

MEETING NOTES

June 11TH, 2021, 10:30am – 12:00pm

Zoom

Attendees: Aimee Biggs (SVT), Claire Martini (Leafline Trails Coalition), Asela Chavez (City of Duvall), Tamar Shuhendler (Cascade Bicycle Club), Corey Holder (KC Metro), Ben Swanson (City of Monroe), Jean Lin (City of Carnation), Dan Story (DSHS), David Egan (citizen), Dylan Gamble (City of Snoqualmie), Sara Sisco (Hopelink Mobility Management), Valerie Stewart (FESH), Brock Howell (Snotrac), Kelly Coughlin (Snoqualmie Chamber of Commerce), Heather Koellen (North Bend City Council), Carol Ladwig (SVT), Victor Londono-Quintero (Community Van), Jamie Burrell (City of North Bend)

On the phone:

Staff support: Bree Boyce, Bebhinn Gilbert, Salwa Raphael

Welcome and Announcements:

Salwa began the meeting at 10:35

Attendees were invited to introduce themselves in the chat or unmute to introduce themselves. Attendees were also invited to share about their first bicycle or first transit ride.

During announcements, Bree Boyce shared information about Hopelink Mobility Management's Volunteer Driver Programs. Information is available on FindARide.org. Bebhinn shared the link in the chat.

This project aims to elevate volunteer programs as travel options as well as volunteer driver opportunities. The project provides "evergreen" resource connection points in tables on the website. There is also a link to a rider guide that explains the volunteer driver program model and how they work in general and specifically. Each program has a one-pager. There is also a driver guide that describes the process of volunteering. Finally, promotional materials for the programs are available for use to promote volunteer opportunities.

Camille Heatherly cheatherly@hopelink.org will be acting as a resource liaison through August for the program.

Amy Biggs: Which part of this can be used by city websites?

Bree: The FindARide landing page would be a good resource to share.

Amy Biggs announced that Snoqualmie Valley Transportation (SVT) has started their summer youth program where all kids under 18 ride free on any of the SVT services.

Brock Howell invited attendees to join on June 25th, 12-1pm, for the Snotrac speaker forum with Transportation For America and Transportation Choices Coalition to learn about the future of transit funding in DC & Olympia.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEIdeiorDovEt0BhRdskGDCkoCKcd4fKj2j>

He also mentions that Camano Island has funding for a new transit service and is having a contest to name the new shuttle.

Coordinated Vaccine Helpline Update:

Sara Sisco, Hopelink's Program Manager for Mobility Education & Outreach, shared an update on the Coordinated Vaccine Helpline, a resource available to community members to guarantee transportation to and from their vaccine appointments.

Sara announced that Catalina Gomez, who has been integral to the Helpline, has been promoted and will be leaving the mobility team at the end of the month.

Sara shared the latest dashboard.

76% of rides have been fulfilled. Canceled rates (18%) usually occur after the client has found a family member or friend to fulfill the trip.

Origin and Destination city most (40%) have originated in Seattle. The destination city has been (57%) Seattle. So we are surmising that folks are heading into Seattle for their appointments but not knowing how to get there and unfamiliar with the trip or destination.

Less than 24 notice has grown in proportion as appointments are no longer required, with the bulk of appointments occurring in April.

Clients' primary concerns are limited access to options, concerns for safety, and mobility limitations.

The Helpline will remain in place through the summer.

Amy asks if we have data from other vaccine trips. Sara answers that this is data solely from folks who have called the Helpline and does not note other vaccine access efforts.

Presentation: Leafline Trails Coalition:

Claire Martini, Coalition Manager, provided a presentation on Leafline Trails Coalition.

Claire asked attendees to consider why someone might want to go out on the trails. Responses included: recreation, physical activity, transportation, and spiritual.

Trails serve many purposes. Claire's group has been organizing since 2018 with a mission to connect the trail system throughout the Central Puget Sound region, over four counties, aligning the geography with the PSRC.

Membership includes forty active members and a larger distribution network with government, businesses, and community organizations.

The coalition is funded by Pierce County Parks, King County Parks, Snohomish County Parks, Metro Parks Tacoma, and REI

The current trail network is about 450 miles, most of which are paved for walk, bike, and roll uses. However, there is an acknowledged need to improve equitable access and coordination.

Leafline Trails Coalition's current project is a shared map vision. A layered map will show a shared system, a "cycle superhighway," with connections and stops similar to a subway map. They are currently midway through draft development, which includes a conversation around tailored investments to increase equitable access. Community engagement is planned for Summer 2021. The map is planned to launch in Fall 2021.

