

Central Puget Sound's Multimodal Trip Planner and Referral System for King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties

# Find a Ride Advisory Committee

August 11, 2025

### Welcome, Find a Ride Advisors!

Please adjust your name to include your agency or affiliation

Example: Carmen Sandiego, she/her, ACME Detective Agency

The meeting will begin at 1:03 PM



We welcome and value all communities. We value, respect, and honor the identity and experience of all members.

# We Welcome Everyone



We encourage everyone to participate, regardless of ability. We are committed to **listening**, **learning**, and **improving** in this process.

We acknowledge that the work we do takes place on the traditional land of the **Coast Salish** peoples, as the first people of our region. We honor with gratitude the land itself & past, present, & future of these tribes.

Learn more at Whose Land;

Visit <u>United Tribes of All Indians</u> at Daybreak Star Cultural Center.

### **Zoom Tips**

### Q & A

• There will be opportunities for questions and answers

### **Chat Best Practices**

• The chat may not be accessible for everyone.

#### **Rename Yourself**

• Include pronouns and organization / affiliation to help build community.

### Co-hosts are helpers

• Direct message a co-host with any concerns or questions.



### Meeting Recommendations

### Meeting Attendance

 Name, pronouns, organization / affiliation posted in chat.

### Introduce Yourself

 Introduce yourself each time you speak.

### Raise Your Hand

 Please use the raise hand function to be called on.

# Ask for Assistance

 Message a co-host for support during the meeting.



### Committee Guidelines

### **Be present**

Listen for understanding

#### Learn from each other

- Share from your own experience, respect confidentiality
- and monitor your airtime

#### **Culture of Abundance**

Practice "both/and" thinking

#### Allow "ouch" & "oops"

- Speak your discomfort & your truth
- Intent is different from impact

#### Suggestions?

Please add your ideas in the chat or raise your hand to unmute



# Partner Announcements





Questions?





### Find a Ride Hopelink Mobility Team Members



Transportat	tion
Resources	Line
Mobility	
<b>Specialist</b>	

Find a Ride Program Manager

Mobility
Management
Director

#### Rozalia Novikova

Mobility Specialist, Find a Ride Mobility@hopelink. org (425)-943-6760

#### Laura Loe

Program Manager Find a Ride lloe@hopelink.org (425) 941-6791

#### **Staci Sahoo**

Director Mobility Management ssahoo@hopelink.org (425) 943-6769



### Meeting Agenda August 11, 2025

Fiscal Year Achievements

Program Updates & Phase 2 Updates

Sound Transit & ADA Paratransit

Request for Information Report-Out

**Action Items & Next Step** 

# Speakers

Laura Loe, Program Manager, Find a Ride

Staci Sahoo, Director, Mobility Management, Hopelink

Emilie Pelfrene, Sound Transit

Kevin Chambers, Full Path Transit Technogloy



### Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Achievements

We accomplished so much together this last year!



### Find a Ride 2024-2025

Trip Planner (1-click)	
Planned Trips	3,164
Find a Ride Website	
Site Visits	15,163
Site Views	29,412
Transportation Resources Line	
Phone & Email Navigation Support	542

# Find a Ride Meetings 2024-2025

Total Meetings Held:

6

Count of Unique, Non-HL orgs:

28

**Total Active Participants:** 

28

**Total New Members Added to Distribution List:** 

38

### Active People

**Aaron Morrow** Al Benedict Alex O'Reilly Amy Biggs **Antoinette Smith** Ben Atwell Brian Vallene **Brock Howell** Cliff Perry Daeveene May Deborah Witmer **Dinah Stephens Dorene Cornwell** Gazel Tan

Griffin Cole Jeff Abrams Justin Deno Kimberly Meck **Kunal Mehta** Laura Lee Sturm Lissette Gutierrez Matthew Weidner Phirun Lach Pran Wahi Ryan Johnson Sean Bouffiou **Todd Holloway** Tony Hester

### Represented Organizations 2024-2025

Bellevue Network on Aging **Catholic Community Services** Center for Independence City of Kirkland **Community Transit Crisis Connections** Disability Empowerment Center **Full Path Transit Technology** HealthierHere **Homage Senior Services Indian American Community Services** King County Metro King County RALS Molina Healthcare Northshore Senior Center

Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition Pierce Transit **RTAP** Seattle Department of Transportation Seattle/King County Aging and Disability Services Shared Use Mobility Center **Snoqualmie Valley Transportation** Snotrac **Snow Goose Sound Generations Sound Transit** System User Taskar Center for Accessible Technology Visit Bellevue Washington State Department of Transportation

Questions?





