

South King County MOBILITY COALITION

Meeting Notes

Date: 3.12.2026

Location: Kent Library (212 2nd Ave N, Kent, WA)

Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87178941077?pwd=WFFiOFpYVjUrYlgwbnFHN3NTN3dOdz09>

Participants: Angie Kitheka (Catholic Community Services), David Longmire (Museum of Flight), Katelyn Saechao (Tukwila Transportation Demand Management), Nathaniel Waugh (King County Metro), Maria Guadalupe Ramirez (Reconnect South Park), Robert Hanlon (Reconnect South Park), Mohammad Akmoosh (Iraqi Community Center of Washington), Alexis LaFlamme (Catholic Community Services), Veronica Bean (City of Auburn), Arthur Bachus (Sound Transit), Ryan Quigtar (Office of the Executive SKC Relations Manager),

Staff Support: Heather Clark, Ysabel Yu, Nicole Ross, Lyn McCarthy, Chitra Subramanian, Meg Cronister, Sandy Phan

Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements

- Sandy Phan shares that Hopelink's community Transportation Navigators will be starting recruitment for new Cultural Cohorts soon. These cohorts will serve the Spanish speaking and Russian/Ukrainian speaking communities.
- CARE program
- Angie Kitheka shares that Catholic Community Services is looking to recruit volunteer drivers who speak languages other than English.
- Lyn McCarthy shares about the King County Mobility Coalition's Storymap project. For this project, they looking for participants to share their stories about how barriers to transportation have prevented them from accessing health and wellbeing. These stories will be used to create a digital storymap which will be shared with decision makers to humanize the data around why transportation access is important. KCMC has begun collecting stories and is nearing their goal of 20 stories to be collected.
- Grace shares that the Rural Transportation Advocacy 101 Workshop is happening Saturday, March 14th from 10am-2pm at North Bend City Hall. This event will be an educational and networking opportunity for those involved or interested in transportation advocacy in rural areas.

Reconnect South Park

Robert Hanlon, Maria Guadalupe Ramirez

- RSP started in 2019/2020 with the idea that what if the highway didn't cut through South Park?

Please contact Grace Georgitsis at ggeorgitsis@hopelink.org or 425-625-6836 for any errors or omissions in these notes.

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- The South Park community is currently bisected by highway 99, which has caused displacement, disconnection of community, mobility barriers for neighborhood residents, and environmental burdens.
- RSP sought to find what are the needs, existing routes, and opportunities in South Park?
- Robert shared drone images of I5, pointing out that there is lots of pavement and not very much traffic on those roads. Robert poses the question of whether so much pavement is even necessary.
 - He also points out that due to the lack of exits and entrances in South Park, these highways provide little benefit to residents and businesses.
 - There is only one pedestrian bridge over the highway, which often feels hazardous to cross.
 - He also posits that the land which currently houses the SCL substation could be given back as a part of the Land Back movement.
- Robert shows an image of a large 4-way traffic clover in South Park and asks, what if this was pedestrian space instead?
- Robert points out that the highways in South Park were built during the 1950s when “Pavement equaled power” and suggests that in urban planning today it is widely recognized that “green space equals power”
- Robert then turned the presentation to the opportunities presented in South Park, and how RSP seeks potential futures for the area while still keeping functionality.
 - He points to extensive research on the health impacts of the current landscape, and emphasizes that environmental justice is the main goal
- Robert also highlights how youth engagement is important to RSP, so that local youth can become interested in the topic and potentially pursue careers in infrastructure.
 - RSP has had sessions with the Duwamish Valley Youth Corps and Denny Middle School
- Reconnect South Park’s timeline: Currently in potential futures analysis and working with the City of Seattle on this analysis
 - Looking to make a community vision plan that includes residents, businesses, transit agencies, community representatives
- Summary of potential futures
 - Reroute and reclaim (removing highway entirely): city streets reconnected
 - Bridges and trails: new grade separated crossings
 - Boulevard – with options for a wider or narrower boulevard
- Reconnecting South Park Towards 2050
 - What do we want to look forward to in 2030, 2040, and 2050?

