



# Skagit-Island Human Services Transportation Planning Process

Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation  
12/12/2014

# Today's Presentation

## Three acts:

1. Our **region**

2. Our **committee**

3. Our **plan**

Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan





# Skagit-Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization

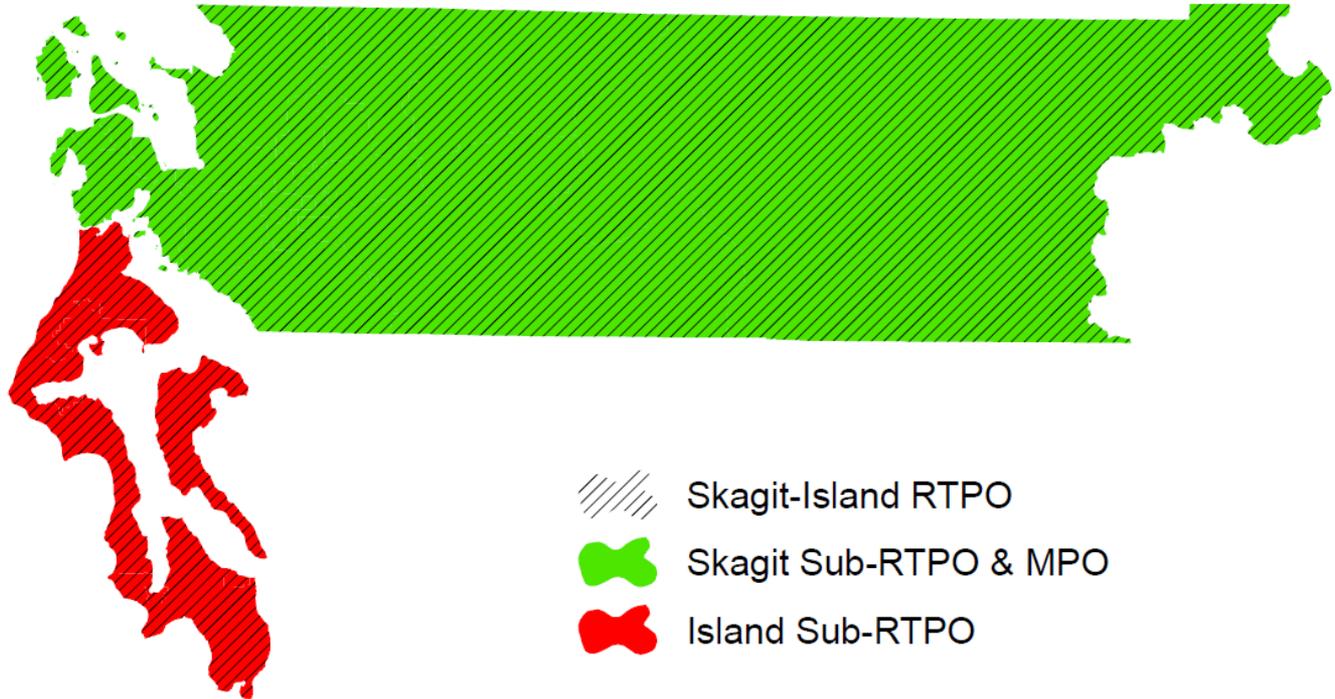
Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation  
12/12/2014

# The Region

Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan



- RTPO = Regional Transportation Planning Organization (State)
- MPO = Metropolitan Planning Organization (Federal)
- COG = Council of Governments (State)





# RTPO Duties

Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

## Formation/Leadership:

- Establish Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- Designate Lead Agency
- Create Policy Board

## Products:

- Prepare Regional Transportation Strategy
- Prepare Regional Transportation Plan
- Certify Transportation Elements and Countywide Planning Policies
- Develop Transportation Improvement Program
- Review Level of Service Standards
  
- Prepare Regional Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan
- Prioritize Regional Human Services Transportation Projects