# Phase 2 Updates

• Staci Sahoo, Director, Mobility Management, Hopelink



Questions?





# Program Updates

Laura Loe, Program Manager Find a Ride, Hopelink



# **Technical Updates**

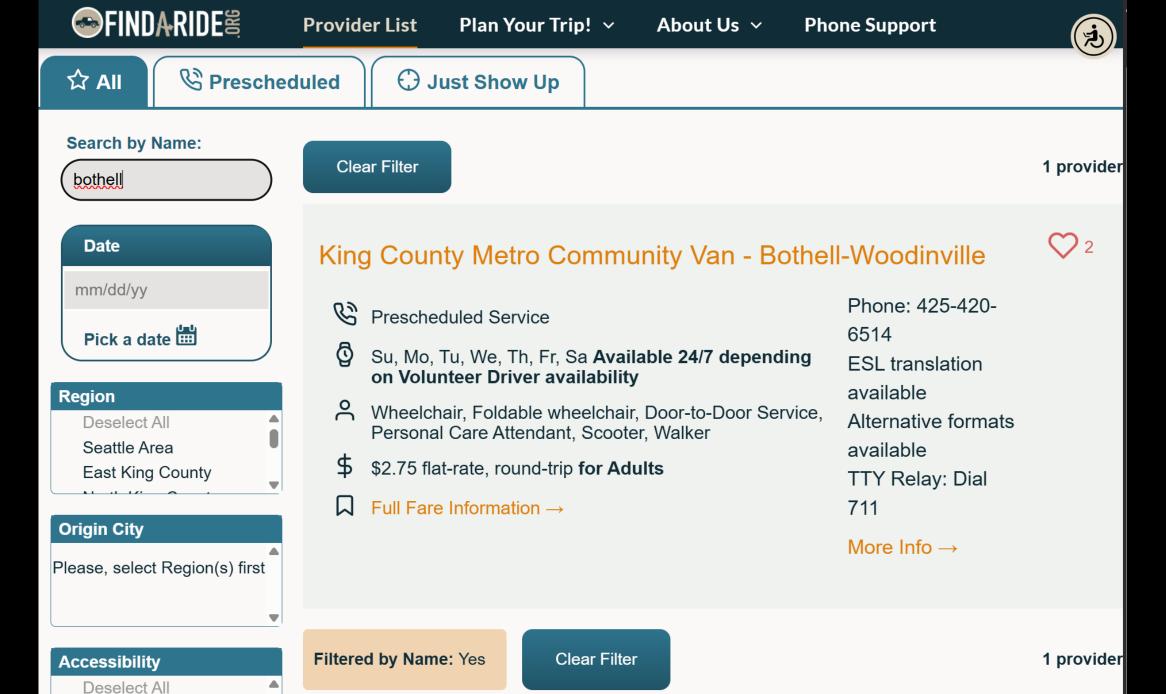
- Displaying Demand Response Services
- Discovery and Accuracy
- Fares



# **Service Discovery**

- Next Three Slides:
  - Existing FindARide.org Provider list
  - Calendar view in trip planner
  - Results in Trip Planner
- Overview of Best Practices / Vendor Advice





