



NATIONAL DOWN SYNDROME SOCIETY  
**BUDDY WALK**  
tm

**Skagit County  
Buddy Walk**

Promoting acceptance and awareness  
of people with Down Syndrome

[www.buddywalk.org](http://www.buddywalk.org)

PLANNING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION IN SKAGIT & ISLAND COUNTIES

## CONTEXT

Bridges  
connecting Island  
County to the  
mainland

Ferries  
connecting Island  
County

Connections  
between Skagit,  
Island, San Juan,  
Whatcom, and  
Snohomish  
counties

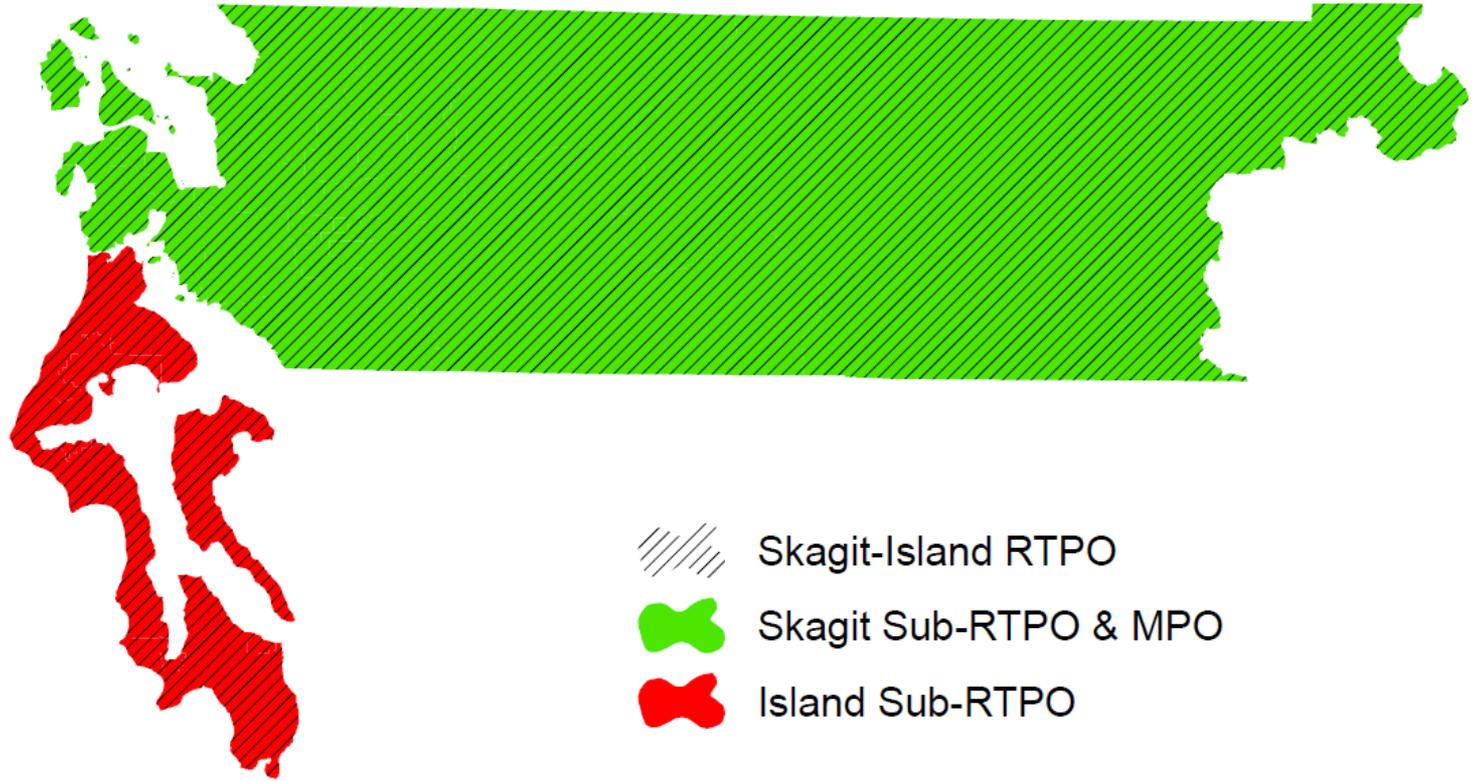


# ORGANIZATION

Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization  
(state) for Skagit  
& Island counties

Metropolitan  
Planning  
Organization in  
Skagit County  
(federal)

Semiautonomous  
governing  
structures for  
RTPO



-  Skagit-Island RTPO
-  Skagit Sub-RTPO & MPO
-  Island Sub-RTPO

# COMMITTEE

Established to lead 2014 processes

Intended on having representatives for each group

Many organizations provided service to more than one group

Most organizations provided transportation services



Veterans

Medicaid

Youth

Tribes

WSDOT

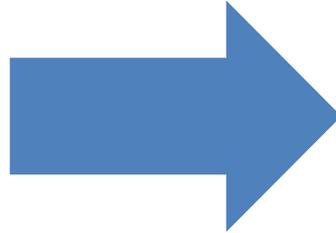
Seniors

Transit

Disabilities

Low-income

Major Emp.