# Skagit-Island Special Needs Transportation Committee

Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation  
12/12/2014

# Special Needs Transportation Committee

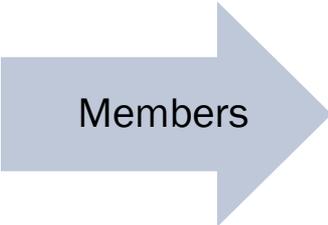


Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

- 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	

- Created by the Regional Transportation Planning Organization
- Technical support by SCOG, Island County and Transpo Group
- Advisory only, not a decision-making body
- Primary duties are:
  - Prepare Regional Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan
  - Prioritize Regional Human Services Transportation Projects

# Committee Meeting Timeline

Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan







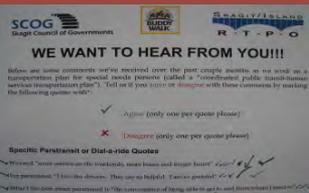
# WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

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\*:

## Skagit-Island Human Services Transportation Plan

Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation  
12/12/2014

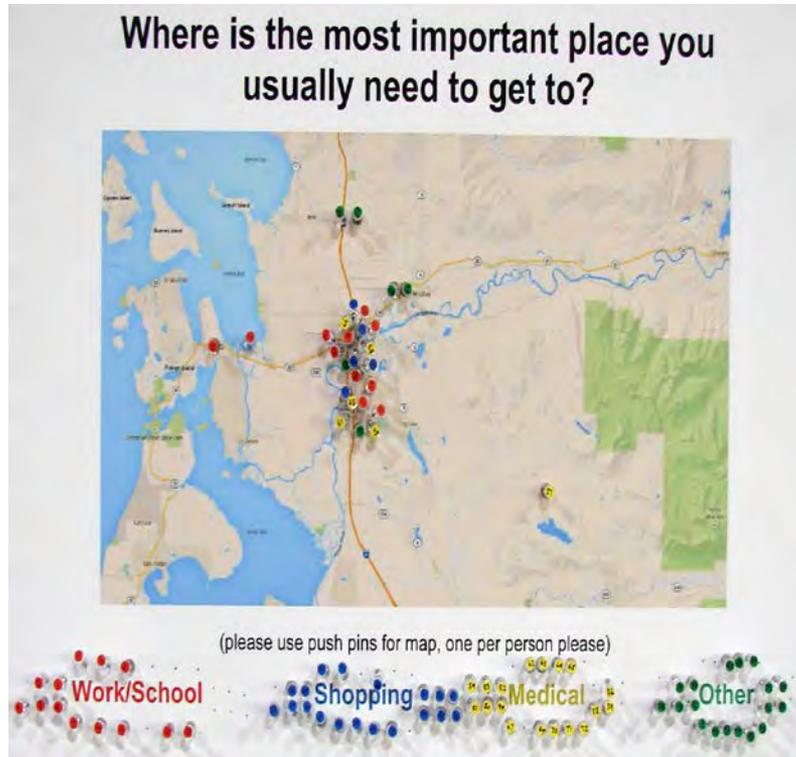
# Public Engagement



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan



Poster from Skagit Buddy Walk event

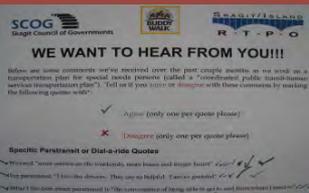
## Events & Meetings:

- 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

Surveys  
& ride-along surveys



# Public Engagement



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

“

*Most drivers are very courteous; they're like family. If I'm going off the (Whidbey) Island, I have to hunt for a ride. I'm taking beginning computer classes for seniors at the Oak Harbor Senior Center, which is possible thanks to Paratransit.*

- Survey response

*No evening service makes night event impossible since they can get dropped off but not picked up from events.*

- Senior services provider

*We need more cross-county transit—life goes on beyond Skagit County! If you want good quality medical care, you have to go outside of Skagit County because the good doctors in Skagit County aren't taking any more patients.*