**Power Chair** 







ENGLISH ≡

### Find your ride on Find

### **Starting Location**

8990 154th Ave NE, Redmond,

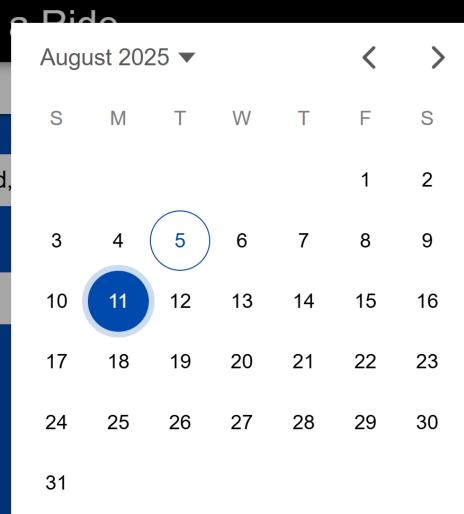
#### **Destination**

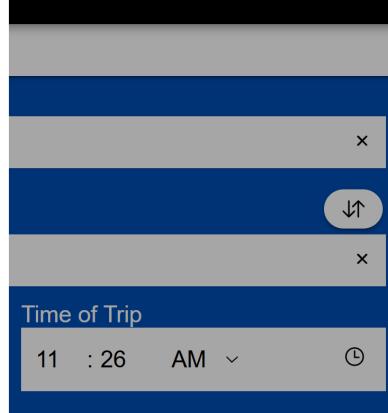
**Bellevue Transit Center** 

#### Depart at / Arrive by

Depart at

Arrive by



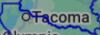


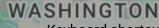
**CANCEL** DONE

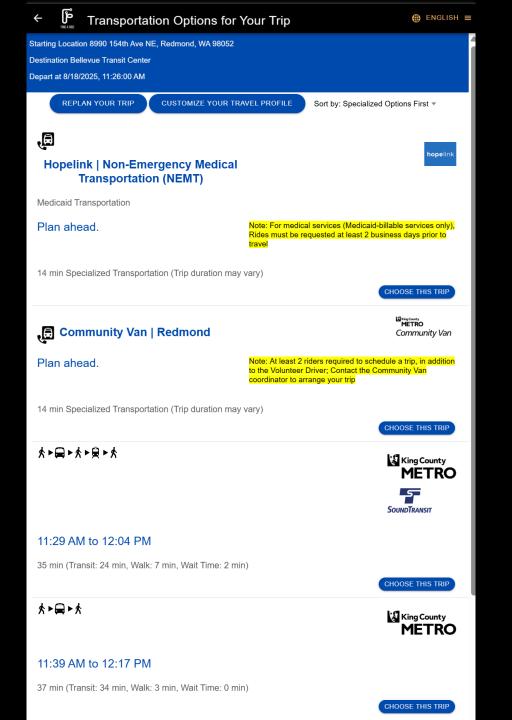














# **Booking Rules and Flexible Service Provision**

- Same Day and Plan Ahead display all together for trips planned today
- Technical Advice from Cambridge Systematics & Arcadis
  - limitations of enforcing booking rules based on days in advance
  - the importance of informational content
  - flexibility of some service providers in breaking booking rules
  - the potential impact on user experience
- Most users don't change the calendar for future trips to a future date



Questions?



