

Thursday, May 13, 2021

10:30am – 12:00pm

Zoom Call-in

Participants: Angela San Filippo (South King Housing and Homelessness Partnership), Carolina Cornelio (St. Vincent de Paul), Catalina Gomez (Hopelink), Chris Andree (City of Tukwila), Jeremy Fitcher (King County Metro), Joy Scott (City of Auburn), Mackenzie Martin (Puget Sound Energy), Natalie Westberg (King County Metro), Nici Fieldhammer (Community Health Plan of WA), Penny Lara (King County Metro), Shivani Lal (City of Kent), Tara Wagner (Catholic Community Services) Alonzo Buckner (Sound Transit), Adrian Down (Port of Seattle), Shanita SB (Catholic Community Services)

Staff Support: Bree Boyce, Bebhinn Gilbert, Camille Heatherly

Welcome, Introductions, & Announcements

As the meeting began and attendees were introducing themselves in the chat, meeting attendees were asked to consider this icebreaker question: how are housing needs and community change connected to your work? How have these factors impacted your clients?

The meeting began at 10:35 with announcements and introductions.

Bebhinn shared announcements of continued services offered with drop-in hours for partner updates and Mobility Education and Outreach (MEO) efforts to reach the community with transportation assistance. Drop-in hours will again be offered in the later half of May and in the month of June. Opportunities to connect will be shared in the weekly announcement emails.

Bebhinn reminds all attendees that Education and Outreach resources are available to them upon request! She reminds attendees that MEO efforts will be reviewed in these monthly meetings as a new norm.

Miscellaneous and Partner Organization Updates and Announcements:

Bebhinn shared that [PSRC has transportation surveys](#), available in Vietnamese, Somali, Spanish, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, and English, for user engagement. [Learn more here](#). To learn more about the PSRC preliminary results of the inventory of service survey you can attend RARET's meeting on Wednesday, May 26th from 10AM-12PM. Contact Dean Sydnor for more info at dsydnor@hopelink.org.

Bebhinn reminds attendees that the Pfizer Covid-19 Vaccine has been recently approved for use on 12- to 15-year-old community members, expanding eligibility for young people.

The Metro Community Van program has recently announced an expansion of their program into South King County. Through a partnership with Puget Sound Energy the Algona-Pacific area has a Community Van service area. Mackenzie Martin of Puget Sound Energy shares that the project was made possible through partnership through SKCMC, King County Metro, and PSE. The resource coming to South King County will help fill a gap left largely unserved by fixed-route options. The Community Van program will be facilitated through an Algona staff member and they are currently accepting volunteer drivers. Read more by visiting the King County Metro blogpost [linked here](#).

Joy Scott from the City of Auburn shares with the group that the city has recently released their [Draft Action Plan](#) she asked that members view the document and submit comments. The city is looking forward to getting public feedback for the process. The next Auburn Housing Action Plan Community Meeting: Monday, May 17, from 5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

Jeremy Fitcher from King County Metro expects to be reopening many of the services that had been suspended during the onset of COVID-19. Official announcements are forthcoming.

Mobility Education and Outreach Updates:

This section of the meeting reviewed the MEO updates for the South King County region that occurred in between the bimonthly SKCMC meetings. The last couple months have seen a series of Getting Around Puget Sound events specific for the South King community. As a reminder, GAPS events are the informational sessions offered to community members so that they can learn about resources that are available in their area and ask any of their transportation questions. The next and last session of this series is scheduled for March 20th from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Please feel free to forward along [this registration link](#) to any interested clients.

Other outreach efforts continue with Bebhinn's attendance at the Auburn Community Court Resource Center and a growing partnership for public health sites which could receive staff trainings.

Any interested member of the SKCMC can reach out to Bebhinn to schedule either community information sessions for their clients or free staff trainings for their organization at any time!

Coordinated Vaccine Transportation Helpline

Catalina Gomez. Hopelink Program Specialist

Catalina Gomez joined our meeting to introduce attendees to the Coordinated Vaccine Helpline, a resource staffed by Hopelink staff, that is available for community members (and their caregivers, family members, etc) to learn about and schedule transportation assistance for their Covid-19 vaccine appointments.

Catalina reviewed the structure of the Helpline and the transportation provider network which makes it possible. Attendees are invited to review [the dashboard](#) for this service which provides data regarding service providers, completed rides, and other high level information points.

The Helpline is staffed Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 4:00PM. For assistance, call 425-943-6706 or fill online intake [form linked here](#). For language assistance, press 5 and state your language. Staff is bilingual in English and Spanish.

The resource is available for free to any community member, and in most instances the ride itself is also free.