Disabled American Veterans	Camano Center
Opportunity Council of Island County	Northwest Regional Council
Community Action of Skagit County	Volunteers of America – North Sound 211
Island Transit	Northwest Educational Services District #189
Skagit Transit	Washington State Department of Transportation
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community	

# COMMITTEE

Had five meetings in 2014

Education big focus in the beginning

Meetings ended with recommendations on plan and projects



## PLAN

Coordinated  
public transit-  
human services  
transportation  
plan

Every four years

State law ensures  
RTPOs develop  
plan, but plan is  
federal  
requirement

Include seniors,  
individuals with  
disabilities,  
representatives  
of public, private,  
and nonprofit  
transportation,  
human services  
providers and the  
public in the  
process

Completed in  
2014



# INVENTORY

A couple big providers

Very few small providers

Many services that crossed county boundaries

## Big providers



## Small providers



## Services that crossed county boundaries



# INVENTORY

Top paratransit origins and destinations

Categorized by consultant

Similarities in top locations

Figure 1: Group Homes, Senior Centers and Shopping Facilities Paratransit Destinations

Group Homes			
Island Transit		Skagit Transit	
Summerhill	10,953	Life Care Center – Mount Vernon	14,880
Careage	8,626	Vintage at Mount Vernon	12,992
Whidbey Manor	7,023	Mira Vista	12,191
Cambridge Cove	6,044	Life Care Center – Sedro-Woolley	7,783
Regency	5,060	Alpine Ridge	7,073
Cambey	4,057	Adult Day Care	6,569
Harbor Towers	3,220	Group Home – Burlington	6,408
Brookhaven	2,774	Country Meadows	5,742
Maple Ridge	2,344	Mountain Glen	5,377
HomePlace	1,827	Group Home – Mount Vernon	5,362
Dean Manor	1,597	Prestige Nursing Home	4,931
		Highland Greens	3,364

Senior Centers			
Island Transit		Skagit Transit	
Oak Harbor Senior Center	11,711	Senior Center – Anacortes	6,243
Time Together/Bayview Senior Center	9,787	Senior Center – Mount Vernon	5,223
		Senior Center – Burlington	3,325

Shopping Facilities			
Island Transit		Skagit Transit	
WalMart	9,252	Food Pavilion	8,618
Safeway	4,996	Cascade Mall	6,060
Saar's Market	3,687	Walmart	5,899
Payless Shopping Complex	2,506	Fred Meyer	5,557
Albertsons	1,875	Safeway	3,583
Rite Aide	791		
Navy Exchange/Commissary	287		

Source: Skagit Transit and Island Transit, June 2010 to June 2014

Figure 2: Medical Facilities, Religious Facilities and Other Frequent Paratransit Destinations

Medical Facilities			
Island Transit		Skagit Transit	
Davita Dialysis	13,726	Mount Vernon Dialysis Center	34,878
Whidbey General North	12,297	Skagit Regional Medical Center	6,907
Kidney Center	12,043	Compass Health	6,605
Whidbey General Hospital	8,181	Skagit Wound Healing Institute	5,596
Whidbey Community Physicians	5,036	Skagit Valley Hospital	3,078
Whidbey General South	936		

Religious Facilities			
Island Transit		Skagit Transit	
Oak Harbor Lutheran Church	314		
Christian Missionary of Langley	534		
Trinity Lutheran	291		
Church on the Rock	146		
Family Bible Church	649		
St. Augustine's Catholic Church	654		

Other Frequent Destinations			
Island Transit		Skagit Transit	
Thrive Fitness Center	13,742	Chinook Enterprises	24,236
Island Athletic Club	5,531	YMCA	13,387
Oak Harbor High School	5,217	Ovenell's	6,746
Oak Harbor Library	3,966	Skyline	5,606
American Legion	798	Riverside Health Club	4,643
CMA Church Soup Kitchen	649		
DSHS	571		
Bayview Food Bank	508		
Langley Library	468		
Freeland Library	312		
Oak Harbor Post Office	227		
Coupeville Library	223		
Clinton Library	174		
Opportunity Council	150		

Source: Skagit Transit and Island Transit, June 2010 to June 2014

What are the most frequent paratransit destinations?