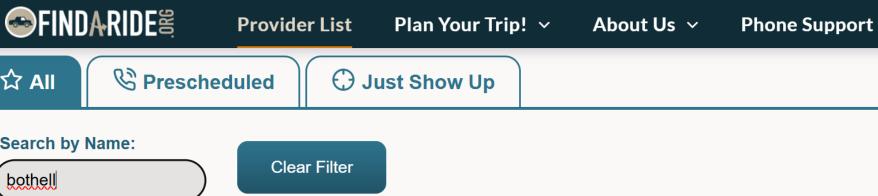


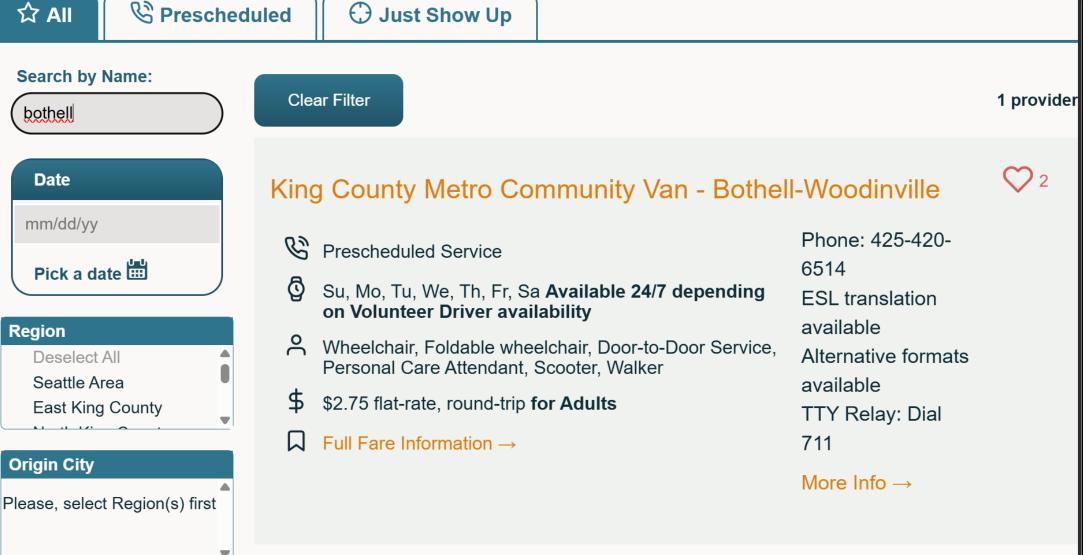
### **Fares**

#### Next Few Slides:

- Existing Provider List at FindARide.org
- Find a Ride Service Description for Demand Responsive Services
- A few examples of Trip Plans in various Trip Planners
- An example of how fares might look in Find a Ride's Trip Planner
- Overview of Next Steps for addressing Fares in the Trip Planner







 $\blacksquare$ Filtered by Name: Yes **Clear Filter** 1 provider **Accessibility** Deselect All Power Chair





#### Transportation Providers

Community Van | Shoreline - Lake Forest Park

Fare: \$3.00

Phone: (425) 943-6721

Email: communityvan@hopelink.org

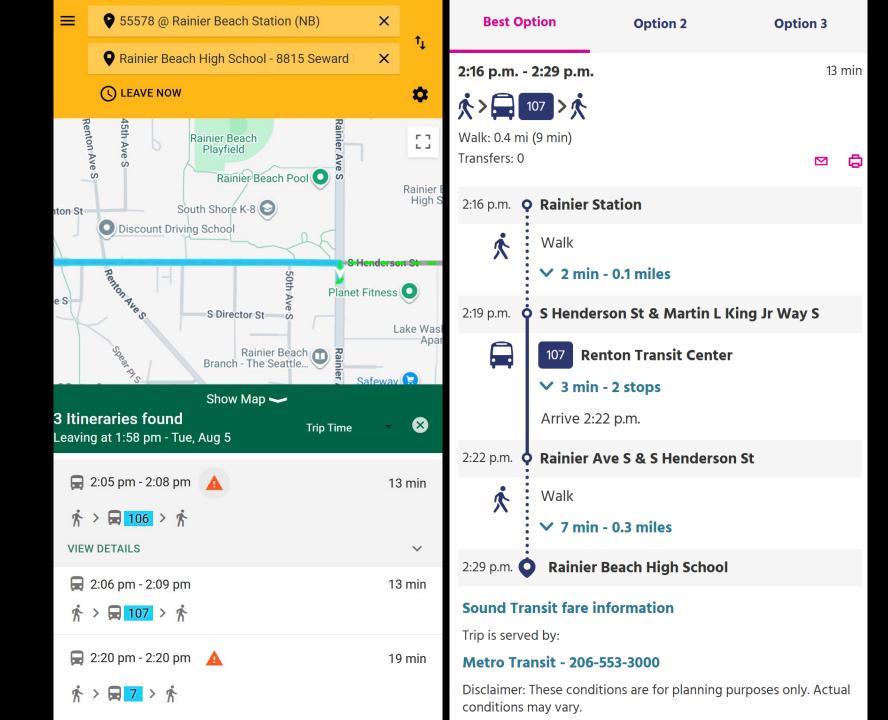
Website: https://www.hopelink.org/programs/mobility-management/community-van/

**Description:** Our Community Van program provides a van for pre-scheduled trips-as a driver or as a passenger. Schedule your ride in advance or volunteer to drive your neighbors or your own family. Visit Community Van's website for information and contact numbers for each service area, and information about accessibility and eligibilities.

