



Snoqualmie Valley

MOBILITYCOALITION

August 8th Meeting Notes

Date: August 8th, 2025

Time: 10:30am-12:00pm

Location: Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84213949947?pwd=WnhpSm1HL0JmOC9nQklNelY2MkJZZz09>

Attendance: Brock Howell (SnoTrac), Amy Bright (City of Monroe), Carol Ladwig (Sound Generations), Griffin Cole (Catholic Community Services), Laura Loe (Hopelink), Angela Kitali (University of Washington Tacoma), Mona Davis (City of Snoqualmie), Natalie Sharp (Hopelink), Candise Hutchko (Volunteer Services), Angie Kitcheka (Volunteer Services), Kunal Mehta (Taskar Center), Roz Novikova (Hopelink), Ka’Ohu Kane (Hopelink), Rene Price (Snoqualmie Valley School District), Jim Ribail (City of Carnation), Jamie Burrell (City of North Bend), Amara Kumahn (Taskar Center), Ian Watson (Homage)

Support Staff: Erin Funk, Heather Clark, Dean Sydnor

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.*

1. Angela Kitali – University of Washington Tacoma

Topic: Transportation Disparities in Rural Areas

Focus: Rural Residential Clusters (RRC) – unincorporated housing clusters along major roads with **no sidewalks**.

Goals:

1. **Identify & Map Barriers** – bike lanes, crosswalks, and other active transportation gaps in RRCs.
2. **Assess Needs** – direct engagement with residents, stakeholders, and local governments; surveys to gather input.
3. **Create Resources** – geospatial database and qualitative report for WSDOT to inform planning (focus on Western WA).

How to Engage:

- Assist with surveys
- Provide feedback on survey draft
- Share RRC database (Snoqualmie Valley focus)
- Help connect with RRC residents before survey launch

Q&A:

- **Timeline?** Waiting for WSDOT approval; likely starting fall 2025; 1-year project.
- **Adding New RRCs?** Yes—possible if outside population centers.

2. Kunal Mehta and Amara Kumahn – [Taskar Center for Accessible Technology](#) (UW)

Topic: [Transportation Accessibility Mapping](#)

Events:

- **Seattle Design Festival:** Aug 16–17 (Lincoln Park, Seattle)
- **Carnation Hopelink Office/Tolt Commons – 4620 Tolt Avenue** - Aug 18 11:00am-3:00pm **Activity:** “Walkabout” - Participants map their own area’s sidewalks; data updates live in the tool.

Q&A:

- Devices available at event, or use your own phone.
- Immediate data upload; kid-friendly prompts.
- Laura Loe will attend the festival.

3. Dean Sydnor – Hopelink Veterans Transportation

Past Service:

- VA appointments served by:
 - 8-driver Veterans Transportation Service (VTS) roster
 - Taxi contract with Medstar

Current Challenges:

- VTS roster reduced to 2 drivers (mainly American Lake trips)
- Medstar taxi contract expired; no replacement planned
- ~2,000 veterans still need transportation to VA appointments

Service Gaps:

- Concentrated need in Lakewood, Federal Way, Renton, Kent, Seattle
- Main destinations: VA Seattle, American Lake

Action Steps:

- Build relationships with veterans’ groups
- Connect veterans with travel training and mobility management
- Promote Find a Ride
- Share available services with RARET
- Increase outreach

Q&A:

- CV (Community Van) could assist but depends on volunteer drivers and advance notice for second rider requirement.

4. RARET / ETPN Tabletop Exercise 2025 – [Register HERE](#)

Format Changes:

- Separate in-person venues per county (King, Pierce, Snohomish), connected virtually
- County-specific and cross-county scenarios
- Single large group per venue rather than multiple small groups
- Focus on **wildfire** this year

Details:

- **Registration deadline:** Aug 22
- Accessibility requests: submit early

- Seeking help with promotion to transportation organizations, government agencies, and subject matter experts

5. Heather Clark – Hopelink / KCMC Story Mapping Project

Purpose: Document community experiences with transportation barriers to healthcare access (King County Action Plan 2023–2026).

Partners: Disability Mobility Initiative (DMI)

Goals:

- Highlight stories from those facing highest transportation barriers
- Share with decision-makers to improve resources
- Prepare coalition and partners for advocacy

What's Needed:

- Community members willing to share their stories
- Organizational contacts for outreach
- Help promoting call for stories

Note: Lyn emphasized that sharing rural stories is important for service requests, as standard metrics often overlook rural needs.

6. [Week Without Driving](#) – Lyn

Dates: Sept 29 – Oct 5

Approach for SVMC: Focus on thought experiments (due to rural distances)

- Example: “If you had a doctor’s appointment in Seattle and no car, how would you get there?”
- Promote Find a Ride

Resources:

- [Rural Messaging guidance – click here](#)
- Newsletter Blurb Template, proclamation template, press release template [available here](#)

7. Roundtable Updates

- **Jim Griffin:** Sports season and FIFA events will increase travel needs from SV to transit hubs; Metro should share parking availability before events.
- **Amy Bright:** Park & Ride audits show Highland P&R often full early; most cars from SV. Need better data and possible special event buses to Mercer Island connections.
- **Lyn:** Request Metro speaker for next meeting.
- **Amy Biggs:** Tribal mobility grant to hire marketing staff; many unaware local transit is open to all. SVT exploring Duval shuttle expansion.

Snoqualmie Valley Mobility Coalition

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For more information about SVMC, contact Lyn McCarthy at emccarthy@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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