

Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation (ACCT)  
Meeting Summary  
March 12<sup>th</sup>- 11:30-2:00

Thurston Regional Planning Council  
2424 Heritage Ct SW, Olympia, WA 98502 Ste A  
Olympia WA, 98504

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**Council Members Present:** Tom Hingson, Brian Lagerberg, Ann Kennedy (for Lynn Moody), Colleen Kuhn, Jessica Renner, Patty McDonald, Karen Parkhurst, Glenn Gorton (for Allan Jones), Paul Meury  
Donald Lachman, Hillary Rossi, and Mitch Reister (via phone).

**WSDOT Staff:** Don Chartock, Tom Hanson, Ryan Warner, Nicole Patrick

**Guests Present:** Ryan Acker (CTA-NW), Madelyn Carlson (People For People), Ann Gifford (Snohomish Senior Services), Connie Mahugh (Rural Resources), Kelly Scalf (Okanogan Transit).

**Welcome and Introductions**

Tom Hingson

Tom Hingson provided welcome and invited attendees to introduce themselves.

**Approve December Meeting Notes**

Paul Muery

Colleen Kuhn called a motion to approve December 2014 minutes with the following amendment:

Colleen Kuhn spoke about the CTANW grant through VTCLI on page two under the Veterans' Transportation Group update, however, the Human Services Council is who the grant is through.

Jessica Renner seconded motion. The motion was passed. Minutes posted to <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/acct/>

**ACCT Reorganization**

Tom Hingson/ Don Chartock

Following discussion Tom Hingson summarized that the consensus from the Council and Guests was that ACCT should continue, in a modified form to accomplish (to be developed) new goals.

Discussion of Goals:

- (Tom Hingson) Get recognition, with new enabling legislation, from the legislature, communicate the federal grant funding risk if we don't have a viable committee.

## Discussion of Goals cont:

- (Ryan Acker) Focus on consumers, include passenger voice. There is value in a constituent based review of our work, review of proposals and how it affects users. Have constituent voice in an advisory capacity.
- (Don Chartock) Make special needs transportation as effective and efficient as possible. Provide accessible service more effectively and efficiently. Further develop transportation plans and having right people (and roles) around the table. Synthesize existing state reports.
- (Brian Lagerberg) Determine better ways to measure need and disperse funding. special needs, what are the gaps, WSDOT staff doesn't see around the state. WSDOT can use help in developing information (what is the market, how do we support it), would support budget WSDOT requests. Define vision and be honest about what it takes to implement and facilitate (resource allocation).
- (Jessica Renner) Dig deeper into dd community, what are regulations (i.e. lack of consistency regarding expectations and availability of bus drivers to provide assistance with securement and other needs. Question around lack of information on paratransit availability.
- (Kelly Scalf) This group's membership is more diverse in perspective and different set of tools than any other committee. Goal: utilize diversity to address/ solve issues.
- (Karen Parkhurst) Willingness to change to improve state wide system. Continue to advocate for special needs transportation at all levels (local, state, federal). This group brings statewide level coordination. We need to be willing to change our own operations and how we operate to move things forward. Changing demographics/needs require a commitment to change.
- (Paul Meury) Be the clearinghouse for mobility options; compilation and dissemination
- (Patty McDonald) Need land use planners on board, people who are looking at what communities look like in the future.
- (Ann Kennedy) There is currently a lot of duplication with local coordination groups, however, ACCT is in a role to bring localities together and advocate for policy change. ACCT can morph into advisory role.
- (group) Facilitate the reenactment of enabling legislation.

## Discussion on Risk to Washington if ACCT didn't exist:

(Don Chartock) Currently use ACCT for supporting hstp's and smp though might be able to gather information in another way. Risk is for discretionary grants (approx. \$1 million); evaluators have been looking for statewide coordinating council efforts (i.e. veterans grant). Demonstrated coordination is evaluated now but never know what the future opportunities or criterion for federal grants will be. Council has been successfully reactive to emerging situations (discuss, address, make policy changes) because we are already organized as a group (i.e. regulate cabulances, traveling in prone stretchers).

- (Paul Muery) Regarding prone transport, progress is being made; ACCT has been instrumental in making changes happen.
- (Don Chartock) From united we ride, to ccam – federal version of acct, representation of all federal agencies related to coordination, ccam leadership council underway, reenergized activity. It may be a good sign for coordination that the group is active now.

**Action Item:** WSDOT Staff will synthesize discussion and draft/disseminate proposed goals.

**Action Item:** Ryan Warner to provide a list of paratransit providers to Jessica Renner.

### **Medicaid Transportation Study**

Paul Muery

Mr. Muery provided update on TCRP B34, a research project looking at the affect of different brokerage models on coordination efforts. Completed 2<sup>nd</sup> (included 15 states) of 3 survey phases. 3<sup>rd</sup> phase looks at 8 states that cover all of the types of brokerage models. Discussion regarding definition of various brokerage models and payment structures. Other states use a capitated rate (per head), in Washington reimburse on actual cost of service provision. At risk brokers control risk by implementing systemic barriers and control rates through agreements with subcontractors. Potential policy implications (potential conflict of interest and diversion to urgent care rather than preventative care). Detrimental to coordination efforts. Study conclusion, budget \$300k will produce an update to EMT Manual and report that states can utilize to inform policy debate through representations of best practice. Ann Kennedy conveyed that with Capitation shedding happens more often.

### **Legislative Update**

Karen Parkhurst

Day 60 of 105 session, sine die 4/26

Governor's and Senate transportation budgets are out, awaiting house version due out next week. House operating budget due out 3/20<sup>th</sup>. Themes this session include reforms at WSDOT regarding environmental issues and prevailing wage. Number of bills out that impact providers. Iphone regulation in vehicles, make sure exemptions work for all transportation not just fixed route. Role of emergency providers and their reimbursement of such, not just limited to ambulance companies. Raising minimum wage, sick leave, prevailing wages. Addition of step in process regarding agency rulemaking, WAC should come back to legislature to get accepted. Transit authority regarding taxing limitations, and relationship between local options and state funding. Cybersecurity, how are we protecting information confidentiality – handling of data. CTAANW -Budget proviso to look at regulatory issues around transportation provision for special needs. Propose regional information system and shared trips/ coordination study.

Paul Muery added – looking to divert destinations that an ambulance can drop off and get paid for (divert to alternative locations other than acute care). Number of bills aimed at health care authority from micro to macro level (i.e. eliminate hca and create healthcare trust). Coordination efforts limited by population minimums.

## **Mobility Management**

Ryan Acker

Mobility management and travel training conference in Issaquah March 31-April 1<sup>st</sup>

Topics to be covered include mobility and travel training roundtable, infrastructure barriers, travel options counseling, intake/eligibility, outreach, funding, performance measures, ends with compilation of all this information and coordinated networking.

Mobility Link newsletter available via CTA-NW website <http://www.ctanw.org/>

## **Check In**

- (Don Chartock) Consolidated Grant Program update, review and raking have been completed. Funding decisions are underway; expect a draft list by end of month. Ask \$61M versus \$38M available. Might be affected by state transportation package.
- Paul's birthday and song
- (Colleen Kuhn) CTANW update, great meeting yesterday with remote locations dialed in which helps facilitate participation. Talked with membership about what is coming in next two years: collaboration, standards and initiatives, advocacy, training and support, partnerships platform. Working with WSDOT on next two year contract.
- (Donald Lachman) Washington is a recipient of rural veterans coordination grant. Focused on very rural communities who struggle with continuity of service provision in Lewis, Benton, and Franklin counties