



Appendix P

Potential Project List

The Regional Plan Work Group developed a list of potential projects to help the region strategically move towards the goals and strategies outlined in this plan. Below is a brief description of each project, organized by goal and ranked by strategy priority and project ranking. Implementation of these projects will only occur if and when funding is available. Funding for unranked projects will not be pursued at this time. The project descriptions may be amended as funding opportunities become available, or changes in programs and policies take place.

GOAL 1: Make sure that riders are aware of their transportation options, and are safe and satisfied with their trip

STRATEGY	Project Ranking	Project Name	Project Description	New, Existing, Expanded
Better Connections	4	Beyond the Borders	Beyond the Borders is a coordinated system that increases transportation options and provides improved connectivity to current public transportation systems. This project currently serves rural areas of Pierce County, and will serve residents of King and Snohomish counties that live outside the ADA transit service boundaries and are un-served, or are underserved, by current transit services. Designated brokers provide feeder service that connects to local fixed route or paratransit services. Depending upon the identified need of the specific service area, the system may run totally as a dial a ride program or as a deviated fixed-route, or some other type of flex route system that meets the identified need.	Expanded Service
Better Connections	6	Staffed Transfer Stations	This project would provide funding for staffing the inter-regional paratransit transfer sites. Two identified in King County are Aurora Village Transit Center and Federal Way.	New Service
Better Connections	8	I-5 Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Project	Establish standardized travel times with medical appointments being scheduled within those standardized times; as well as group trips based on user needs, appointment times, and/or destinations along the I-5 corridor in Pierce, King, and Snohomish Counties.	New Service
Better Amenities & Planning Tools	11	Private Event Matching	A new and convenient way for government, businesses, community groups, social service organizations, schools, sporting teams, churches, businesses and others to arrange for ridesharing within their group, with the use of a password-secured internet-based software tool.	New Service

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Better Amenities & Planning Tools	11	Expanded Low Cost Options	Expand interregional fixed routes, trains, and rideshare programs and increase their availability throughout the region.	Expanded Service
Better Amenities & Planning Tools	12	Remote Infrared Audible Signage Pilot Program (RAIS)	Install RAIS equipment at regional multi-modal facilities and evaluate effectiveness of the technology.	New Service
Seamless Fares	2	Medicaid/Special Needs Transportation Broker Smart Card Project Participation	Develop a process and procedure which will allow the Medicaid transportation brokers to be mass purchasers of smart cards. The project will include enabling the brokers to distribute the cards and electronically add money to the card so the card can be used month to month without the need to replace it.	Expanded Service
Better Connections	Not ranked		Establish more centralized regional transfer points (i.e. Tacoma Dome, malls, etc.) with amenities such as staffed shelters and security and "comfort" facilities	
Better Connections	Not ranked		Schedule paratransit trips to allow conditionally eligible to transfer to fixed routes at designated transfer points	
Better Connections	Not ranked		Coordinate schedules so paratransit passengers who are traveling regionally can transfer from one system to another without experiencing lengthy waits at the transfer points	
Better Connections	Not ranked		Link paratransit trips to regional fixed routes to decrease trip lengths, when appropriate	
Seamless Fares	Not ranked		Develop interagency agreements between Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), transit agencies, school districts, and other agencies to coordinate fare and payment structures for a variety of programs	
Seamless Fares	Not ranked		Establish a system of independent providers, similar to the "Independent Provider" system used by those who use home care services through Department of Human and Health Services (DSHS). This assists persons who are transportation dependent to hire and pay from a roster of approved "independent providers".	