Kelly Coughlin mentioned that trail cleanliness and stewardship are very important, especially related to tribal sovereignty and the tribes' agreements to allow access to their lands. She requested language around proper use and stewardship to be added to the project.

Claire shared about the second project, a branding project for the Leafline Trails network. The goal is to create shared signage across the trail system to highlight the interconnectedness of this resource.

Claire then spoke to challenges of funding and maintenance needs, addressing trails as critical infrastructure. There are state funding opportunities through WSDOT's multimodal budget. There is also an effort for a statewide database. Federal level transportation bill includes some exciting options for funding networks.

Claire shared information on how to get involved with the coalition. To join Leafline: <https://leaflinetrails.org/about-us/>

Video introducing Leafline Trails Coalition work: <https://vimeo.com/459560247>

Cascade Bicycle Club Introduction:

Tamar Shuhendler introduced the work of Cascade Bicycle Club, which includes leading activities, education, and regional advocacy work.

The vision of the Cascade Bicycle Club is a safe and healthy future where bikes connect people and the community.

They are based in Seattle, but their scope is statewide. Tamar is on the policy team working with coalitions and community members to build safer, more connected places for biking, walking, rolling.

Their work has expanded in recent years to include biking and people who are using different mobility aids or walking.

Currently, they are working to connect all of Seattle by bike, especially to historically underserved areas. In addition, they are developing a shared vision with environmental groups ahead of the upcoming mayoral race and expanding their work across the state for diverse coalition building.

This fall, they organize the 2021 Washington Bike, Walk, and Roll Summit, which focuses on intersections in Washington State between biking, walking rolling, and larger sectors like housing and public health.

Request for Proposals is currently being accepted for the Summit until July 2nd, and partners are encouraged to share that opportunity throughout their networks.

Amy asks if they work Disability Mobility Initiative. Tamar answers yes; they partner regularly and have been helping shift the focus of equity and diversity in how people connect to their community.

Tamar mentioned that the Washington State Active Transportation plan is a great resource for talking points on advocating for and working transportation into planning policies.

Coordinated Awareness Campaign Project Update:

Salwa provided updates on the Coordinated Awareness Campaign project. This project addresses a need identified in the 5 Year Transportation Plan as a priority for the Snoqualmie Valley.

We know that there are unique challenges for getting around the valley, including accessibility and recognizability. So the coalition is working with regional jurisdictions to use their resources to share and distribute project deliverables.

Salwa shared an example of draft deliverables:

Example website recommendation content:

The recommendation includes an introduction to transportation needs, highlights findaride.org as a one-stop-shop transportation finding resources, and the Transportation Resources Line for the 1:1 support option.

The transportation options are grouped by needs. Every resource is hyperlinked so that people can find more information about the service. Feedback was incorporated to make the information as evergreen as possible, include resources for youth, and expand low-income resources.

Salwa will organize a meeting for communication departments to get a unified effort for the region.

Salwa then shared the flyer, will add a QR code so that the printed material is also connected to the digital resources.

Amy mentions that adding the tribal logo would be helpful since they are a funder.

And having a tribe-specific resource sheet. Salwa asks for resource: Jim Sweet - Snoqualmie Tribe - jim@snoqualmietribe.us

Jean Lin asks about the expectation of posting on city websites. Transportation is not usually a priority.

Salwa responded that some regional cities have a transportation landing page. So the recommendation is something close to that. Hopefully, the information being "two clicks" away.

Salwa mentioned that the success of this work requires buy-in from lots of different partners.

Amy mentioned that connections at school districts are helpful.

One burden is the assumption of exclusivity.

Roundtable/Discussion:

Salwa invited coalition members to offer suggestions on future projects and presentations.

Dan Story (DSHS) announced that he will be retiring at the end of June. Thank you for your partnership, Dan!

Next Steps:

- Look for meeting project meeting invite to participate in presentation session, support buy in for the project.
- Look into and develop language for planning updates regarding trails and active transportation

Action Items:

- Salwa to schedule project meeting with communications teams to present toolkit and foster buy in. Contact Salwa if you would like to join the presentation.
- Learn more about and join Leafline Trails Coalition, <https://leaflinetrails.org/about-us/>
- Consider submitting a 2021 Washington Bike, Walk, and Roll Summit proposal, <https://cascade.org/summit>, by July 2nd.

Next Meeting:

SVMC General Meeting on August 13th, 10:30 am-12:00 pm, via Zoom

SVMC Task Force on July 9th, 10:30am-12:00pm, via Zoom

Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coalition Staff Support:

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Please contact Salwa Raphael at Sraphael@hopelink.org or 425-466-3442 for any errors or omissions in these notes.