
MEETING NOTES

October 27th, 2016

Shoreline Library

Participants: Belina Van (CCS Volunteer Services), Candice Ives (KCHA), David VanderZee (King County Metro), Harry Horst (Northshore Senior Center), Kathleen O'Keefe (King County Library System), Lauren Link (Hopelink), Penny Lara (King County Metro), Robin McClelland (Shoreline Resident), Staci Haber (King County Mobility Coalition), Tristan Cook (King County Metro),

Staff: Mark Carson

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The meeting began at 10:30AM. The attendees provided introductions. Harry Horst introduced himself as the new Transportation Manager for Northshore Senior Center. Mark Carson also introduced himself as the new Mobility Coordinator for Hopelink and will be providing the staff support to the North King County Mobility Coalition.

Staci Haber (King County Mobility Coalition) filled everyone in on the Public Transit Orientation (PTO) and Getting Around Puget Sound (GAPS) trips being planned (10/29 at the North Helpline Resource Fair on Lake City Way, and 10/31 at the Lake City Community Center).

Penny Lara (King County Metro) shared her experience joining the Chinese Information & Service Center PTO trip on 10/26 where 10 immigrants and a translator took the light rail to SeaTac Airport.

Robin McClelland suggested everyone check out the new Hopelink Shoreline service center currently under construction on Aurora Avenue.

The Woodinville/Bothell Alternative Services project was discussed. Questions were raised about whether a Community Van option would be similar to the Duvall community van. More information should be available at the next meeting.

BRIEFING: KENMORE SENIOR CENTER LISTENING SESSION

Staci Haber recapped what happened at the Kenmore Senior Center Listening Session, held on 9/12 as part of the *Kenmore Connections* monthly meet-up with Mayor Baker. The NKCMC has previously conducted Listening Sessions across North King County in 2013 & 2014 with great success. For example, residents at a low-income senior housing complex were grateful to have

gotten a particular bus shelter back. A recent project to complete a sidewalk between another low-income senior housing complex and the nearby Safeway in Kenmore was also constructed.

Some of the major feedback from the Kenmore Listening Session included:

- No availability of parking at park and ride lots. Many wanted to take bus 522 at Lake Forest Park into Seattle but lot is full by 6:30am. Some acknowledged they park illegally nearby as their only option;
- There is a large desire to travel via transit into Seattle despite willing to travel by personal vehicle locally;
- More service should be added to areas such as Simonds Road;
- The terrain and steep hills are a barrier to taking transit, even if a bus stop is “technically” within walking distance;
- There was some strong sentiment against cyclists when using nearby walking trails such as Burke-Gilman and Juanita Bay Park. Another walking trail at Totem Lake Park was unfavorable as it was perceived as not well-maintained;
- Residents are strongly affected by poor transportation connections between King and Snohomish Counties;
- There were several examples presented where a Metro Access and/or Northshore Senior Center vehicle were unable to pick up an eligible rider due to steep terrain or an inaccessible path; and
- Residents may rely on social media to receive community information and updates, including NextDoor and the Kenmore Neighbors Facebook page.

Staci highlighted the largest takeaway and constant theme throughout the session was the lack of transportation options for non-commuters in the Kenmore area. As highlighted by one participant, transportation is “good for working people but leaves the rest of us.”

A full summary will be sent to coalition members as well as King County Metro staff who are undergoing the Alternative Services community engagement for the Kenmore/Kirkland area.

DISCUSSION: 2016 WORK PLAN INITIATIVES

This discussion focused on a proposed transportation resource fair as described at August NKCMC meeting (see 8/25/16 meeting minutes). Robin McClelland, Penny Lara, and Mark Carson provided a summary of the 10/24 meeting where a Transportation Resource Fair was planned at the Shoreline-LFP Senior Center. This fair is tentatively scheduled for February 7th from 11am-2pm. Kathleen O’Keefe (KCLS) suggested having various agencies actually presenting to the Senior Center lunch crowd during the Fair. Robin McClelland suggested that rather than having a sequential, linear series of presentations, that we have short introductory presentations, and escorts to meet with individuals to get them to the tables containing pertinent information. Mark Carson agreed to create a ½ page ad for the Senior Center’s upcoming activity guide.

