

Thursday, January 13, 2022

10:30am – 12:00

Zoom Call-in

Participants: Julio Perez (Hopelink), Heather Clark (Hopelink), Nadia Ali (Hopelink), Dean Sydnor (RARET Presenter), Jacque Mann (PSESD), Davina Miller (PSESD), Ryan Lescouflair (Sound Transit), Lizette Carrasco (KC Metro), Cecile Malik (City of Auburn), Belinda Van (CCS), Kim Cooper (City of SeaTac), Katie Drewel (Sound Transit), Abel Pacheco (Sound Transit), Carrie Avila-Mooney (Sound Transit), Adrian Down (Port of Seattle), Adria Briehl, Chris Andree (City of Tukwila)

Staff Support: Bree Boyce, Salwa Raphael

Welcome, Introductions, & Announcements

- Via to Transit, service expanded to Renton! Via to Transit is an on-demand service that connects riders to and from transit and community hubs in four service areas, including Othello, Rainier Beach/Skyway, Renton Highlands, and Tukwila. A few top destinations in Renton include Renton Technical College, Renton Landing, Whitman Court, and Safeway.
- Jacque Mann introduced Davina Miller, new to Road to Independence program, Transportation Coordinator

SKCMC Achievements:

This year has been remarkable, with so much adapting, pivoting, and constant change. 2021 presented unprecedented challenges. The South King County (SKC) region still has plenty of work ahead as SKC recovers from this year and continues sharing information and assisting community members in accessing resources. The following achievements demonstrate SKCMC's teamwork, resiliency, and creativity.

Sandy shares SKCMC Achievement Sheet

During the Spring and Summer of 2021 SKCMC coordinator planned and executed the Roundtable Conversation Series Project, and the coalition played a significant role in driving this project. Once the report was finalized, we had the pleasure to share our project findings with two different community sectors at the South King County Coordinated Call meeting and the City of Auburn Homelessness Forums

As we wrapped up towards the end of the year, we dedicated time to our next coalition project in partnership with King County Metro and University of Norte Dame, Community Transportation Navigators. Also known and referred to as CTN, this pilot project will utilize a peer-to-peer approach to provide transportation information to serve community members who share experiences, language, culture, and geography. This project will launch in Spring 2022, and the coalition will share project updates.

RARET Recap: Extreme Weather Conditions

Dean Sydnor

Sandy introduced Dean Sydnor to share recent adverse weather conditions in King County over the holidays. Dean supports the Regional Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Transportation RARET and will share more about RARET's roots and the type of requests RARET receives during extreme weather conditions.

Dean started his presentation

Dean described Mobility Management and RARET effort to provide awareness and education, improve transportation outcomes, and provide coordination and gathering needs assessments. Compared to Mobility Management, RARET provides a broader geographic area with a narrower focus on emergencies.

Dean then shares an overview of frequently asked questions about RARET. One of the FAQs included, "are RARET emergency management?"

Dean elaborates that RARET is not emergency management. It is built within the Hopelink Mobility Management team. While offices of Emergency Management play a vital role in the alliance, RARET itself exists to facilitate a coalition that centers transportation, particularly for those with access and functional needs, in the conversation surrounding emergency planning and response.

Next, Dean shared about RARET's support during extreme weather conditions. RARET was responsible for weekly updates and announcements regarding winter resources and updates during extreme weather conditions. RARET also engaged with regular meetings with staff from King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) and Public Health Seattle & King County and attended Northwest Healthcare Response Network (NWHRN) daily coordination calls.

The majority of the request RARET received was support for clients with critical medical appointments. The example Dean provided was clients experiencing dialysis. Other requests for support included shelter support, delivery requests for shelters, and food access requests.

At the end of Dean's presentation, Dean shared methods to get involved with RARET. To join RARET's distribution list, please contact Dean Sydnor at dsydnor@hopelink.org. The next RARET bi-monthly regional workgroup meeting is January 26th from 10:00am-12:00pm via Zoom.

Dean and Bree invited SKCMC members to join and engage in the upcoming regional workgroup meeting.

Questions asked at the end of Dean's presentation

Sandy: Compare requests from summer weather events and winter weather events?

Dean: More requests in winter. Overlaps are shelter support, clean air, cooling centers, warming centers.

Sound Transit: Link Light Rail Expansion

Abel Pacheco & Ryan Lescouflair

The next group of presentations is from Sound Transit's team. Sound Transit has joined the SKCMC meeting to share about the link light rail expansion project and receive feedback on increasing safety in the communities.

