Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative Coalition Meeting Notes
Date: January 31, 2023
1:00pm-2:30pm
Zoom

Participants: Bree Boyce (Hopelink,) Scott Emmons (Kirkland Senior Council), Allison Zike (City of Kirkland), Gazel Tan (Bellevue Network on Aging), John Larson-Friend (City of Issaquah), Anny Smith (City of Kirkland), Sara Sisco (JHopelink), June Palon (Kirkland Senior Council), Adam Halpern (Jewish Community Services), Dean Syndor (RARET), Diana Austin (DSHS), Elizabeth Maupin, Griffin Cole (Catholic Community Services), Julio Perez (NKCMC), Mandy Wes (Disability Empowerment Center), Michael Leach (Move Redmond), Roz Novikova (Hopelink), Phirun Lach (Sound Generations), LouAnn Ballew, Guillermo Rivera (Eastside for All), Maritza Lauriano (Move Redmond), Pran Wahi (Indian American Community Services)

Staff Support: Tracie Jones, Bree Boyce

Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements

- Agenda
  - Welcome & Introductions
  - Announcements
  - Eastside Mobility for All Pilot Project Update
  - Kirkland Comprehensive Plan – Alison Zike
  - Eastside Advocacy for All Updates
  - Roundtable Discussion and Next Steps
- End of Year Achievements – Heather Clark
  - Last year, held 6 coalition meetings.
  - Focused on Eastlink, transportation crisis prevention, ORCA updates, Bellevue Comprehensive Plan, WA DOT pedestrian safety meetings, and community transit grant projects
  - Hosted 24 in-person “Getting around Puget Sound” events, and held 9 virtual events,
- Hopelink’s newest team member, Teresa Gno, Community Van Program Manager.
- Sound Transit approved funds to keep the Eastside Starter Line option viable.
- Elizabeth Maupin – “Bellevue needs less enforcement of parking. Many families without cars need better access to transit. Seems a lot of time, money, and energy go into policing transit. Challenging for low-income individuals who need more ORCA support through prepaid usage cards.”
- A participant from BNOA-
  - Thank you to EERC partners.
  - Our network met with the City of Bellevue Health and Human Services Director discussing transportation issues, creating a higher level of awareness.

Please contact Heather Clark at HClark@hopelink.org or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.
**Collaboration with other departments will be necessary to support aging Bellevue seniors.**

**View from the lens of older seniors unique perspective.**

**Thank you to “Rides and Smiles”. Program works well for seniors. Program continues piloting.**

- **Catch 22. “Rides and Smiles” does not advertise, so not great awareness of important service.**

Maritza Lauriano, Move Redmond

- **Transportation Talks & events**

  - **Biking 101: Intro to Learning How to Ride a Bike**
    - **When:** March 04, 2023, 9:30AM - 12:30PM
    - **Where:** 8711 160th Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052
    - **What:** We understand that not everyone had the opportunity to learn to ride a bike growing up, but it is never too late to learn! This is a 3-hour session on Saturday, March 4th, 2023, 9:30am – 12:30pm at the Redmond City Hall parking garage. You will get an introduction on how to balance on two wheels, pedal, steer, & brake! You will learn these skills in a small-group, supportive environment where you build your skills and confidence through on-bike practice. You will develop your skills and knowledge with one-on-one attention from Brian, riding in a covered, empty parking lot without cars or traffic. You’ll be amazed with what you can do!

  - **Biking 201: Bike Handling Brush Up**
    - **When:** March 11, 2023, from 9:30AM – 12:30PM
    - **Where:** 8711 160th Ave NE, Redmond, WA 98052
    - **What:** Did you just learn how to ride a bike? Or it’s been ages since you’ve last ridden a bike and need to brush up on your skills? Biking 201: Bike Handling Brush Up is for you! This is a one 3-hour session on Saturday March 11, 2023, 9:30am – 12:30pm at the Redmond City Hall parking garage. This class will help you improve your bike handling skills & enable you to control your bike with confidence! You’ll learn to power pedal start, accelerate quickly, maintain balance at low speeds, shift gears, signal turns & lane changes and more!

  - **How to Buy a Bike & Bicycling Petting Zoo**
    - **When:** March 18 2023, from 10:30AM – 12PM
    - **Where:** Redmond Library – 15990 NE 85th St, Redmond, WA 98052
    - **What:** Are you looking to buy a bike, but don’t know where to start? In this class, we’ll cut through marketing clutter and bicycle jargon to give you the essential information you need to buy the right bike. You’ll learn about the different styles of bikes that are available, what each style is for, and key features for the kinds of riding you want to do. Includes a “bicycle petting zoo,” so you can see—

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and touch!—different kinds of bikes and bike features. You’ll take away key information so you know what you’re shopping for and what questions to ask when you buy a bike.