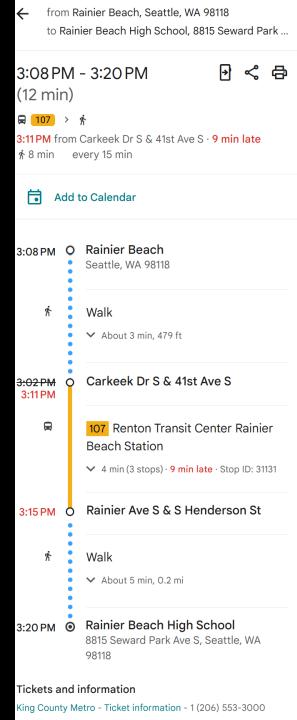
**Accommodations Provided:** Folding Wheelchair, Motorized Wheelchair, Curb-to-curb (Driver does not leave the vehicle), Door-to-Door, Wheelchair Accessible

**Eligible Purposes:** At least 2 riders required to schedule a trip, in addition to the Volunteer Driver; Contact the Community Van coordinator to arrange your trip

# Trip Planners



# Google Maps



### Find a Ride

#### **Transportation Options for Your Trip**

Starting Location 1175 N 205th St, Shoreline, WA 98133 Destination 17837 Aurora Ave N, Shoreline, WA 98133 Depart at 8/5/2025, 12:24:39 PM **REPLAN YOUR TRIP CUSTOMIZE YOUR TRAVEL PROFILE** Sort by: Specialized Options First ▼ Ð, **Community Van | Shoreline** - Lake Forest Park Note: At least 2 riders required to schedule Plan ahead. a trip, in addition to the Volunteer Driver; Contact the Community Van coordinator to arrange your trip 4 min Specialized Transportation (Trip duration may vary) **CHOOSE THIS TRIP** \$3 **☆▶**⊟▶ጵ King County **METRO** 12:28 PM to 12:37 PM 9 min (Transit: 3 min, Walk: 5 min, Wait Time: 0 min) **CHOOSE THIS TRIP** Cost \$0



# Fares – What's Next?

•	Wha	nt we know:
		☐ Fares are complex!
		People make mobility decisions based on fares.
•	Wha	nt we need to study:
		☐ What the current system is capable of
•	Next	t Steps:
		Meet with Cambridge Systematics to explore current configurations
		Decide if there are small development changes we can do now
		We want to bring back fares
		It will be an imperfect solution
		Bring scenarios and options in the future
•	Mak	ing investments later?
		It may be beneficial to wait as we design our Phase 2 system to incorporate fares and booking in Phase 3.

Questions?





# **Phone Support Updates**

- Phone Number across 3-Counties
- Phone Tree tested with Mobility Team members



#### **Communications Toolkit Updates**

- Partner sharing
- Popcorn
- Success stories with the Communications Toolkit
- Partner or Client stories with the Trip Planner



#### Sound Transit & ADA Paratransit

During Phase 2 it is critical we design systems that integrate with existing systems related to data exchange, specialized transportation, and improve client outcomes for travelers in our region.

One important aspect for Phase 2 consideration is the work that is happening with Sound Transit related to ADA Paratransit compliance and improved customer service experiences.

# Sound Transit & & ADA Paratransit

08/2025



#### Wait, Sound Transit has ADA Paratransit?



Fixed routes: Link, T-Link, and BRT (future)





Our service area overlaps with our Operating Partners' Paratransit service, which is why you don't see ST-branded paratransit vehicles





Since we utilize our partners' resources, we align with their processes for their service: eligibility determination, trip scheduling, etc. is all done by our county transit partners

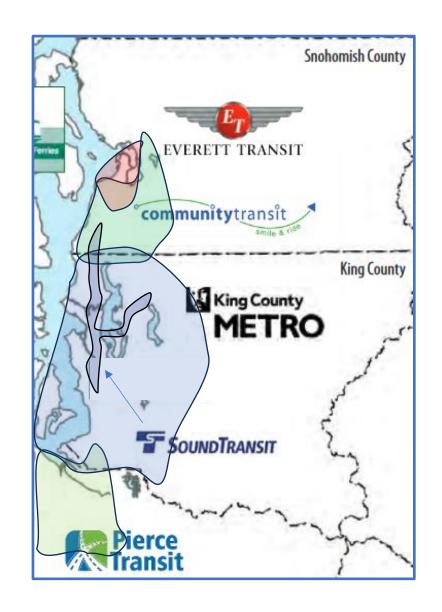
#### And then, we opened the Lynnwood Extension