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- Moving from smaller improvements to broader, more impactful change
 - Examples: safer trails, traffic calming, to less pollution, healthy habitats
- Questions
 - Arthur Bachus: has RSP connected with the Urbanist? Wonder if getting support from beyond the neighborhood would help as far as visibility
 - Yes and RSP always happy to receive connections with folks, but have limited capacity. Biggest resistance comes from people who live there honestly, because they're so discouraged since they've lived with these environmental justice problems forever
- **Links shared in the chat by presenter:**
 - RSP Website with survey links: <https://reconnectsouthpark.org/>
 - WSDOT 2026 Freight System Plan (FSP) Online Open House: <https://engage.wsdot.wa.gov/freight-system-plan>
 - Want to connect us with your groups? connect@reconnectsouthpark.org
 - FYI, slides from presentation - thanks so much everyone!
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HMA-w9xORTVDyiZoZDcdqTgW9Zj_g3fM/view?usp=sharing

Sound Transit Updates

Arthur Bachus

- ST2 wrapping up with the Link extensions, Sounder expansion to South Tacoma, and Lakewood
- 2 Line connection across Lake Washington opens March 28th
- ST3 consists of about 2 more decades of construction
 - Link light rail: 3 line, 4 line, T line
 - Sounder trains
 - Stride bus rapid transit (BRT)
 - S1 (2028) will connect Bellevue – Burien
 - S2 will connect Lynnwood – Bellevue
 - S3 will connect Bothell – shoreline in 2029
 - Question: are S1 and S2 separate lines?
 - Yes, going from Renton to Lynnwood would require a transfer
- 2 Line facts
 - on higher end of ridership expectations
 - 2 new stations in Mercer Island and Judkins Park will be added with the Crosslake Connection opening
 - Can travel from downtown Redmond to Lynnwood city center on the 2-line without having to transfer. If you are on the two line and want to travel

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South of Chinatown/International District Station you will have to transfer to the one line.

- 2 line service hours will be extended from 14 hours a day to normal link service hours 5am-1am
- Micromobility
 - There will be bike racks, rentable bike lockers, and bike storage rooms at each of the new stations, as well as designated zones for Lime and Byrd devices at Judkins Park Station.
 - Shared devices should be parked at marked (green) areas at stations to avoid accessibility issues
 - Question: Why do the bike lockers cost 5 cents per hour?
 - Answer: Don't know
- How to pay your fare on Link light rail
 - New contactless payment for credit cards, debit cards, and Google/Apple/Samsung pay
 - If you use this "tap to pay" option and are asked proof of payment by a fare ambassador, share the last 4 digits of the card you use to pay
 - Question: is the orca card reader and tap to pay reader the same?
 - Yes, you can tap to pay at the orca card reader
- Transferring to the 1 line
 - 1 and 2 lines will service all trains from Lynnwood to International District/Chinatown Station so check to make sure you're on the right train! After the ID/C Station, 1 line trains continue South through the Rainier Valley while 2 line trains continue East to Judkins Park
- Questions
 - When stride is active, are there plans to restructure other services that serve the same or similar routes, similar to what happens when a new Link station opens?
 - Probably, generally Stride is an upgrade to an existing service
 - Will different routes be terminated early and required to transfer?
 - Very possible? Especially with link. Imagining something similar with stride. This is the first time doing this, so not 100% sure yet
- **Links in the Chat:**
 - Heather Clark: FindARide.org is also a great resource for trip planning. This resource includes transit options such as paratransit, volunteer driver programs, etc

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South Link Connections Updates

We did not have time for this update, it will be moved to the May SKCMC meeting!

Next Steps

Next Meeting: Thursday May 16th, 2026, 10:30am – 12pm on Zoom
(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86225257490?pwd=ogNBQoPqxmFIP96Cga8hlll8RBLwae.1>)

SKCMC Contact Information

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For more information on SKCMC contact Grace Georgitsis, visit our website

<https://www.kcmobility.org/skcmc>