- **Complete Streets Conversations: Designing Safer Streets**
  - When: March 22, 2023, from 12PM – 1:30PM
  - Where: Virtual webinar
  - What: Redmond City Council passed Vision Zero last year, but pedestrian fatalities and serious injuries are on the rise. What can we do to change the path we are on? Our panel of Planners & engineers will explore how we can design safer streets. Learn about efforts to improve safety design guidelines at the Federal level. Learn how the statewide Department of Transportation Complete Streets Policy is being implemented across Washington. Finally, at the local level in Redmond learn about the Road Safety Plan and Level of Traffic Stress that will shape safer streets in Redmond.
    - Panelist: Dongho Chang, State Traffic Engineer & Director of Transportation Operations Division for WSDOT, Celeste Gilman, Strategic Policy Administrator for WSDOT Active Transportation Division, Zachary Howard, Principal Multimodal Planner, Complete Streets (King & Snohomish) at WSDOT, Vangi Garcia, Transportation Planning & Engineering Manager at City of Redmond

- **Driver's Ed for Bicyclists: Essentials of Bicycle Driving**
  - When: March 25, 2023, from 10:30AM – 12:30PM
  - Where: Redmond Library – 15990 NE 85th St, Redmond, WA 98052
  - What: In this class, you’ll learn the essentials of how to “drive your bicycle” on a variety of roads. You’ll learn about our road and traffic system, the rules of the road, and how to ride in a way that gracefully communicates and cooperates with motorists, so everyone gets where they’re going safely. Using real-world examples, you’ll learn how to ride on roads with and without bike lanes, how to prevent the most common types of crashes, and how to get what you need from motorists with joy and ease. Includes smart cycling strategies you can use right away and a take-home booklet so you can keep learning after class.

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**You Belong Here- 2044 City of Kirkland Comprehensive Plan Update.**
Allison Zike

Every 8 years, the city of Kirkland comes together to create a vision and a long-range planning document for Kirkland’s future called the “Comprehensive Plan”. “Kirkland 2044 Comprehensive Plan” update process helps guide growth over the next 20 years. Simultaneously, the [Transportation Master Plan](#) is updated to compensate for projected growth patterns and transportation needs. Additionally, the City of Kirkland is creating its first Smart

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City Master Plan with innovative technology solutions for operational efficiency and connect people. [Smart City Master Plan flyer](#).

The Kirkland Comprehensive Plan consists of three main sections:

- **General Elements** chapters by topic area and an Implementation chapter. Some of these are required by the State Growth Management Act (GMA) and others are optional elements that are unique to Kirkland.
- **Subarea Plan** chapters (neighborhood plans and business district plans). These are optional chapter that are also unique to Kirkland.
- **Shoreline Area** chapter that is part of the [City's Shoreline Master Program](#).
  - General Elements
    - Vision and Framework Goals
    - Introduction and General
    - Community Character, historic structures and places.
    - Natural Environment
    - Land Use
    - Housing
    - Economic Development
    - Transportation Parks
    - Recreation and Open Space
    - Utilities
    - Public Services Human Services
    - Capital Facilities Implementation

**Transit Focus:**

- **NE 85th Street Station Area.**
  - Develop thriving, new, walkable community, to support high tech, family wage jobs, affordability, while sustaining established infrastructure and buildings.
  - Commercial, retail all linked by transit; new rapid bus and commuter transit station I-405/85th Street interchange by 2026.
  - Reflect all travel modes through policies, inventory, operation.