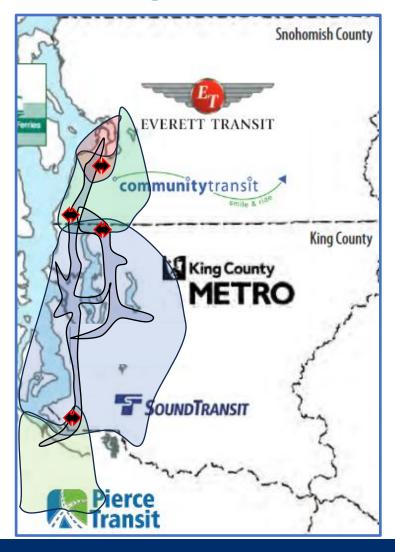


#### Regional ADA Paratransit

- 5 corridors when ST3 is complete
- 4 operating partners for ST
- ST corridor along Link alignment and BRT routes crossing 3 counties
- ST will provide paratransit from Everett to Tacoma or Redmond and along the BRT routes in the East
- Someone going from Everett to Tacoma could endure 4 transfers if we don't have a solution



#### Regional Paratransit - Current System



- Transfer Points at the edge of each service area
- Passengers are transferred from one service to the other
- Average wait times of 35 minutes
- No automated ETA exchange between systems leads to wait times
- No integrated reservation system

#### Limitations of the Current Systems

- Paratransit systems are isolated and uncoordinated
- Inter-agency transfers are inefficient
- Operating partners are not interested in expanding service areas due to capacity concerns
- Transfers are costly: wait times delay service and remove operators and vehicles out of service until transfer is complete
- Operating partners are looking to Sound Transit to remedy the situation, since we are now obligated to provide cross-county service for ADA Paratransit



#### Regional Paratransit – It's Complex

- 5 agencies must agree on the solution: Sound Transit can lead, but we cannot impose and force our partners to accept our decision
- A county transit-provided solution could impact our partners' assets: software, fleet, and infrastructure – this is disruptive and costly
- We want to address the whole region, not just Sound Transit's service areas

#### Questions?





#### Phase 2 Find a Ride Request For Information – Report Back

- Several months ago, we published a Request for Information (RFIT) to find out from potential vendors what they thought we need for Phase 2.
- Several companies generously took the time to respond with feedback that helps shape our understanding of what we need to do next for Phase 2.
- We are grateful for their participation!



#### Find a Ride: Phase 2 Readiness & RFI Report

Next Steps in Advancing Equitable Mobility Through Easy On-Boarding

Kevin Chambers, Full Path August 11, 2025

- The current system requires community members seeking eligibility-based mobility services to sign up for them one at a time.
- Each agency has its own unique process for enrollment, which is usually manual in nature.

#### This leads to:

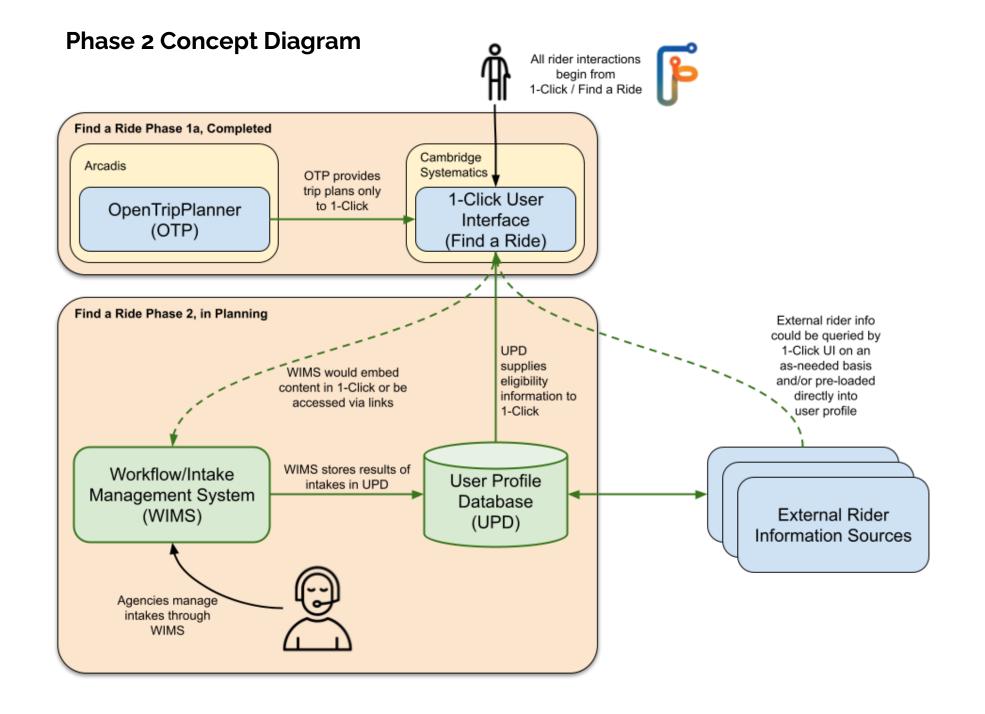
- Barriers for Riders: Difficulties in accessing first-time services result in limited mobility.
- Burdens on Agencies: Labor-intensive, manual processes divert limited resources.
- Lack of Coordination: It's hard to invest in tools that work across the entire region.