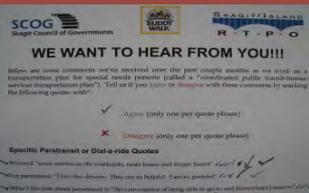
- Senior with disabilities

*I use the bus because sometimes I don't have anyone to take me to where I need to go. I wish it passed by more often—every 30 minutes.*

- Translation from Spanish speaker

”

# Public Engagement



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

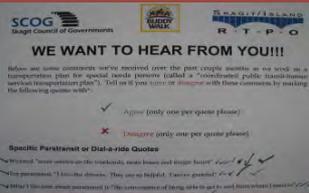
Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

## We engaged many other organizations, such as:

- American Cancer Society
- Boy and Girls Clubs of Skagit County
- Catholic Community Services
- Chinook Enterprises
- Community Transportation Association of the Northwest
- Community Transit
- Compass Health
- Developmental Disabilities of Island County
- Developmental Disabilities Program, Skagit County
- Goodwill
- Housing Authority of Skagit County
- North Sound Mental Health
- Samish Tribe
- Sauk-Suiattle Tribe
- Senior Services of Island County
- Service Alternatives
- Skagit Valley Hospital
- Sno-Isle Libraries
- Stillaguamish Tribe
- United General Hospital
- Upper Skagit Tribe
- Washington State Department of Social and Health Services
- Washington Vocational Services
- Whidbey General Hospital
- YMCA-YWCA



# Inventory of Existing Services



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

- Big providers



- Small providers



CamanoCenter  
*Get connected.*

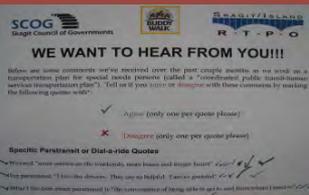


- Services that crossed county boundaries



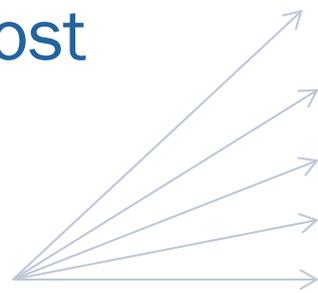
- Service cuts at Island Transit





# Needs Assessment

What are the most frequent paratransit destinations?



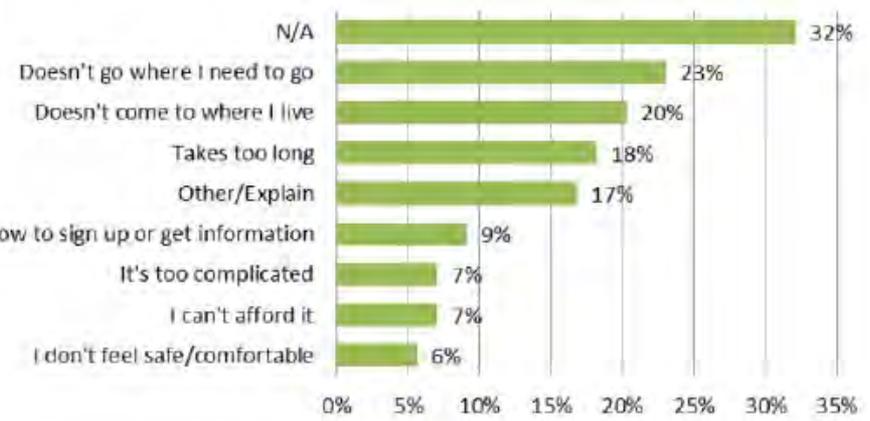
- Dialysis Centers
- Fitness Centers
- Employment
- Senior Centers
- Shopping

Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

## Survey Results:

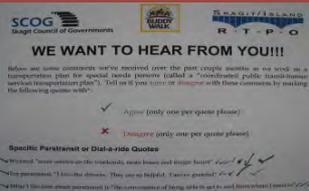
Figure 6: Why don't the existing transportation options meet your needs? (Select all)



Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan



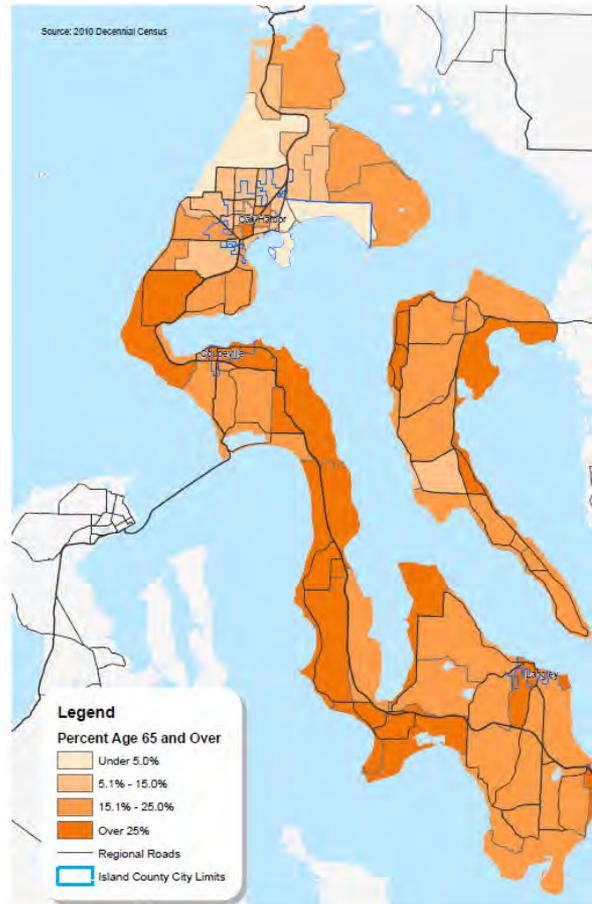
# Needs Assessment



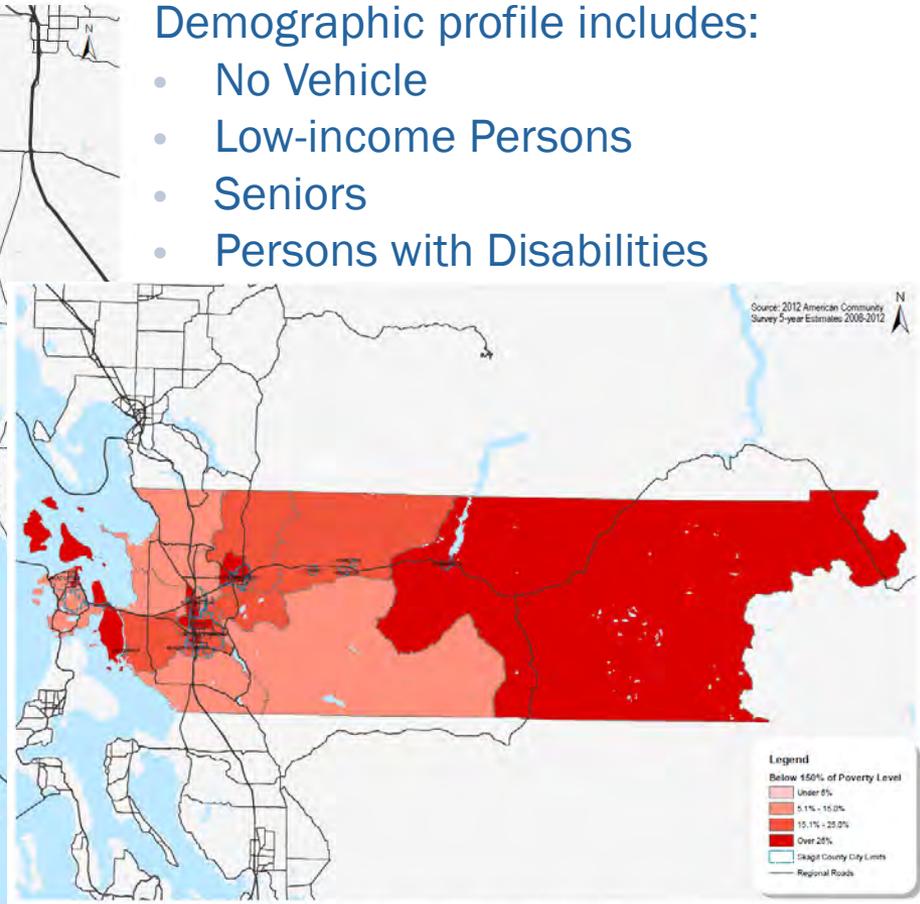
Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan