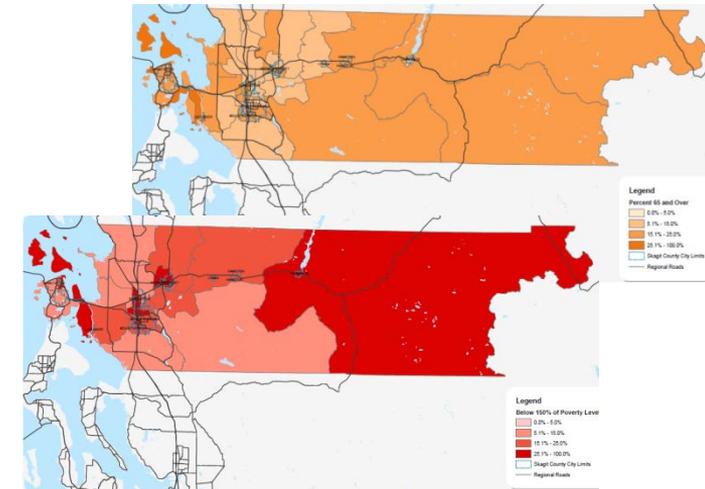
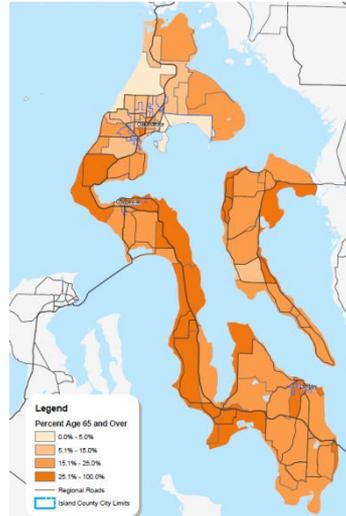
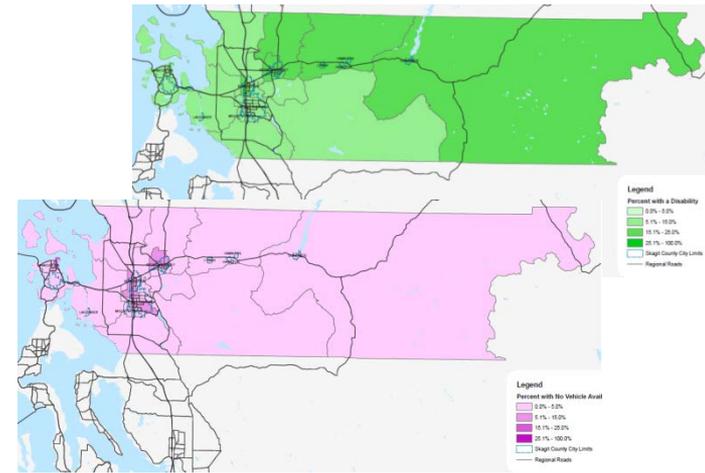
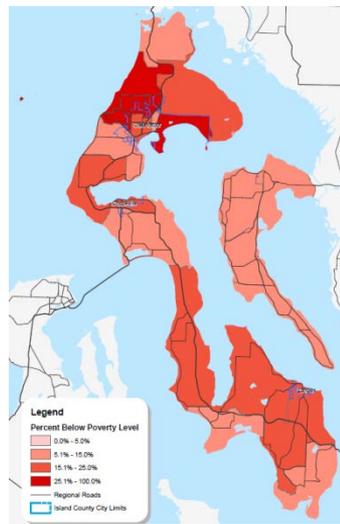
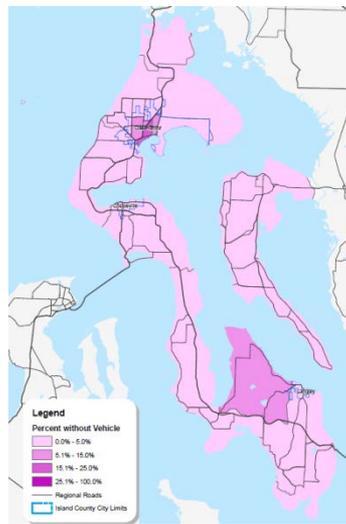
# DEMOGRAPHICS

