

MEETING NOTES

Date: 6/26/2025

Participants: Sagar Keshari, Suleiny Altamirano, Oliver J Moffat, Sun-Jen Hsiao, Ray Thomas, Cliff Perry, Alan Bruckner, Kristina Sawycky

Staff Support: Grace Georgitsis, Heather Clark, Lyn McCarthy, Nicole Ross, Meg Cronister, Erin Funk

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NKCMC COORDINATOR, YSABEL YU, SHARES THE MEETING AGENDA, THE NKCMC STATEMENT OF GRATITUDE, AND LEADS PARTICIPANTS THROUGH A ROUND OF INTRODUCTIONS

CAMP UNITED WE STAND

- North King County has few shelter options available
 - o 9.6 unsheltered people for every 1 available bed, worst ratio in King County
- 96% of residents were last housed in King or Snohomish, avg age is 46
- Serve all genders and allow couples but not children
- Self-managed camp, residents set camp rules and oversee security, kitchen, and waste services, executive committee
 - o Monthly dues: \$45-\$55
- Entry barred for sex offenders or those with outstanding warrant
- Violence, alcohol, drugs, weapons, not allowed
- Annual operating budget is under \$50,000
 - o Reliant on donations and membership fees
 - o Daily operating cost of \$3.50 per person
 - o Initial setup cost is about \$600/person
 - o Move expenses and insurance are the largest financial burden
- City codes often limit the camp's stay to 90 days per site, completely reliant on faith-based organizations to provide host sites
- Current location has one infrequent bus line nearby
 - o Employment opportunities are far away
 - o Residents said they would prefer to be in Northwest Seattle nearer to a transit hub or light rail

Discussion:

- Erin Funk: Do you provide space for those experiencing vehicular homelessness
 - o Ray Thomas: Yes
- Are pets allowed?

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- Ray: yes, in fact cats can be valuable assets if there are mice and rats nearby
- How long is the average length of stay
 - There is no time limit, many people stay because they are able to build community and relationships there. The moves can be stressful and people can be barred if they are not participating
 - Non-working people are expected to contribute 3 hours a day and working people are excused from some of this
- Lyn McCarthy: How do you find the host sites and who is responsible for enforcing the rules
 - Elected EC's are trusted by the community and are empowered to enforce the rules
 - Finding a host site is basically word of mouth. Need about 10,000 square feet (about 60 parking stalls), are often on a field or grassy area
- Heather Clark: Wondering about the potential for community van to be helpful for the camp residents
 - Ray: we are actively looking at options for transportation, I think we missed the window for metro vans. We have one driver approved and are encouraging other members to become Community Van drivers.
 - Often camp directors don't find out about transportation needs until the last minute
 - Community vans are nice because Metro maintains them; van maintenance can be tough and/or expensive
- Oliver: there are always last minute things that need to be addressed at the camp
- Lyn: KCMC is creating a storymap and have already spoken to a few residents for the projects and they both shared about the community at the camp and creative solutions they have found for transportation issues.

UW TACOMA

- Sagar Keshari: Understanding the barriers to walking, biking, and rolling in rural communities: A resident survey to support active transportation planning
- Research objectives: ID and map key Active Transportation barriers in RRCs (Rural residential clusters), Assess needs and prioritize interventions, create resources for implementing the target interventions
- Rural Residential Cluster – small, unincorporated cluster of adjacent homes alongside a state highway outside of population centers
- Study area includes 19 counties in Western Washington state
- 346 RRC Clusters identified in Western Wa with 82,000 residential parcels in 18 counties

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- Rural residential survey: the goal is to understand the barriers residents face while walking or biking in their community

 - o Not an open public survey, only want those who have received a postcard to take the survey

 - So far have only received 13 responses out of 327 surveys
- Ysabel: Is there a specific way you would like us to share these slides? I.e. NKCMC Distribution list, other distribution list, etc.

 - o Sagar: If there is a way to connect with the people who have already received a postcard, or maybe let people know that the research is legitimate in case they have already received a card.
- Nicole: Is the survey open to the public or is it only those who have already received the survey
- Ysabel: What do you hope to get out of this study once its completed

 - o Hope that the complete streets mandate can be expanded beyond population centers

 - Will use the data gathered in this research to develop a tool to better analyze active transportation infrastructure in rural clusters

DOWNTOWN BOTHELL WORKGROUP

- Ysabel is a member, the workgroup is looking for feedback on development in housing, transportation, or public spaces in downtown Bothell they are looking for feedback
 - o How can downtown Bothell be more connected to surrounding neighborhoods and cities, what would make transit more convenient, and how can they better manage parking and curb space

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

ACTION ITEMS

- **Anyone with input on the downtown Bothell discussion questions reach out to Ysabel so she can bring them to the group**
 - o **The workgroup will meet in June so plenty of time to share**

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 25th 10:30am-12:00pm via Zoom

CONTACT

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