

King County Mobility Coalition
Subcommittees & Partner Coalitions Update
February 17, 2011

Membership Subcommittee

Scope of work: Fill vacancies on the coalition and review the coalition's composition at least annually. Track outside groups that Coalition members participate in or affiliated with, including ACCT working groups.

Update: All but one of the Coalition's membership seats is filled, and the subcommittee has a strong prospect for a mental health advocate/service representative. The Subcommittee also understands the importance of retaining existing members. To this end, we surveyed members in January to learn how we can improve our quarterly meetings and will be implementing the feedback immediately.

Coalition Members: Please complete a Member Form, or send us an update if anything has changed. This form enables us to track the outside groups you participate in and ensure that we are using this network effectively.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Alex O'Reilly at:
aoreilly@bellevuewa.gov or 425-452-2824.

Government Affairs Working Group

Scope of work: Conduct outreach to elected officials and decision-makers on behalf of the full committee at the regional, state and federal level. Collaborate with ACCT working groups to reduce funding barriers, such as streamlining eligibility requirements for riders on federally and state funded transportation services. Work with local and regional planning agencies to ensure that the transportation needs of seniors, people with disabilities, people with low incomes and children/youth are incorporated in local planning policies and programs.

Update: Bob Sahn, Melony Joyce, Lynn Moody, Michelle Zeidman and Park Woodworth participated in the ACCT's Federal Opportunities Workgroup (FOW), in an effort to reduce funding barriers and develop cost sharing strategies between ADA Paratransit providers and Medicaid Brokers. This work includes a pilot project in King County. More information about the pilot project and the workgroup's activities is available at:
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/acct/FOW.htm>

For more information or to get involved, please contact Michelle Zeidman at:
mdzeidman@hope-link.org or 425-943-6737.

Livable Communities Subcommittee

Scope of work: Incorporate livable communities' strategies, such as universal design and complete streets, into the Coalition's work and into the provision of special needs transportation.

Update: The Subcommittee has selected two top projects to focus on in the short-term:

1. Develop transportation options for people with temporary transportation needs. As a first step, members of the subcommittee are researching existing taxi voucher programs and possible opportunities to partner with the wheelchair accessible taxicab operators to develop a special taxi voucher program for people with temporary transportation needs.
2. Universal signage for transportation, including wayfinding signs and instructions for using public, private and community transportation services.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Michelle Zeidman at: mzeidman@hope-link.org or 425-943-6737.

Technology Subcommittee

Scope of work: Serve as a resource to agencies who want to increase their use of technology by sharing best practices and focusing on connecting transportation users with each other and with transportation providers through the use of technology.

Update:

1. *RideshareOnline.com:* Committee members will assist in developing two new components to RideShareonline.com; a school carpooling module and a senior volunteer module being funded by Metro through its WSDOT special needs transportation grant. RideshareOnline.com, a multi-state program initiated by Park Woodworth will receive an additional \$40,000 in state grants through Washington State ACCT to develop these two new modules as well as involvement from ACCT members.
2. *New Technologies:* The committee is continuing to look at how new technologies can help with travel choices for individuals with special needs. The Subcommittee proposes to provide an annual briefing to the KCMC to share any technology tools we've discovered and/or helped create.
3. *Online Resources:* Ref successfully worked with Metro's website team to improve the Transportation Resource Index: <http://metro.kingcounty.gov/tops/tri/tri-main.html>. The Index is a comprehensive listing of transit and mobility tools from the region, and can now be accessed from the KCMC website. Over the next year Melony will be working with the Metro webmaster to redesign the accessibility content on Metro Online, including the KCMC page. The committee will provide opportunities for KCMC members to comment on and help shape the form and content.
4. *Translating transportation providers' websites into multiple languages:* This project is complete. The Subcommittee shared the Google Translator Tool with members of the KCMC and encouraged them to incorporate it into their agency site, as possible. The Subcommittee also attempted to incorporate the Translator Tool into KCMC's website, but faced deep resistance to using a translation tool that is not 100% accurate.

Coalition Members: Make your website instantly available in other languages for FREE using Google's website translator tool. Instructions and html code are available online at: http://translate.google.com/translate_tools.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Ref Lindmark at: ref.lindmark@kingcounty.gov or 206-684-1104.

