

**Transportation and Public Spaces Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Friday, February 23, 2018**  
**8:30—10 am, Chinook Bldg. Room 118**

Attendees: Betsy Conrad, Jon Morrison-Winters, Mary Snodgrass, Walter Washington, Katie Graham, Carol Kachadoorian, Diane Wiatr, Lizzie Moll, and Sue Lerner (by phone)

- 1. Introductions:** Committee members introduced themselves and discussed their favorite modes of transportation.
- 2. Recap of Prior Meetings:** Mary Snodgrass discussed the committee's activities at the prior two meetings, including a presentation from SDOT on current age-friendly projects, and a general discussion of potential project areas for the committee to focus on (Regional Reduced Fare Permit, transit ridership, cycling, senior driving, funding, Find It/Fix It events, active transportation and benches).
- 3. Age-Friendly – Areas of Need:** Betsy Conrad provided an overview of the transportation gaps identified by the Age-Friendly Action Plan:
  - Affordability
  - Transit ridership
  - Regional transportation challenges: awareness gaps, infrastructure gaps, non-emergency medical transportation; better coordination of services; trip planning tools; funding

The group briefly discussed the gaps, including an awareness gap in terms of tools the City of Seattle offers for flagging needs such as curb ramps in specific locations.

**4. Setting Purpose and Priorities:**

Committee Name: The group discussed the committee's name, and whether it should focus on active transportation, plus the built environment, outdoor spaces, or public spaces. Ultimately, the group agreed to be called the Transportation and Public Spaces committee, with an initial focus on active transportation for older adults. The group also agreed that housing is beyond the scope of the committee.

Committee Purpose: Committee members contributed ideas toward a purpose statement, including:

- Should include ideas around collaborating/promoting, connecting, safety, healthy, affordability, access, community, public/private
- E.g.: Connecting older adults to their community, helping older adults thrive in their communities and access destinations, promoting transportation options that promote healthy lifestyles, expanding communities through transportation, expanding communities and access to...

The group wanted to focus on "promoting" rather than "expanding" for the purpose of the committee, and also thought a focus on older adults specifically (as opposed to all ages) should be included. If committee members have full-sentence ideas for a purpose statement, please send them to Betsy

Conrad. Otherwise, Betsy, Mary and Jon will bring one or two draft purpose statements back to the group for comment.

Potential Projects: The following types of project ideas were discussed:

**Data:** The group discussed data needs, and an approach of 1): identifying data that are already available, and 2) gathering new data if necessary. There was also discussion about identifying questions the data should help answer, and being careful when collecting data to set expectations for how it will be used. There was general agreement that data can be used to advocate for future projects. The following specific data needs were identified:

- Gather data on how and where are older adults traveling
- Identify where older adults are actually walking
  - o Is it really around hospitals (where current sidewalk improvement efforts are focused)? We don't have good data on this.
  - o A survey of retirement facilities/senior centers was suggested, with questions about where older adults typically walk, whether it's for leisure, if there are barriers to their walks, etc.
- Identify better rideshare data, such as Uber/Lyft rides through caregivers

The 2016 Household Travel Survey data are coming out soon and will be a good source of local data.

**Cycling:**

- Educating cycling organizations about the needs of older adults.
- Assembling older adult cyclists, drivers and pedestrians for conversations/events
- Assessing how cycling changes for older adults over time

**Regional Reduced Fare Permit (RRFP):**

- Coordinate with Metro to promote the RRFP

**Transit Ridership:**

- Promote the King County Mobility Coalition access guide

**Neighborhood Model Project:**

- Work with older adults in one neighborhood, identify/gather data about how they use active transportation, and develop tools/resources to create a replicable model for other neighborhoods and communities.

**5. Next Steps:** The group agreed to continue meeting biweekly.

Committee members should each propose 1-2 concrete project ideas, to be discussed and prioritized at the next meeting.