Community members feedback on top priorities for Kirkland’s future:

- Increase alternative transportation modes such as point-to-point shuttles, more charging systems, and rapid electrification of the city.
- Rethink transportation corridors instead of just amending.
- People can’t afford/no opportunity to live in Kirkland today.
- More creative housing opportunities such as co-housing with shared resources; reinforce the idea of creative missing middle housing options and go beyond just duplexes and triplexes

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• Finding alternative ways to generate tax revenue as we transition away from a car-centric Kirkland
• “Zero Carbon City by 2044”
  o To view all the comments received at this event click on this [community comments document](#).
  o [Community Engagement Plan](#) - Broadview Planning 12-2022
  o [Equity Review Report](#)
  o [Kirkland Comprehensive Plan](#) (adopted 2015)
  o [City Council briefing #2 12-13-2022 presentation](#)
  o [City Council 4-19-2022 presentation](#)
  o [Planning Commission briefing #2 12-8-2022 presentation](#)
  o [Planning Commission 4-28-2022 presentation](#)
  o [Transportation Commission 7-27-2022 presentation](#)

### Planning Process and Phasing

- Update process revisits the Vision Statement, Guiding Principles, and policies to see if still relevant or need revising. The General Elements that will be updated including transportation, housing, land use.
- [Planning Process Phasing Graphic 2023-24](#)

### Focus Groups and Community Engagement

- [Focus-Group-Informational-Flyer.pdf](#) (PDF, 800KB)
- [Schedule-for-community-conversations-focus-groups.ashx.pdf](#)
- Contact Katie Hogan at [khogan@kirklandwa.gov](mailto:khogan@kirklandwa.gov) or 425-587-3289.
- [Community Engagement Schedule In 2023](#)

### Visioning and Community Engagement Process Will Explore:

- How to accommodate and plan for growth?
- How to improve mobility around the city and to the region? how can we increase affordable housing opportunities?
- How to become more welcoming and inclusive?
- How to maintain and enhance quality of life?
- How to prioritize transit for underserved populations.
- How to advocate for transit service, affordable housing.
- How to define and maintain targeted updates.
- How to work with new developments.

**Questions:**

- Anny Smith, City of Kirkland. In recruiting for focus groups, is Kirkland providing alternative language resources?
  - Yes, we’re Working with different community groups, provide live translations services, different communities. We have a long way to go, but working to be inclusive, representing our diverse community.

Please contact Heather Clark at [HClark@hopelink.org](mailto:HClark@hopelink.org) or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.
Looking for support, recommendations, contacts to better represent our focus groups.

– Does the city worry about gentrification?
  o Kirkland requires 10% of new units affordable.
  o Defined as 50% of KC median income.

– Anny Smith, City of Kirkland. Who’s connecting with focus groups?
  o Actively sending recruitment flyers throughout Kirkland, with accessible language services.
  o Lake Washington High School, Juanita High School, Kirkland Senior Council, Human Service Managers.
  o Beginning phases, with room to grow.

Eastside Mobility for All Grant Project – Rides and Smiles Pilot Program
Phirun Lach

• Individual rides to medical, personal appointments, social activities, errands.
• Program maintains 2 full-time shuttles, work around to get other riders around.
  o 105 trips, 67 new repeated riders. 5400 miles. Active program.
  o 405 trips so far, as of today.
  o Slow start, 50 trips October; 100 trips in November; 125 trips in December; 150 trips in January.
  o One driver stepped away from Sound generations to pursue other opportunities, which has left tremendous void.
• Tuesday and Thursday are the busiest/days, at senior centers.
• 50% personal rides, other requests: 50% are medical, nutrition, grocery trips
• Demand continues to grow, and now partnering with Lyft.
• No updates on grants funding - $70,000 funding.
• Looking towards third shuttle as Eastside demand increases.
• Limited advertising due to pilot program structure and rules.
  o Only four partners approved organizations and due to limited-service area.
  o Not enough resources to expand unless we get funding.
  o Trying to streamline requests, with similar pick-up and end destinations.
  o Goal: Riders only wait 5 minutes at pick-up locations.
• Request advance notices; many requests are same day requests/day before requests. Need minimum three-day advance notification.
• Funding from King County Metro; Sound Generation’s working with Metro to specifically fund pilot before grant money kicks in. We’re able to defer some funding to support pilot.
• Need parking spots for shuttles during off-hours (5:00 PM – 8:00 AM). Need community support to find those throughout our service areas.

Please contact Heather Clark at HClark@hopelink.org or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.
• Questions
  – Bree Boyce, Hopelink. How can partners support Sound Generations? We need support hiring and retaining drivers. Please spread the word.

  – How to support similar funding? We’re waiting, any day now. Without funding, “Smiles and Rides” is not sustainable. We only have two shuttles at capacity, at this moment. Our forecasted growth has tripled since program initiation. We are likely to get funding based on grading we’ve been given. Hopefully on-track to receive funding and extend for foreseeable future.

  – Mandy Wes – Is there medical transport for special needs? We’re not at that level of service, yet. Funding needed to support those services. We have plans, but not targeting due to funding.