Persons without access to a vehicle

Persons below 150% of poverty line

Persons over 65

Persons with a disability



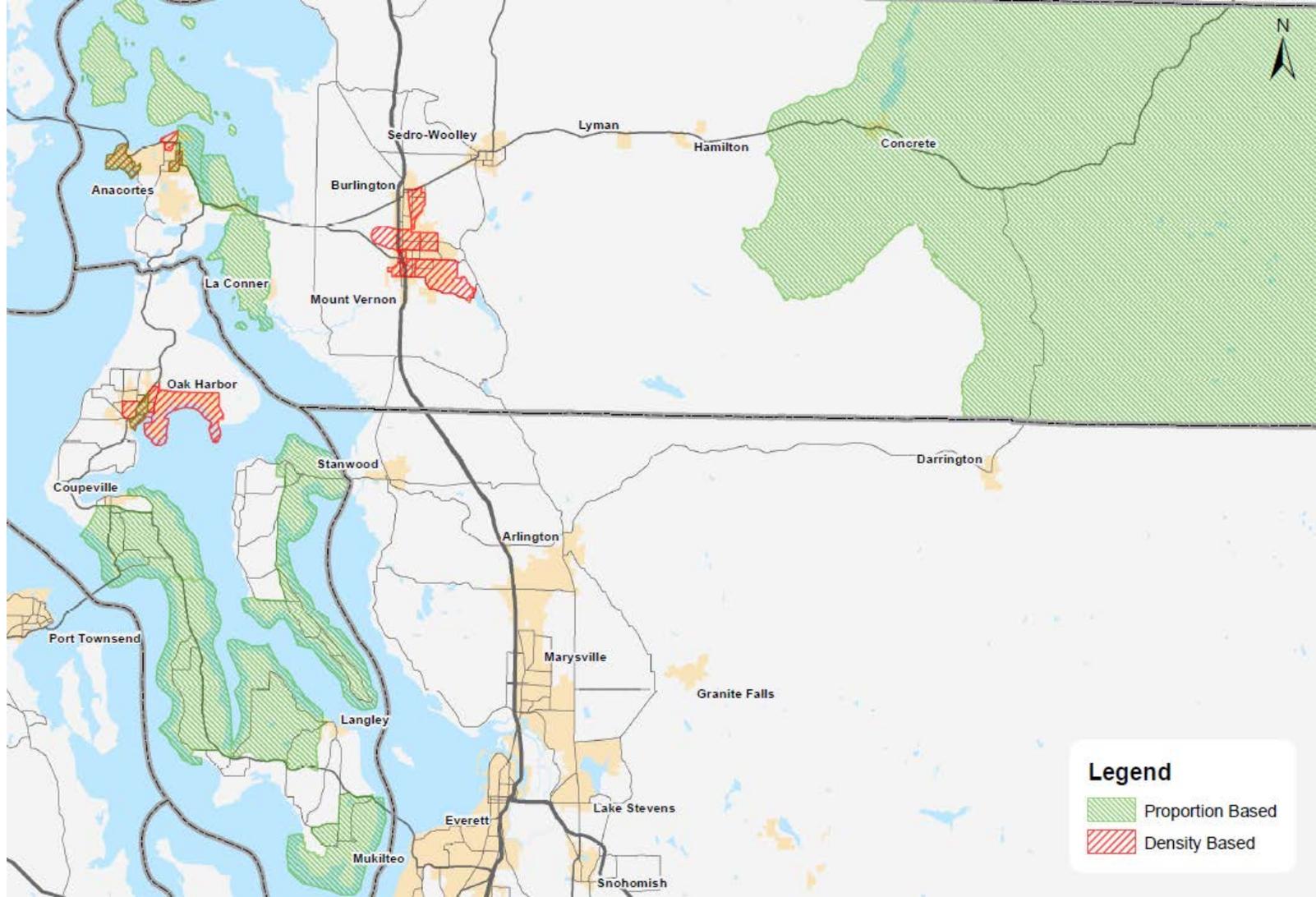
# DEMOGRAPHICS

Combination of demographic characteristics

Proportion based on % of population

Density based on persons/acre

Only top quartile identified by Census tract



## Legend

-  Proportion Based
-  Density Based

# OUTREACH

Paper and online survey

Handed out and posted survey information on buses



Would you like to take the survey online?  
<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/hstpsurvey>

## Island and Skagit County Special Needs Transportation Services Survey

Your opinion is important to determine the transportation needs in your community. Please complete one survey only. You may complete as much of the survey as you like.

### I need transportation services because: (Select all that apply)

- I am an elder or senior citizen, and I don't drive
- I am disabled
- I am homeless
- I am too ill to drive
- I don't have a car
- I don't have a driver's license
- I don't have auto insurance
- Other:

### I currently use the following means of transportation: (Select all that apply)

- Public transit
- My vehicle
- Taxi service
- Family, friends or volunteers
- Non-motorized (walk, bicycle, wheelchair)
- Regional transportation (Amtrak, Greyhound, Ferry)
- Medical transportation
- Other:

Please describe how you arrive at the pick-up locations for these options:

---

### I need transportation to: (Select your top 3 choices)

- Errands (banking, grocery shopping)
- Childcare
- Social Events
- Court Appointments
- Medical Appointments
- Work/Job Training
- School/Training
- Family and Friends
- Elder/Senior Services
- Recreational Facilities
- Other:

### I need to go to: (Select your top 3 most frequent destinations)

- | <u>Skagit County</u>                              | <u>Island County</u>                    | <u>Regional</u>                             |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anacortes                | <input type="checkbox"/> Bayview        | <input type="checkbox"/> Bellevue           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bayview Ridge            | <input type="checkbox"/> Coupeville     | <input type="checkbox"/> Bellingham         |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Burlington    | <input type="checkbox"/> Freeland       | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern Washington |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Concrete                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Langley        | <input type="checkbox"/> Everett            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenbank                | <input type="checkbox"/> Oak Harbor     | <input type="checkbox"/> King County        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hamilton                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Camano Island  | <input type="checkbox"/> Marysville         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> La Conner                | <input type="checkbox"/> Clinton        | <input type="checkbox"/> Port Townsend      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lyman                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Whidbey Island | <input type="checkbox"/> Seattle            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mount Vernon             | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:         | <input type="checkbox"/> Stanwood           |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sedro-Woolley |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Whatcom County     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swinomish                |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                   |   |   |

