



Snoqualmie Valley

MOBILITYCOALITION

April 10th Meeting Notes

Date: April 10th, 2026

Time: 10:30am-12:00pm

Location: Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188605344?pwd=J5uGVdoE1E38uLB7bAgQf9lXHbysyt.1>

Attendance:

Vy Nguyen (ASCF): vy@asupportivecommunityforall.org

Sten Polunsky (WA State Department of Commerce) steven.polunsky@commerce.wa.gov

Alan Bruckner (Snoqualmie Valley Transportation): www.SVTBus.org 425-393-9426, cal or text

Amy Biggs (SVT): 425-888-7001.

Amy McHenry (Duvall Mayor): Amy.mchenry@duvallwa.gov

Jamie Gruenberger (King County Metro, bus stop manager for Snoqualmie Valley): jagruenberger@kingcounty.gov

Michael Palencia (Support Enforcement Officer, Department of Child Support michael.palencia@dshs.wa.gov)

Dean Sydnor (Hopelink) dsydnor@hopelink.org

Laura Loe (Hopelink): lloe@hopelink.org

Ysabel Yu (Hopelink): yyu@hopelink.org

Roz Novikova (Hopelink) rnovikova@hopelink.org

Lyn McCarthy (KCMC) emccarthy@hopelink.org

Michele Catoire (SV Chamber): michele@snovalley.org

Erin Funk (Hopelink) efunk@hopelink.org

Heather Clark, Program Manager of Coalitions, Hopelink, hclark@hopelink.org

Mark Smutny

Kirk Baker

Staff Support: Nicole Ross, Heather Clark , Erin Funk

SVMC Mission: The Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coalition (SVMC) believes affordable, accessible, and collaborative transportation is a necessity for life and is dedicated to connecting communities to improve transportation for all of Snoqualmie Valley.

Overview:

The Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coalition (SVMC) meeting covered several key updates and discussions. Dean Sydnor presented the December 2025 flooding transportation report, highlighting the impact on local services and the importance of situational awareness tools like the National Weather Service alerts and river gage tool. Laura Loe demonstrated the updated Find a Ride trip planner, which now includes Valley Shuttle and other local services. Amy Biggs emphasized the need for better communication and preparation during emergencies. Michele Catoire suggested improving emergency phone lists and exit strategies. The meeting concluded with updates on community van activities and the story mapping project to humanize transportation data. The Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coalition discussed their process of capturing transportation stories, which includes a 30-minute preparation, a 3-hour interview, and a \$57/hour stipend. They plan to include participants in future projects like "Week Without Driving." A new weekend route from North Bend Outlet Mall to Edgewick was introduced, aiming to serve mobile home parks and connect to the Valley Shuttle. The route, not part of King County Metro, will be added to Google Maps and Find a Ride.

Dean Sydnor: Flooding 2025 Transportation Report

- explained the impact of the December 2025 atmospheric river flooding on Snoqualmie Valley transportation
- key takeaways include the importance of local services' experience and preparedness, and the challenges faced by services unfamiliar with the valley.
- shared tools for situational awareness, such as the National Weather Service alerts page, river gage tool, and SVT rider alerts page

Flood Response Tools & Resources:

[KCMC/RARET flooding-2025-transportation-report](#)

[Access Map app](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1958632614763539/>

·[NWS Seattle Alerts Page](#)

·[NWS River Gauge Tool](#)

·[SVT Rider Alerts Page](#)

·[ALERT King County](#)

·[King County Emergency News](#)

Additional resources:

- KCMC/RARET Flooding 2025 Transportation Report: <https://www.kcmobility.org/raret-flooding-2025-transportation-report>
- Property Damage Assistance Loan Deadline: April 27
- SBA Disaster Team onsite through April 24, SnoValley Chamber of Commerce, at 128 West 2nd Street North Bend (10am–6pm)

<https://northbendwa.gov/m/newsflash/Home/Detail/2627>

Comments:

- **Amy Biggs:** The 2025 flooding highlighted many of the same challenges seen during snow events. It's important to monitor lower elevations and keep an eye on river levels. If Hopelink DART service is disrupted, riders should sign up for SVT alerts. During the 2025 flooding, there were significant challenges traveling between cities.
- **Lyn McCarthy:** In Duvall, the flooding led to strong community involvement, largely because it was a shared experience. There is clear potential for resilience through community action, and the event helped strengthen community bonds.
- **Amy McHenry:** After meeting with faith-based organizations, it was noted that floodwaters are behaving differently, reaching areas that hadn't been impacted before. This reinforces the importance of maintaining strong and open communication channels.
- **Laura Loe:** The AccessMap sidewalk data tool was used during flooding to predict where people might become cut off. It includes information such as hill grade, wheelchair accessibility, incomplete sidewalk networks, and which routes may remain available. It can also help identify evacuation paths. Training is available for AccessMap, and grants may be available for sidewalk-related projects. The tool uses both state data and on-the-ground volunteer input.
 - o Anat Caspi, PhD: caspian@cs.washington.edu
 - o Kunal Mehta, Director, Taskar Center for Accessible Technology: kunalvm@uw.edu
 - o Paul G. Allen, School of Computer Science & Engineering, University of Washington caspian@cs.washington.edu
 - o [Access Map app](#)
 - o [Grant for Access Map](#)
- **Michelle Catoire:** During emergency preparation, many merchants delayed sandbagging because they didn't believe the flooding would be severe. While community outreach was strong, issues arose with power outages and limited vehicle access. Emergency contact systems were outdated—private phone lists and phone chains had not been maintained, making it difficult for people to reach help. Additionally, some individuals avoided asking for post-disaster support out of concern for taking resources away from others, particularly within the farming community.