Island County - Census Tracts by Percent 65 and Over



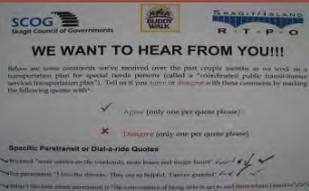
Skagit County - Census Tracts by Percent below 150% of Poverty Level



Demographic profile includes:

- No Vehicle
- Low-income Persons
- Seniors
- Persons with Disabilities

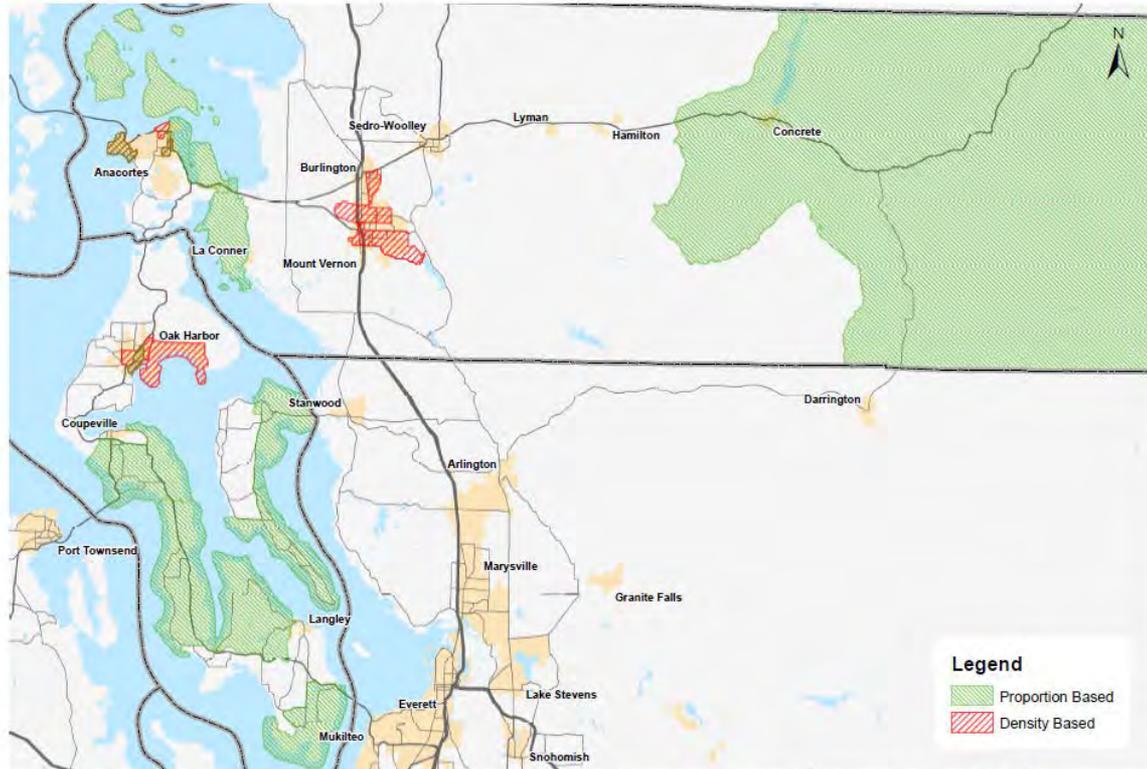
# Needs Assessment



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan



Human Services Transportation Need Index (Census Tract Scoring in Top 25%)