What is your 5-digit zip code? Zip Code: 98233

Additional questions on reverse side

Survey results compiled and presented in plan

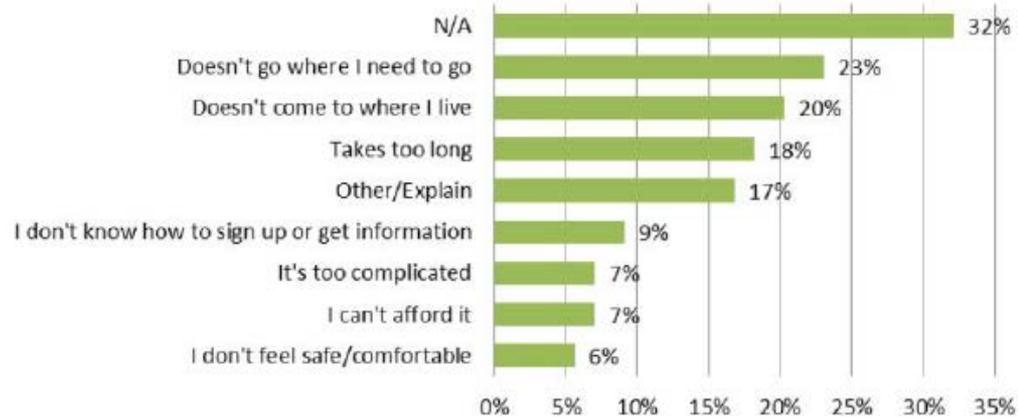
143 surveys completed, many by hand

Surveys targeted existing users of services

Ride-along surveys also conducted on paratransit

# Survey Results:

Figure 6: Why don't the existing transportation options meet your needs? (Select all)



Would you like to learn how to ride?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Paratransit service	37.2%	16
Transition from paratransit to regular bus service	30.2%	13
Regular bus service	72.1%	31
If you would like to be contacted for training, please provide your name		18
	<i>answered question</i>	43
	<i>skipped question</i>	100

# OUTREACH

Skagit Project Homeless Connect

Skagit Buddy Walk

Skagit Senior Day in the Park

Skagit Out-and-About Meeting

Oak Harbor Senior Center

Stanwood-Camano Special Needs Focus Group

More events in Skagit County



## Skagit Senior Day in the Park

Posted on May 10, 2010

It's the Fair-Country Style!

Skagit Senior Day in the Park  
Thursday, August 19, 2010, 10 am to 2 pm  
Burlington Senior Center/Maiben

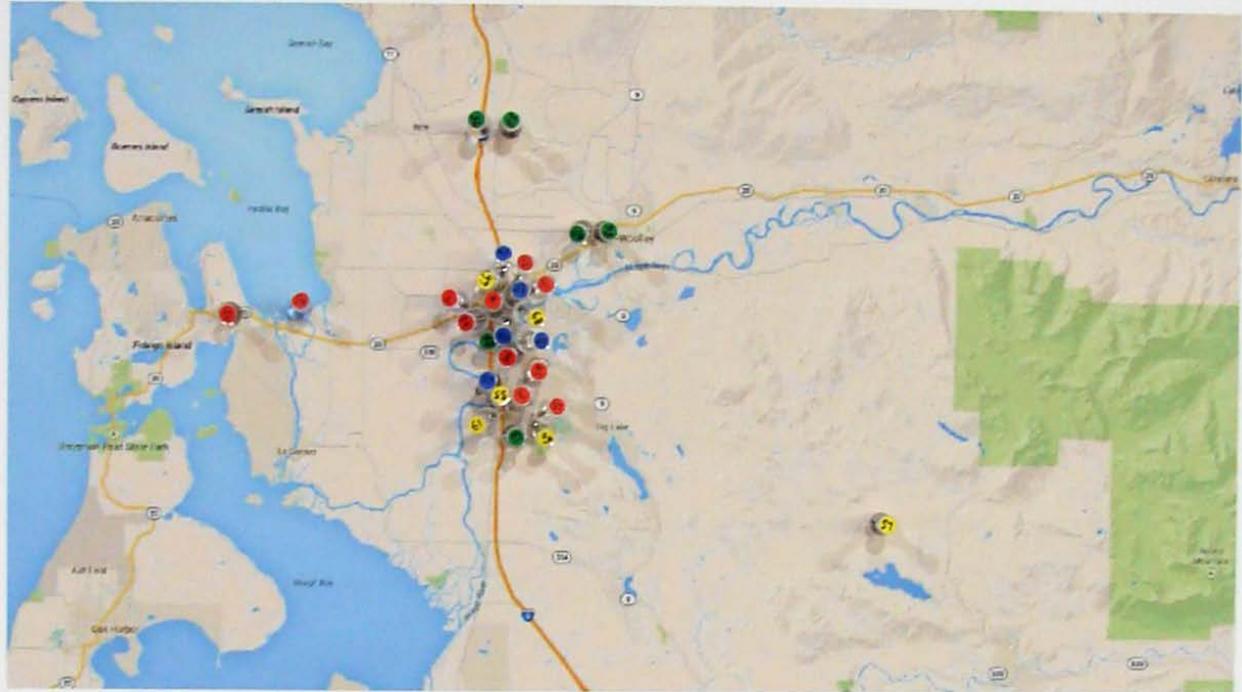


# OUTREACH

Example of outreach exercise

Pushpin for locations

# Where is the most important place you usually need to get to?



(please use push pins for map, one per person please)