- SBA Disaster Team is here in our office thru 4/24 - with resources and information for residents, businesses & farms. Spread the word. They have many great resources. SnoValley Chamber 128 W 2nd St North Bend. 10am to 6pm
- **Laura Loe (follow-up):** People often neglect their own needs during emergencies. There's a need to reinforce that assistance is available for them as well. Impacts like PTSD can last for years. Simple tools, like using bullhorns from vehicles, can help distribute information widely during emergencies.
- **Lyn McCarthy (follow-up):** It would be helpful if cities provided more centralized and accessible emergency information.
- **Amy Biggs (follow-up):** Many people tend to "roll up their sleeves" and handle things themselves rather than asking for help.

Laura Loe: Find A Ride updates

- provided an update on the Find a Ride trip planner, including new features and improvements
- the trip planner now includes an alert bar for important updates, such as World Cup impacts on transportation
- Laura demonstrated how the trip planner works, showing various transportation options and their availability
- the trip planner aims to make it easier for users to find and plan trips, especially for those with specific needs or limited mobility

New Features

- Real-time alert bar for:
 - Service disruptions
 - Major events (e.g., World Cup)
 - Weather impacts
- Expanded service data:
 - Valley Shuttle
 - Duvall-Monroe routes
- Ongoing improvements:
 - 8+ system updates
 - Accessibility enhancements

Data & Accuracy

- Addressing duplicate services due to data feeds
- Continued quality assurance improvements
- GTFS feed updates will be integrated into Find A Ride (not Metro)

3-County Mobility Call Center

- Phone: 1-888-697-9080
- Provides transportation education only (no booking/payment)
- "No Wrong Door" approach across:
 - King (TRL)
 - Pierce (Access Pierce)
 - Snohomish (VOAWW)

Comments

Amy Biggs:

- Emphasized the importance of accuracy and ongoing quality assurance, especially in areas where services frequently change.
- Encouraged close coordination with SVT to keep route and schedule information up to date.
- Noted that even small inaccuracies can create major barriers for riders.

Laura Loe:

- Acknowledged the tool is still a work in progress, particularly with:
 - Deviated fixed routes
 - Duplicate data from multiple service feeds
- Encouraged partners to provide feedback to improve accuracy.

Roundtable Sharing:

- Nicole Ross shared updates on the rescheduled advocacy 101 workshop, community van activities, and the recruitment of community transportation navigators.
- Lyn McCarthy provides an update on the story mapping project, which aims to humanize transportation data through personal stories.
- Lyn explained the process of interviewing participants, including a 30-minute preparation period and a follow-up session to shape their transportation stories.
- The team at Hopelink helps transcribe the interviews and drafts the stories, which are then reviewed by the participants for accuracy.
- Participants are compensated with a \$57 per hour stipend, and the process takes about three hours per participant.
- Future projects, such as a "week without driving," are mentioned, and ride-alongs with participants are being considered to understand their travel requirements better.
- Amy Biggs: shared a map to illustrate the new weekend route, which will connect North Bend outlet mall to River Bend and Edgewick.
- The new route will operate every other hour, from 6am to 8pm, and is currently being called the "bunny ears" route.
- The route aims to connect people in mobile home parks and other areas to the valley shuttle, which will take them to Duvall.
- Laura Loe asks if the new route will be included in the King County Metro feed, and Amy Biggs confirms it will not.

Action Items

- Nicole Ross will distribute the updated Advocacy 101 workshop information and registration details to coalition members and partner organizations as soon as the new collateral materials are available
- Bring Amy Biggs's recommendation back to Hopelink transportation leadership and ensure there is a designated staff member who is subscribed to Snoqualmie Valley Transportation rider alerts to improve coordination during floods
- After Amy's team finalizes GTFS data for the new Cedar Falls–Edgewick weekend route, coordinate with Trillium to build the feed and integrate the route into Find a Ride

Next Meeting:

Date: Friday, June 12th

Time: 10:30-12pm

Location: zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81188605344?pwd=J5uGVdoE1E38uLB7bAgQf9lXHbysyt.1>

Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coalition

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For more information about SVMC, contact Nicole Ross at nross@hopelink.org, visit our website [here](#), or sign up for our distribution list [here](#).

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

This material is available in alternative formats. Email the Hopelink Mobility Management team at mobility@hopelink.org or call/text (425) 466-3442 for further information and requests for accommodations.

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