  – Anny Smith, City of Kirkland – What about City Halls for parking availability? We’re waiting for response. Not reached out to Kirkland yet. City of Redmond was an indirect no, “check back”.

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**Eastside Advocacy for All Updates**

Advocacy for Transportation Services

• Eastside Mobility for All project stemmed from this workgroup.
• Subgroup developed to identify transportation needs and ways we can meet them.
• Working on reconvening and meeting regularly to continue conversation and brainstorming.
  • Eastside transport gaps
  • Organizations needing help.
  • Transportation for youth.
  • Gap for medical services and appointments requiring sedation.

• Please contact Heather Clark at hclark@hopelink.org if you would like to take part.

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**Roundtable Discussions**

Julio Perez – Hopelink, NKCMC

• Cross-County Transportation Project Task Force Meeting
• Join upcoming NKCMC Task Force Project, studying the fluidly and ease of travel across county lines, by conducting an environmental scan, identifying and advocating for intersectional county improvements between King and Snohomish Counties.
• February 14, 2023, via Zoom, @ 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM. Registration Required (HERE).

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Please contact Heather Clark at HClark@hopelink.org or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.
• Project and research will be conducted in conjunction with University of Washington, Evans School of Public Policy and Governance, and presented at the May 16, 2023 King County Mobility Coalition meeting.
• Questions, Julio Perez, jperez@hopelink.org.

Pran Wahi, Indian American Community Services
• We are starting another pop-up center in Redmond, as we now have funding.
• Looking for volunteers to support our programs.

Adam Halpern- Jewish Family Services
• Moving into new Together Center.
• Striving to branch out into more collaborative efforts once new office space.
• Start moving families in mid-March.

Dean Sydnor, Hopelink RARET Coordinator
• ETPN (Emergency Transportation Provider Network
• Transportation coordination during emergencies. How to navigate changing transit landscape during emergencies?
• Moving forward with ETPN Phase One; Trying to consolidate program, creating user friendly, reliable, and predictable process through partnership, education, and trainings.
  o Meeting February 15, 2023.
  o Resilient operations.
• Rolling-out network services once baseline is established, and preexisting partners are in alignment.
  o Coordination of responses through 3 county-wide emergency networks.
  o Emergency network will be available to all.
• How to support ETPN and RARET:
  o Attend RARET work group meetings, encourage other regional partners to attend.
    ▪ Creating network of services and information protocols to support emergency services during regional disaster or emergency situations.
  o Next RARET meeting will be held March 22, 2023.
  o Contact DSydnor@hopelink.org.

Lou Anne Ballew – Redmond Senior Center
• Redmond Senior & Community Center Topping Out Ceremony
  o We're making great progress on Redmond's new community gathering space, and we invite you to take part in recognizing this major milestone as we place a beam in the tallest section of the building.

Please contact Heather Clark at HCClark@hopelink.org or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.
The event will take place from 1 - 2 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 3, at the construction site adjacent to City Hall at 15670 NE 85th St. in Redmond. Light refreshments will be served. Parking is available in front of City Hall.

- Construction Update for Feb. 2, 2023
  - Glue laminated timber or "Glulam" beams have been installed above the gymnasium, and now hold Mass Plywood Panels or "MPP" that have enclosed the structure on the south side of the building. Concrete slabs have been completed and framing has started on the north side of the building.
  - May 2024 opening due to electrical supply chain delay.

Guillermo Rivera - Eastside for All

- Upcoming February chat with Bellevue City Council – meet and greet.
- History of Exclusion on the Eastside
  - February 22, 2023, @ 5:30 PM, via Zoom
  - Deep dive into the history of East King County through a racial equity, transportation, and affordable housing lens. The past and the present are connected; we will explore the ways that past practices, policies, and laws have contributed to the housing struggles and inequities communities face today in Eastside cities.
  - Our cities are making decisions that will affect our communities for years to come. Let’s talk about the things we can do right now to make a difference for ourselves and future generations.
  - https://eastsideforall.org/events/history-of-exclusion-on-the-eastside/

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**Next Steps & Commitments**

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**Upcoming Meetings**

Next EERC Meeting - Tuesday, March 28th from 1:00-2:30 PM, via Zoom.

**Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative Contact Information:**

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425-943-6771

**Bree Boyce,** Program Manager of Coalitions

Please contact Heather Clark at **HClark@hopelink.org** or 425-625-6784 with any corrections or additions to these notes.
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425-943-6751

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