Targeted Outreach Subcommittee

Scope of work: Coordinate efforts to educate riders and human service providers about transportation options available in King County for the special needs population, including planning outreach events. Provide input on other organizations' outreach materials and help develop clear educational information for riders and human services providers.

Update:

- The Outreach Subcommittee and Easter Seal Project Action Committee on Refugee and Immigrants have joined forces conduct outreach to immigrants and refugees.
- On behalf of the King County Mobility Coalition, Senior Services applied for funding from the National Center for Senior Transportation. This grant would fund a series of community conversations and a transportation summit to learn more about the mobility issues of refugee and immigrant populations and develop outreach materials and tools to educate these populations. We are waiting to hear whether NCST will fund this project, and the subcommittee is beginning preliminary work on the community conversations.
- South King County Transportation Forum, held in Kent on January 27, was a success! Over 40 people listened to presentations from nine panelists sharing information about transportation options available in South King County. The forum was videotaped by Kent TV21 and can be viewed online at:
<http://kentwa.iqm2.com/citizens/VideoScreen.aspx?MediaURL=mms%3a%2f%2fMedia2.IQM2.com%2fa1607%2fo15%2fKentWA%2f1524.wmv> or by searching for “Transportation Forum” on <http://kentwa.iqm2.com/citizens/Media.aspx>.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Cindy Zwart at:
cindy@seniorservices.org or 206- 727-6255.

Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative

Background: The Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative (EERC) was formed in 2005 to identify and initiate coordination, creative and sustainable ways to assist older adults, persons with disabilities and low-income individuals on the Eastside attain a better quality of life by increasing their transportation options. Participating agencies include City of Bellevue, Aging and Disabilities Services of Seattle and King County, Bellevue Network on Aging, City of Kirkland Senior Council, City of Redmond, Sound Transit, King County Metro and Hopelink.

Update: EERC priorities and projects include:

1. *Marketing Materials:* An EERC brochure, annual report, new member packet have been developed and distributed to increase visibility of the Collaborative's activities. The Collaborative is working on creating their website which will feature information related to accomplishments, current projects and local transportation information and resources. Target audience for this website includes the general public, decision makers, social service agencies and transportation providers.
2. *Increase Public-Private Partnerships:* The Collaborative is working to enhance transportation options on the Eastside by increasing collaboration and outreach effort to include rural cities, the private sector, medical facilities and social service providers.

3. *Transportation Forum:* The Collaborative co-sponsored a Human Service Transportation Forum event which featured information related to the upcoming SR 520 Bridge electronic tolling and discussion about urgent transportation issues effecting East King County and solutions on improving mobility in the area. In addition, the Collaborative plans on sponsoring similar Transportation Forums in the near future.
4. *Outreach to Cities:* The Collaborative is actively reaching out to cities in East King County to spread the word about EERC and our work in East King County. The first presentation is scheduled in March with the Bellevue Human Services Commission, and additional presentation opportunities are being explored with other cities' boards and commissions.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Alina Aaron at: aalison@hope-link.org or 425-943-6769.

North King County Mobility Coalition

Background: The North King County Mobility Coalition was formed in late 2010 to make it easier for all people in North King County to get around. The Coalition has a special focus on older adults, youth, low-income individuals and families, and people with disabilities. Participating agencies include Catholic Community Services, City of Shoreline, Hopelink, Northshore Senior Center, Senior Services of King County and St. James ESL.

Update: The NKCMC is gathering information to help set its priorities and select projects to focus on. Current activities include:

1. *Transportation Asset Map:* This tool is a “perpetual inventory” of existing transportation services in North King County, and will be expanded to include each service’s capacity, ability to meet the existing need and potential for serving more people.
2. *Needs Assessment Survey:* The Coalition is working with a consultant to develop and implement a survey for service providers and community members in North King County this spring.
3. *Promising Practices Research:* The Coalition is researching the use of school buses for community transportation and agency vehicle sharing in other parts of the state and region, as these may be potential projects for the group.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Michelle Zeidman at: mzeidman@hope-link.org or 425-943-6737.