#### The Solution: A Centralized, Easy On-Boarding System

For the Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility (ICAM) grant opportunity, Hopelink proposed a system that will:

- Collect new rider intakes electronically through a secure web-based application.
- Support streamlined eligibility determinations with adaptable workflows for both riders and staff.
- Securely store eligibility information in a centralized database for use by riders and agencies.



Through the proposed system, Hopelink aims for:

- A 40% decrease in time spent completing paperwork and registering for programs.
- A 20% increase in users enrolled in at least one new service.
- 80% project satisfaction from Project Partners and the Advisory Committee.



#### Request for Information (RFI) Results

Hopelink issued an RFI to gather information from technology providers and experts for this effort.

Responses came from national consulting firms, human services technology providers, and public transit technology companies.

#### Two key themes emerged:

- The paramount importance of data security.
- The need for strategic early work to ensure project success.

#### Responders gave four priority areas for a secure system:

- Keep the technology simple to reduce vulnerabilities.
- Identify high-security components and design the system to protect them accordingly.
- **Emphasize security policies and training**, as human error is the leading cause of data breaches.
- Budget for security audits and third-party tools to proactively manage risk.



#### Theme 2: Effective Planning

To reduce risk, the project should focus on these areas from the start:

- System Design: Secure stakeholder agreement on requirements before development begins.
- Project Phasing: Start with a carefully selected, diverse group of pilot agencies.
- Ownership & Governance: Establish clear lines of responsibility for overseeing the system and setting priorities.
- Mobile-First, Accessible Design: Ensure tools are designed from the start for people with a
  wide range of access and functional needs.



#### How the Coalition Can Ensure Success – Reduce complexity

Support efforts to streamline the rider onboarding process.

Next step: Think about how your organization can reduce complexity in its eligibility criteria, processes, and rules.



#### How the Coalition Can Ensure Success – Share your ideas

Engage and promote the inclusive planning and co-design process.

Next step: Share your ideas, connect us with experts, and help us include missing voices in these conversations.



#### How the Coalition Can Ensure Success – Encourage others to join

Help assemble and garner buy-in for the pilot agencies.

Next step: Consider joining this effort in its early phases or encourage other organizations to join.

## Conclusion

- The success of Phase 2 depends on collaboration with pilot agencies and a collective commitment to streamlining the onboarding process.
- This work is critical to addressing the current challenges of a fragmented system and enhancing accessibility for all residents of the Puget Sound region.

#### Learn More & Get Involved:

Follow the Program Roadmap: <a href="https://www.kcmobility.org/ococ">www.kcmobility.org/ococ</a>

Questions? Contact: Laura Loe (she/her), Program Manager, Find a Ride lloe@hopelink.org 425-941-6791



Questions?

### Additional Partner Announcements





#### Find a Ride Advisory Committee Meeting

Pierce County's One-Call/One-Click

Speakers: Penni Belcher, Daeveene May, Jacque Mann, & other speakers TBD.





1 – 2:45 pm



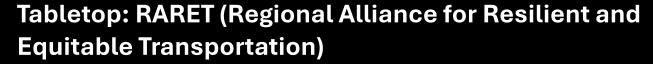
#### Mobility Management Meetings



#### **King County Mobility Coalition**

August 19, 2025

9:30 – 11 am



September 5, 2025

Multiple Locations (TBD)



#### **Project Contacts:**



#### **Laura Loe**

Program Manager, Find a Ride lloe@hopelink.org

(425) 941-6791



#### **Staci Sahoo**

Director, Mobility Management ssahoo@hopelink.org

(425) 943-6769



## Networking Time!

You may remain in the meeting for an informal small group discussion.



A chance for us to catch up!