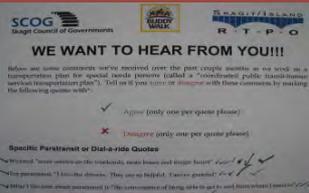
Skagit-Island County Human Service Transportation Plan

Q:\Projects\14\14100.00 - SCOG Human Services Transportation Plan\GIS\MXD

transpogroup

FIGURE  
X

# Emergency Management



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

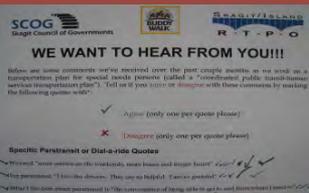
Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

- Roles of transit agencies during disasters, especially with regard to special needs populations
- Skagit Transit & Skagit County agreement
- Emergency management plans for both counties



# Intelligent Transportation Systems



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

- Skagit Transit ITS
  - Automatic Vehicle locators
  - Security cameras
  - Security monitoring systems
- Island Transit ITS
  - Automatic Vehicle locators
  - Video monitoring
  - Radio over internet protocol
  - Trip planning software



Security cameras at Skagit Station

# Strategies & Activities



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

- 15 Strategies & 34 Activities

Example:

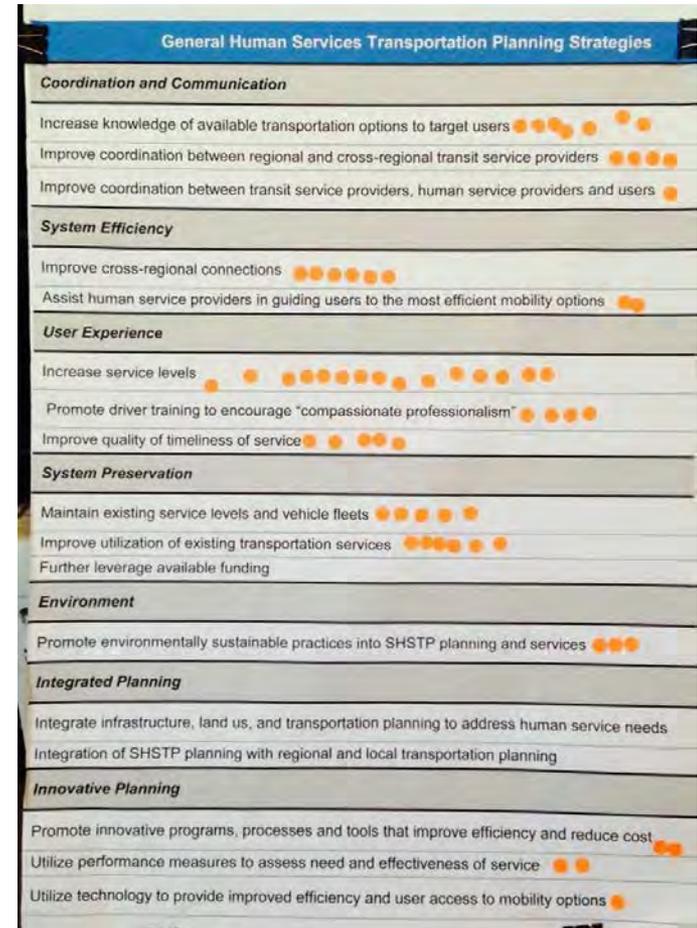
**S4 Improve Regional Connections: improve cross-regional connections**

**A4-1: Increase span, frequency and capacity of service**

**A4-2: Improve schedule integration between systems**

**A4-3: Cooperatively operate or fund cross-jurisdictional service**

- Strategies were used to evaluate regional human services transportation projects



Strategy prioritization exercise from event



# Implementation



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

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



# Recommendations & Action



Skagit-Island  
Regional  
Transportation  
Planning  
Organization

Skagit-Island  
Special Needs  
Transportation  
Committee

Skagit-Island  
Human  
Services  
Transportation  
Plan

- 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



Cover of Skagit-Island Human Services Transportation Plan





# Skagit-Island Human Services Transportation Planning Process

Agency Council on Coordinated Transportation  
12/12/2014