## OUTREACH

Another example of outreach exercise

Used to validate earlier quotes we had received

Check to agree

Cross to disagree

Most agreed, with some disagreement



# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

Below are some comments we've received over the past couple months as we work on a transportation plan for special needs persons (called a "coordinated public transit-human services transportation plan"). Tell us if you **agree** or **disagree** with these comments by marking the following quotes with\*:



**Agree** (only one per quote please)



**Disagree** (only one per quote please)

### Specific Paratransit or Dial-a-ride Quotes

- ✓ We need "more service on the weekends, more buses and longer hours" ✓✓✓✓✓
- ✓ For paratransit, "I love the drivers. They are so helpful. I am so grateful" ✓✓✓✓
- ✓ What I like best about paratransit is "the convenience of being able to get to and from where I need to" ✓✓✓

# NEEDS

Identified needs based on inventory and outreach

Four categories of needs:

1. Maintain system
2. Increase access
3. Improve coordination and communication
4. Increase and improve service

## Maintain System

- Existing transportation services are not meeting all needs. About half of the survey respondents said that the current system is meeting some of their needs, with 15 percent saying it met less than some of their needs and 40 percent saying it meets more than some of their needs.
- Maintaining existing transit service and restoring suspended or cut service was broadly identified as a key need, especially in Island County.

## Increase Access

- The cost of public transit in Skagit County and other transportation options can be a cost burden for those with low-income.
- Accessing fixed-route service can be difficult and unsafe, particularly for those in rural areas.
- Bus stop facilities are minimal with few stops providing weather protection and seating. This was particularly mentioned by paratransit riders.

## Improve Coordination and Communication

- Providing more information about services and how to ride, particularly for those who may be eligible for paratransit service or do not have internet access.
- While paratransit service is greatly appreciated, scheduling of service is inflexible and requires a significant amount of advanced planning. This was a very common comment from paratransit riders.
- Real-time bus location information would make it easier for passengers to use services.

## Increase and Improve Service

- Increasing service levels was broadly identified as a need, especially among existing riders. Areas which were identified as high needs areas include:
  - Anacortes
  - Mount Vernon
  - Burlington
  - Oak Harbor
  - South Whidbey
  - East-South Camano Island
  - East Skagit County
  - Swinomish Indian Reservation
  - Guemes Island
  - March's Point
- Extending the span of service during evenings and weekends was identified as a very common need, especially among those who need to get to and from work or rely on human service transportation to get to and from community or social events.
- Increased system coverage including fixed-route, paratransit and pocket service was identified by a cross section of users as a need. The following areas were specifically mentioned:
  - South Whidbey
  - Guemes Island
  - Samish Island
  - Stanwood
  - Sedro-Woolley
  - March's Point
- Improved connections and coordination between transit/ferry service in Skagit County and Island County, including tribal reservations, and to regional destinations like Bellingham, Everett and Seattle were identified. This included both better connections to service and improved frequency of county connector service. This was mentioned more frequently by those in Anacortes and in Island County.
- Improve on-time reliability of fixed-route service.

# ADOPTION

11/5 Committee:  
recommended  
approval

11/19 Skagit sub-  
RTPO:  
recommended  
approval

11/26 Island sub-  
RTPO:  
recommended  
approval

12/3 Skagit-  
Island RTPO: final  
approval

## Skagit-Island HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN

Prepared for the Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization • November 2014

Prepared by Transpo Group  
11730 118th Avenue NE, Suite 600, Kirkland, WA 98034-7120  
425.821.3665 | [www.transpogroup.com](http://www.transpogroup.com)

transpogroup   
WHAT TRANSPORTATION CAN BE.



## IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation began after plan adoption

2015 annual forum

2016 annual forum

Implementation measures identified, but no firm commitments on who will do what

SCOG led planning process and has done some implementation

1. Regional human services transportation projects
2. “Menu of options” to continue coordination and engagement:
  - Online Forum
  - Mobility managers
  - Monthly group meeting
  - North Puget Sound mobility manager
  - Annual transportation forum
3. Flexibility in implementation

## PROJECTS

Prioritized list of regional human services transportation projects

Every 2 years

State law ensures RTPOs prioritize projects

"Grades" for projects

Completed in 2014

Will be doing again in 2016



# GRADES

Statewide process

Used to assign regional priorities to projects that are evaluated statewide

Skagit-Island counties got 5 As, 5 Bs and 4 Cs

Process completed at regional level by December 2014

Done every two years, 2016 is next

2015-2017 WSDOT Distribution of Ranking Allotments to RTPO's for Human Service Transportation Projects