Jeremy asked if transit is considered an option for client rides. Catalina answered that yes, it's always an option but many of the clients calling are generally in need of alternative services.

Please feel free to reach out to Sara Sisco (ssisco@hopelink.org) with any questions regarding this resource.

Discussion: SKC Project Updates

The meeting continues with a brief overview of the SKCMC projects underway and planned for 2021. First, she reviewed the ongoing and current project of the SKC Roundtable Conversations. This project came forward following the challenges of the previous as opportunities for community members to network, share lessons learned, and best practices regarding SKCMC member-identified priority topics. These are focused on collaborative problem-solving, replacing the tool-kit model with adaptive real time discussions. The first session on April 30th was a conversation around critical basic resources and community access to them, the conversation centered needs of community members and service providers and how we can work together to fill them. The next conversations will focus on [Regional Advocacy on May 28th](#) and [Transportation Program Coordination on June](#)

[25th](#). The registration links for these events are linked to the text of these notes. Each SKCMC member is invited to attend and to share out these events throughout their network. [Linked here](#) is a promotional flyer for the whole series and [here](#) is a flyer for the May event.

Bebhinn then briefly mentioned the upcoming project of the Transportation Asset Assessment. As a reminder, this project has been phased out so that we can manage the staff time required for this research. This first phase will be primarily a data collection and review portion. If a SKCMC member is interested in participating in the source identification, please reach out to Bebhinn to join a potential taskforce.

Finally, Bebhinn reviewed in brief the minor projects underway in the SKCMC:

- Bebhinn shared that the language of the coalition’s vision has been modified to better represent the coalition goals discussed during the previous coalition meeting in January. The new text reads, “A transportation network that allows all people to move freely around South King County, that is *accessible, safe, affordable, dependable and convenient. A community connected to each other, to essential resources, and to opportunity.*” Emphasized text is new language. If you would like to comment on these changes, propose another change, or aid in the revision of our mission statement, please reach out to Bebhinn.
- Membership engagement continues to be a working effort for increased geographic and community diversity. Please feel free to invite new partners to our meetings or coordinate with Bebhinn to connect with new organizations.
- Upcoming meeting topic schedules are still undecided. Bebhinn asked the group if they had any suggestions or comments about what they would like to learn and who they would like to hear from.
 - i. Shivani shared that the City of Kent is trying to develop a survey to engage with and learn from employees to better understand what their transportation needs will be.
 - ii. Tara suggested that maybe we can meet in person again for the next coalition meeting in July or September.

Discussion: Mobility, Development + Housing

The week of this meeting is also known as Housing Affordability Week, this fact, along with previously stated interest from coalition members prompted the discussion topic: interseptions of mobility and housing affordability.

Angela San Fillipo from the South King Housing and Homelessness Partnership (SKHHP) opened our discussion by briefly presenting to the group, sharing information about SKHHP, a coalition of South King cities that works to develop plans and understandings of housing needs. SKHHP has been working towards establishing an advisory board to ground their decisions, assure that community members feedback is heard, and create long-term interests of community housing efforts. Their mission is to work together with partners to develop affordable housing, sound housing policies, and planning for development of housing. One of their large concerns is the rapidly rising costs of housing and historically low wages have increased community risks of displacement.

SKHHP Advisory Board recruitment and more information can be found here: <http://skhhp.org/home/advisory-board/>. Reach out to Angela at asanfilippo@skhhp.org with questions or comments.

The conversation then moved to these discussion questions:

- What coordination efforts exist today to address housing and homelessness needs?
- How are housing needs and community change connected to your work? How have these factors impacted your clients?

- What relationship does Mobility have with housing needs? Where are we now, where can we be?

Joy Scott: We need to support affordable, community housing while also supporting environmental needs for clean infrastructure planning. A core example has been shown during difficult weather conditions that shut down transportation and create massive challenges for large groups of the population.

Angela: Added that they are many conditions that need to be considered for City planners and used the City of Auburn as an example to show that they have created plans, funding sources, and are challenged with the conflicting requirements of funding sources that must be met to have these structures placed.

Chris: Noted that there has been tension around the development of affordable housing, especially with the rate of change and community need being presented. The City of Tukwila has tried to focus more of its affordable housing in transit central areas, but other considerations such as long-term residents and businesses that worry about the effects of the structures.

Tara: She shared that she works with older adults and individuals with low-income, but has had clients share their concerns of limited housing. Behhinn thought that she raised a good point that the disruption of housing also affects the ways in which they eat, shop, and understand the community around them.

Roundtable, Next Steps, & Commitments

Next Meeting: Thursday, July 8, 2021 from 10:30am-12:00pm

Location: Zoom

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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 or by calling (425) 943-6760.

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