around East King County series is a great series of events that is tailored to support community members and other non-service providers. If coalition members think their organization and its clients would benefit from a GAPS presentation, please reach out to Camille.

There are several types of outreach partners can request: Getting Around Puget Sound (tabling or virtual discussion events), Public Transit Orientation (taking clients out on the bus), Travel Ambassador training (presentations for service providers). For more information on these programs please reach out to Camille at [cheatherly@hopelink.org](mailto:cheatherly@hopelink.org).

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#### **NETWORKING ROUNDTABLE**

Chris R., Complete Streets Bellevue – Recently completed some walking audits. They will be expanding these audits to Factoria boulevard, potentially to occur in early July.

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Griffin, CCSWW – Expanding beyond medical transportation to grocery shopping, store runs, dental, etc. Clients will be required to provide proof of vaccination for non-critical rides (i.e., medical/dental appointments).

Linda, Eastside Friends of Seniors – Looking for halftime client services coordinators for Eastside Friends of Seniors. Additionally, they have resumed the full scope of rides. They are not requiring vaccinations, assuming most riders already have their vaccine. Drivers voluntarily disclose vaccine status.

Sol, Move Redmond – Working on walking audits at Move Redmond too. Near the light rail stations

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#### **NEXT EERC MEETING**

July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

All meetings will be held virtually on Zoom until further notice. EERC encourages everyone to participate, regardless of ability. For accommodations or accessibility information, contact Camille Heatherly at least one week before the meeting.

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#### **EASTSIDE EASY RIDER COLLABORATIVE CONTACT:**

**Camille Heatherly**, Eastside Mobility Coordinator

[cheatherly@hopelink.org](mailto:cheatherly@hopelink.org)

(425) 625-6784

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#### ***Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information***

*This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Mobility Management Team at [mobility@hopelink.org](mailto:mobility@hopelink.org) or by calling (425) 943-6760.*

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