RTPO/ Counties	Persons Per Square Mile	Total Rural Pop	People Under 18	% of people under 18	People over 65	% over 65	Total Persons With Disabilities Age 5+	% People With Disabilities Age 5+	Living in Poverty	% in Poverty	# Vets	% Vets	Total	A	B	C	D
BEN FRANKLIN	86	37,946	74,378	29.36	26,282	10.37	25,709	10.52	44,276	18.82	19,056	11.35	11	4	4	3	
WALLA WALLA	46	9,932	13,240	22.52	8,778	14.93	7,412	13.19	9,314	17.50	5,980	10.17	9	3	3	3	
CWCOG	41	151,415	62,387	22.64	46,928	17.03	54,596	20.21	41,943	15.67	31,197	14.89	21	7	7	7	
NEW	11	64,083	14,801	23.10	11,429	17.83	12,710	19.85	10,378	16.45	8,347	17.30	15	5	5	5	
PALOUSE	17	30,616	12,722	17.49	9,872	13.57	8,612	11.97	14,272	21.93	6,013	10.26	11	4	4	3	
PENINSULA	77	333,142	78,949	21.03	64,967	17.31	55,965	15.59	38,353	10.64	59,387	19.08	21	7	7	7	
PSRC	589	200,780	793,152	22.81	376,480	10.83	348,760	10.30	341,556	10.25	280,183	10.85	13	5	4	4	
QUADCO	17	91,543	43,617	27.37	19,855	12.46	21,242	13.59	30,717	20.58	12,293	11.06	17	6	6	5	
SAN JUAN	91	15,769	2,493	15.81	3,657	23.19	2,696	17.10	1,554	10.10	1829	14.10	9	3	3	3	
SKAGIT/IS	101	51,287	44,031	22.53	33,315	17.05	24,364	12.91	19,460	10.25	25,395	17.70	14	5	5	4	
SW WA	110	92,259	119,516	26.17	53,931	11.81	55,276	12.28	49,548	11.21	40,024	12.26	14	5	5	4	
SRC/Spokane	267	80,337	109,502	23.24	60,969	12.94	59,816	13.12	62,847	14.10	48,273	13.84	9	3	3	3	
THURSTON	349	76,250	58,122	23.04	32,764	12.99	30,992	12.78	24,782	10.30	29,243	15.99	9	3	3	3	
WEN VALLEY	23	43,983	28,534	25.73	16,618	14.99	14,608	13.39	13,316	12.44	9,041	11.32	12	4	4	4	
OKANOGAN	8	41,120	9,667	23.51	7,070	17.19	6,081	14.99	7,781	19.50	3,878	12.64	9	3	3	3	
WHATCOM	95	72,008	42,205	20.98	26,640	13.24	25,408	12.82	28,618	15.00	16,661	10.81	9	3	3	3	
YVCOG	57	76,599	74,038	30.44	28,122	11.56	30,410	12.83	50,608	21.80	15,901	9.67	9	3	3	3	

Unlimited

212

+2	High
+1	Medium
+5	Low

- All data obtained from 2010 Census unless otherwise noted below.
- TMAs receive FTA 5310 funding directly for the urbanized area. Therefore, they are ranked low need on "poverty" and "people over 65". Projects from those regions that serve the non urbanized areas are still eligible for funding from WSDOT.
- Rural population obtained after subtracting urbanized population gathered from OFM Highway Urbanized Area data
- Disabilities calculations based on American Community Survey (ACS) 3 year estimates
- Disability data not available for some rural counties: Ferry, Pend Orielle, Wahkiakum, Columbia, Garfield, Lincoln, Adams, San Juan, Skamania. Calculation uses 2010 census population data and percentage of disabled persons from 2009-2011 ABC distribution for these counties.
- All veterans data uses ACS 5 year estimates; includes percentages of veterans based on estimated veteran populations in ACS 5 year
- Need points were distributed among 17 planning regions according to high/med/low.
- As, Bs, and Cs are awarded proportionally depending on the total number of ranking spots. If the number is not divisible by three, the first remainder will be an A, the second will be a B.
- Final point distribution includes veterans category and a 9 point cap on single county planning regions.

## CRITERIA

Also the implementation strategies from the plan

Originally 100 total points for priority weights

Bumped to 120 to give more points to a few of the top strategies

Criteria by which projects are evaluated

Approved Implementation Strategies	Approved Priority Weights
<b>Preserve Existing Services:</b> maintain or restore existing service levels and vehicle fleet	15
<b>Expand Services:</b> increase service levels	15
<b>Address High Need Area:</b> provide service to area scoring high in human services transportation need index	15
<b>Improve Regional Connections:</b> improve cross-regional connections	15
<b>Increase User Knowledge:</b> increase knowledge of available transportation options to target users	10
<b>Improve Existing Service Timeliness:</b> improve quality of timeliness of service	5
<b>Utilize Existing Services:</b> improve utilization of existing transportation services	5
<b>Expand Driver Training:</b> promote driver training to encourage "compassionate professionalism"	5
<b>Improve Provider-User Coordination:</b> improve coordination between transit service providers, human services providers and users	5
<b>Utilize Technology:</b> utilize technology to provide improved efficiency and user access to mobility options	5
<b>Inform Users of Mobility Options:</b> assist human service providers in guiding users to the most efficient mobility options	5
<b>Improve Provider Regional Coordination:</b> improve coordination between regional and cross-regional transit service providers	5
<b>Promote Innovation:</b> promote innovative programs, processes and tools that improve efficiency and reduce cost	5
<b>Promote Environmental Sustainability:</b> promote environmentally sustainable practices into state coordinated transportation planning and services	5
<b>Leverage Funding:</b> further leverage available funding	5

