Statewide Human Service Transportation Plan (HSTP)

Project Advisory Committee Meeting #1
August 29, 2012
What is the Statewide HSTP?

Goals & Objectives

• Consistent with “Moving Washington” policies/framework
• Identify statewide needs and system gaps
• Identify regional/national best practices
• Statewide policy recommendations to improve coordination
• Leverage additional federal funding
Why is WSDOT developing this Plan?

• Integrate into *Moving Washington* framework
• Identify statewide needs and deficiencies
• Advance key themes and common strategies at a statewide level
• Better positioned to advocate for strategies that are cross-jurisdictional
What areas are being studied?

Project Scope

• Coordination with State’s 14 RTPOs
• Review local & regional coordinated transportation plans
• Funding overview
• Best practices
• Develop statewide strategies
• Prepare plan document
Who are our partners?

- All 14 RTPOs
- Special needs transportation service providers
- Social service non-profits
- Tribes
- Veterans
- Local transit agencies
- Other municipal agencies
What are the project benefits?

- Identification of statewide and cross-jurisdictional transportation needs
- Definition of needs consistent with *Moving Washington*
- Best practices implemented in Washington State and nationally
- Strategies and recommendations to improve access and enhance mobility for target populations
- Next steps to facilitate implementation
What is the Project Advisory Committee?

**Project Advisory Committee (PAC)**

- Project oversight
- Policy guidance
- Representation of key stakeholders
RTPO Coordinated Transportation Plan Review

Key Findings
Purpose of Plan Review

- Identify common themes, unmet needs
- Identify “best practices” or innovative planning techniques
- Identify and map cross-jurisdictional travel needs
- Propose preliminary strategies for WSDOT to advance human service transportation
Plan Review: Overview

- 15 documents — 5 single-county, 10 multi-county
- 1 new plan (original not prepared in 2007)
- 1 did not complete an update in 2010
- Most multi-county plans focused on county-specific needs and strategies rather than presenting regional perspective
Plan Review: Key Findings

- All included demographic analyses and maps
- Needs assessments varied
- Strategies don’t always equate to projects
- Not all included list of prioritized projects submitted to WSDOT
- Few included update on status of previous projects
Stakeholder Consultation

• Most common approaches — stakeholder workshops, community forums, advisory committees
• A few included surveys (riders, providers)
• Others attended community events, sought more informal input
Needs Assessment

- Variation in development, ranging from informal to more quantitative approach
- Not always a logical link between needs assessment and identification of strategies
- Consistency in needs identified throughout state
Needs Assessment—Common Themes

• Maintain existing services
• Expand Fixed Route and Dial-a-Ride
  • Current service geographic areas need to be expanded
  • Current service hours need to be expanded
  • Improved services needed for tribal members, veterans, youth
  • Better connections to other systems
• Cross-jurisdictional travel
• Capital replacement, new purchases
Needs Assessment—Common Themes

• Communication
  • Better outreach and marketing
  • Centralized information system

• Infrastructure Improvements
  • Access to bus stops
  • Pedestrian enhancements

• Coordination/Mobility Management
Innovations in Planning

- Vulnerable Populations Emergency Plan for Cowlitz County
- Innovative use of data sources
- Skagit-Island considered “policy, program and project” initiatives
- PSRC incorporated coordinated plan into RTP, and considered a corridor-based approach
- PSRC and Thurston RTPO identified performance measures to determine project outcomes
Potential role for WSDOT

- Manage Grant Programs
- Provide Technical Assistance
  - Help local entities develop or expand projects
  - Develop Mobility Manager
  - Assist in meeting cross-jurisdictional travel needs
  - Assist with developing travel training curriculum
  - Develop communications platform for centralized information and referral systems
Stakeholder Engagement

Update
How will stakeholders participate?

- Project Advisory Committee (PAC) – 4 meetings
- Project website [www.wsdot.wa.gov/acct/HSTP/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/acct/HSTP/)
- Listening Sessions & Ride Alongs *(Completed)*
  - Longview (8/9)
  - Sunnyside (8/14)
  - Spokane (8/20)
  - Everett (8/22)
Listening Session Objectives

- **Share** information with stakeholders about HSTP
- **Engage** stakeholders in helping to shape the content and priorities for the HSTP
- **Discuss** regional perspectives on human services transportation system
- **Next Steps** to develop the plan, and how interested parties can participate and provide meaningful input
Longview
Sunnyside
Spokane
Everett
Data/Information

Update
What data/information will inform Plan?

• Existing coordinated plans and studies
  • Key transportation needs
  • Highest prioritized strategies
• Statewide and cross-jurisdictional needs
• 2010 Census & American Community Survey
• 2012 OFM County Population Projections
Schedule & Next Steps

Update