Sandy introduced the Sound Transit team

Sound Transit team started with team introductions, starting with Carrie Avila-Mooney, Regional Government & Community Relations Director, Ryan Lescouflair, Senior Engagement Specialist for the East Corridor; Katie Drewel, Government & Company Relations Officer for the South Corridor; and Abel Pacheco, Government & Community Relations Manager for the Central Corridor.

The first topic discussed was safety presented by Ryan Lescouflair. Ryan highlighted the safety reminders we must think of when engaging in the transit hubs. A few reminders included crossing at designated crosswalks and obeying all traffic signs and signals. Other reminders included staying away from the track switches and when crossing the tracks on a bicycle, always cross the tracks at a 90-degree angle to prevent your bicycle tires from getting stuck in the tracks.

Next, Ryan shared methods for the community to get involved and collaborate to promote safety, including flyer, email subscription for project updates, newsletter, and virtual office hours.

The presentation reviewed upcoming stations such as Judkins Park, Federal Way, Kent /Des Moines, South 272nd Street, and Tacoma Dome.

- Judkins Park Station
 - East link operations are testing the system.
 - Working with SDOT to upgrade light signals
 - System Access fund, funding for improved sidewalk upgrades
- Federal Way Link Extension
 - A lot of progress is being made. Open in 2024, 8 miles of extension from Angle Lake to Federal Way Transit Center. Three stations, building new parking or expanded garages.
 - 12-minute travel time.
 - Timeline: Wrapping up project design and construction stages. 50% complete currently.
 - 3 Stations:
 - Kent/Des Moines Station, near Highline College. An elevated platform and building garages
 - South 272nd Street Station. Location of old park and ride. Convenient and familiar. An elevated platform and a 1000 stall garage. Good bus connections
 - Federal Way Transit Center Station. Already existing transit facility. Expanding existing garage with additional 400 stalls. Elevated platform.
 - Starting to build outstations, laying down track. In Fall will connect to Angle Lake.
 - Ongoing construction outreach, loyal to the local business engagement to support impacted businesses.
 - Transit-oriented development planning for new construction
 - Shared links to project and lesson plans

After sharing updates on the upcoming light rail station, Abel shared Sound Transit's effort to increase safety in the communities. Sound Transit has engaged with community leaders and members where link light rail operates. These conversations are started to discuss building more robust, enduring relationships in the community we serve. Sound Transit is constantly looking for input and community leaders and members to discuss ways to increase the user experience in Sound Transit.

At the end of the presentation, the Sound Transit team led a discussion asking for SKCMC partner's experience and feedback regarding engagement with link light rail.

Sound Transit: Link Light Rail Safety Suggestion & Feedback

Sound Transit Team

This space was dedicated to asking and answering any questions SKCMC partners had.

Dean: Are there any specific communities looking to connect within SKC?

Abel: We have reached out to 30 groups along Rainier Valley have met with 8 or 9. Any additional connections with key stakeholders are welcome. Please connect to the ST team. If you have direct access to groups, please share contact information.

Salwa: Is there a realignment project?

Katie: we acknowledged the project's impacts on specific groups and areas, looking to move forward with an equity-centered focus.

Questions from ST:

What is an essential topic to SKC?

Share perception of the agency, Sound Transit (ST)?

Belina shared that she lived near Beacon Hill. She noticed a significant loss in local businesses and how the community changed, but she loves the link rail. More options but losing out on community businesses and centers.

Jacque shared. West Seattle seems like public input doesn't go into final decision-making.

Carrie: She hears concern and perception. Struggle to connect voices of community with the decision-makers. ST has a regional board. Always looking for ways to make that connection. Invited to connect Jacque to the West Seattle/Ballard team and please stay involved.

Ryan: When collecting a lot of information, works to make sure everybody's input is captured. Voices are heard and being documented.

Dean: lived in ID when opened station there. Positive perception but professional experience showed the intimidating and confusing experience.

Salwa: Long-term engagement is a challenge.

Ideas about improving access to the station. Priorities, reflections, experiences?

Chris Andree: Pedestrian and ADA focus at stations are appreciated. Recognized planning and conflicts

Dean: Access to functional needs, proper wayfinding

Salwa: Bring people with disabilities to locations. Consider areas beyond the few blocks of access.

Sandy: please feel free to share questions to share with the group.

Next Steps & Commitments:

Sandy Phan

- Next meeting is March 10th 2022 from 10:30am-12:00pm
- Next KCMC meeting is February 15th 2022 9:00am-11:30am

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 10th , 2022 from 10:30am-12:00pm

Location: Zoom

South King County Mobility Coalition Contact:

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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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