In addition to a Transportation Fair, Robin McClelland noted the Coalition, in partnership with Hopelink's Travel Programs, could table at the senior center in either November or December to listen to what seniors may want included at the resource fair. There may also be an opportunity to plan short PTO trips with seniors from the senior center to nearby destinations, like grocery store or the Shoreline or Richmond libraries, sometime in the spring following the success of the fair.

There was discussion of using computer classes in libraries to teach patrons about Vets-go.org, FindARide.org, Metro's Online Trip Planner, and OneBusAway. Kathleen O'Keefe mentioned that the primary use of the library computer classes is for teaching Microsoft Office, however there may be other opportunities to provide trip planning resources through planned events or one-on-one sessions.

Since there was a few minutes remaining for this agenda item, Mark Carson noted he's constantly heard steep hills was a major barrier for our target populations. Kathleen agreed and also added slick sidewalks make it difficult to transverse the sidewalk due to the constant rain. Robin McClelland mentioned there was a signage project in Raleigh, NC where signs give distances not by miles but by minutes (e.g. the library is a 10-minute walk from here). More information can be found here: <https://walkyourcity.org/>.

BRIEFING: KING COUNTY METRO'S LATE NIGHT BUS SERVICE

Tristan Cook (King County Metro) introduced the current late-night bus service proposal, which is in partnership with the City of Seattle. There is an online and paper survey available in English, Spanish, and Chinese, which closes on 10/31. King County Metro previously presented to the South King County Mobility Coalition last spring to gauge their feedback on late-night service for their region.

David VanderZee (King County Metro) distributed the proposed map. Currently the 82, 83, & 84 routes only operate late-night service in Seattle. These have timed meet-ups at 2:15am & 3:30am. These "pulse points" limit the distance these routes can travel, and create some congestion. The proposed plan will eliminate these 3 routes (82, 83, & 84) and replace them with additional service on routes 3, 5, 11, 62, 70, 120, and Rapid Ride routes C, D, & E. This will increase the net footprint of the transit service in the area between the hours of 12:00am-5:00am, allowing for longer distances and more frequent service. The proposed changes would likely take place in November 2017.

These changes are intended to move toward a 24hr transit ideal. The riders currently using the service are a mixture of night life recreationalists, commuters with non-traditional work hours (service industries, health care, etc), airport patrons, shoppers, and individuals traveling to and from shelters.

Lauren Link and Robin McClelland offered suggestions for connections in the Shoreline community. Facilities include the International Health Clinic on Aurora Avenue, Shoreline Community College, and grocery stores open 24 hours.

Since frequency of service is roughly hourly after 1:00am, Lauren also suggested extending the bus transfer time as a way of incentivizing usage. Staci Haber also suggested speaking with employers about extending grace to employees who wish to use the bus to commute.

Harry Horst asked if this would be only Seattle, or if there would be any additions to the East side. David VanderZee said that the current project is solely focused on travel to/from the Seattle area. The goal is better access and a larger footprint. Robin McClelland asked about the impact of these routes on residential neighborhoods. David VanderZee responded that the impact should be minimal since there are few neighborhoods directly affected, and King County Metro's use of electric busses means minimal noise.

ROUNDTABLE AND NEXT STEPS

Lauren Link announced the Seattle Stand Down event at the South Seattle Community College-Georgetown campus on December 1st, 8:00am-4:00pm & December 2nd, 8:00am-2:00pm. King County Metro is providing free bus service to Veterans for this two-day event.

Staci Haber noted the date of the next scheduled meeting (12/22) is close to Christmas holidays and tasked Mark Carson with creating a Doodle.com poll to find an alternative date/time.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm.

ACTION ITEMS

- *NKCMC members* will submit ideas and feedback on reoccurring trips for a proposed Woodinville/Bothell Community Van;
- *Staff* will create and distribute a doodle poll to find a new date and time for the meeting;
- *Staff* will send out a full summary of the Kenmore Listening Session to coalition members and King County Metro staff;
- *Staff* will connect with Hopelink Travel Programs for a GAPS event at the Shoreline-LFP Senior Center;
- *Staff* will create a ½ page ad for the Shoreline-LFP Senior Center Transportation Fair;
- *Staff and NKCMC partners* will begin planning the Shoreline-LFP Transportation Fair;
- *Kathleen O'Keefe* will send more information on potential KCLS trip-planning opportunities;
- *Staff* will send the flyer for Seattle Stand Down; and
- *The NKCMC* will continue to engage with Feet First and identify on-going partnership opportunities to encourage walkability in North King County.

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