**Total**

**120**

# EVALUATION

Qualitative evaluation using established criteria

7 projects submitted

1 project incomplete and later withdrawn

Applicants did not evaluate their own project(s)

Criteria	Skagit Transit Projects			Community Action Project	Island Transit Projects		
	#1	#2	#3	#1	#1	#2	#3
Preserve Existing Services (max. 15)	2.50	3.17	3.17	5.83	15.00	14.33	15.00
Expand Services (max. 15)	14.67	9.83	2.17	2.50	1.00	1.00	3.00
Address High Need Area (max. 15)	13.00	9.50	9.50	12.83	13.33	10.83	15.00
Improve Regional Connections (max. 15)	13.17	4.83	5.50	6.67	7.00	6.40	14.17
Increase User Knowledge (max. 10)	2.00	5.67	10.00	8.67	0.00	2.00	0.00
Improve Existing Service Timeliness (max. 5)	4.67	4.50	4.17	2.83	2.00	4.50	2.83
Utilize Existing Services (max. 5)	2.17	4.17	5.00	3.50	3.00	3.67	2.83
Expand Driver Training (max. 5)	0.00	1.17	1.33	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
Improve Provider-User Coordination (max. 5)	1.33	1.50	5.00	4.83	0.60	1.17	2.60
Utilize Technology (max. 5)	0.67	5.00	1.00	1.83	1.67	2.00	0.00
Inform Users of Mobility Options (max. 5)	1.83	1.67	5.00	4.00	1.40	1.00	0.00
Improve Provider Regional Coordination (max. 5)	4.50	1.50	2.50	2.50	2.00	0.60	2.20
Promote Innovation (max. 5)	1.50	2.50	3.50	2.17	1.00	1.80	0.00
Promote Environmental Sustainability (max. 5)	1.00	1.00	1.83	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.40
Leverage Funding (max. 5)	3.33	3.33	2.17	5.00	3.33	2.17	1.17
<b>Average Total</b>	<b>66.33</b>	<b>59.33</b>	<b>61.83</b>	<b>66.67</b>	<b>52.33</b>	<b>52.47</b>	<b>60.20</b>
<b>Rank</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Skagit-Island Special Needs Committee Recommended Letter Grade*</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b>

\*Note: Skagit-Island has 5 "A's", 5 "B's" and 4 "C's"

Project Key	Funding Request
Skagit Transit #1: Expansion of Fixed Route Services in Sedro Woolley and Burlington	\$ 446,408
Skagit Transit #2: ADA Next Stop Announcement System	\$ 296,172
Skagit Transit #3: Mobility Management Specialist	\$ 123,410
Community Action #1: Utilize Existing Services: Improve Utilization of Existing Transportation Services	\$ 50,000
Island Transit #1: Five Medium Duty Cutaways and Five 7-8 Passenger Vans	\$ 778,286
Island Transit #2: Station; 10 Bus Surveillance Systems; 65 Tablets; 11 Rebuilt Engines; Alignment Machine	\$ 382,535
Island Transit #3: Specific Operating Assistance to Preserve Existing Service	Incomplete

# GRADES

Final prioritized list of projects approved by RTPO

2 projects submitted late, received B grade

2 Bs and all 4 C grades unused



## ATTACHMENT A

### PROJECT PRIORITIZATION LIST OF HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS FOR SKAGIT AND ISLAND COUNTIES FOR THE 2015-2017 WSDOT CONSOLIDATED GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING CYCLE

12/3/2014

Organization	Project	Letter Grade
Community Action of Skagit County	Utilize Existing Services: Improve Utilization of Existing Transportation Services	A
Skagit Transit	Expansion of Fixed Route Services in Sedro-Woolley and Burlington	A
Skagit Transit	Mobility Management Specialist	A
Skagit Transit	ADA Next Stop Announcement System	A
Island Transit	Preserve and Replace Capital Equipment and Bus Communications: 2 Bus Shelters; Paint Oak Harbor Transit Station; 10 Bus Surveillance Systems; 65 Tablets; 11 Rebuilt Engines; Alignment Machine	A
Island Transit	Five Medium Duty Cutaways and Five 7-8 Passenger Vans	B
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe	Provide New Service Connecting Reservation to Darrington and Concrete <sup>1</sup>	B
Sauk-Suiattle Tribe	Two Light-duty Buses <sup>1</sup>	B

# WHAT WORKED

Timing

Engaging special needs populations at familiar places

Consultant

Assistance from WSDOT staff

Cooperative spirit

Fairness and transparency in evaluating projects



# CHALLENGES

- Getting all meetings and processes to align
- Lack of providers
- Educating while learning
- Curveballs
- Few projects
- Projects meeting identified needs in plan
- Shared responsibility in implementation
- Are we talking to the right people?



2016

Another annual special needs transportation forum

Continuing to talk about and work toward implementation

New committee

Prioritized project list with Grades

More partnerships

More education and learning





HAVE A NICE DAY

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# PLANNING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION IN SKAGIT & ISLAND COUNTIES