GOAL 2: Coordinate transit, school and human service transportation so that current transportation dollars are used to maximum effectiveness

STRATEGY	Project Ranking	Project Name	Project Description	New, Existing, Expanded
Infrastructure Changes	6	Regional Special Needs Transportation Coordination Planning	Establish on-going dialogue/framework for regional coordinated transportation such as the PSRC/Sound Transit "workgroup" and county coalitions.	Existing Service
Infrastructure Changes	10	Transportation Exchange & Trip Inquiry	Build an interregional network of information exchange and vehicle sharing through the use of technology. One example is being developed by Laidlaw, Inc. in cooperation with King County Metro. The technology uses networking to build bridges between transportation providers and transportation users for the purposes of access to trip information (trip inquiry), vehicle sharing (shared vehicle scheduling) and ultimately, trip requests. The first phase of this project has already begun between King County Metro and Community Transit. Additional funding would allow connectivity between the other regional ADA paratransit programs and Medicaid.	Expanded Service
Infrastructure Changes	11	Coordinating Out Of District School District Trips	Design a coordinated scheduling system for regional school district trips to include McKinney-Vento, Special Education and other trips that cross school district and county boundaries. Provide recommendations for service delivery models, including a "trunk-feeder" system.	New Service
Integrated Planning	6	Coordinate with regulation and funding bodies to change rules and regulations in ways that encourage resource sharing	Fund a one year temporary position to identify primary spheres of influence on local ability to coordinate special needs transportation and to create a strategy for ongoing dialogue and action with those entities. This would be considered an integral part of the special needs transportation planning.	New Service

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Integrated Planning	8	Plans To Include Special Needs Transportation	Identify existing or future interregional plans addressing transportation services within the community and to incorporate special needs provisions into that planning process. Accomplishing this will require the advocacy for the inclusion of adopted special needs goals and objectives into various agencies' regional plans. These plans include, but are not limited to the "10-Year Plan to Address Homelessness", employment and "WorkFirst" plans, disaster planning, long and short-range zoning, land-use, and transportation plans, as well as livable communities. By integrating adopted goals and objectives into seemingly disparate planning processes the region takes a step further in the coordination of special needs transportation.	New Service
More Providers Available	3	Volunteer Programs	The use of volunteers is the most cost efficient way to provide transportation services. This project would expand opportunities for volunteer incentives, such as mileage reimbursements and vouchers. It also includes volunteer training for recruitment and training of Community Jobs, Temporary Assistance from Needy Families (TANF), Headstart parents, and other low income clients to become drivers, dispatchers or personal attendants working in the transportation industry serving special needs populations.	Expanded Service
More Providers Available	5	Community Van Programs	Community vans help people who are not served by other providers and facilitate access to destinations across county lines so that these riders otherwise would not be able to access. This project would expand community van programs regionally.	Expanded Service
More Providers Available	8	Accessible Taxis	Seniors and low-income adults needing a lift-equipped vehicle have few transportation options and rely on accessible public transportation. Accessible Taxis combined with Taxi Scrip would give them another option. Accessible Taxis would also add a new more affordable private provider pool, reducing demand on the public ADA paratransit service. Until now, cabulance service has been the only private option open to persons needing a lift-equipped vehicle and rates are three times that of the taxi rate set by city and county ordinance.	Expanded Service

GOAL 2: Coordinate transit, school and human service transportation so that current transportation dollars are used to maximum effectiveness

Infrastructure Changes	Not ranked		Develop tiered regional vehicle and driver standards to respond to varying levels of service needs. (e.g. fingerprints, FBI background checks, drug and alcohol testing)	
More Providers Available	Not ranked		Implement technology so that each provider (transit, broker, non-profit agencies, taxis) knows where its own and other vehicles are in a given area. As passengers request trips, opportunities to group trips arise. Providers can request nearby providers in the location to pick up additional passengers in the area, to maximize the use of resources and avoid duplication.	
More Providers Available	Not ranked		Mentor small providers to help develop viable programs, such as share dispatch, billing systems, etc)	
More Providers Available	Not ranked		Revise state depreciation program to help school buses fund replacement vehicles. This would enable school districts to utilize school buses as community transportation without being financially penalized for doing so.	

GOAL 3: Match the needs of riders with the most appropriate transportation choice so that dollars can go further

STRATEGY	Project Ranking	Project Name	Project Description	New, Existing, Expanded
Targeted Outreach	1	Regional Bus Buddy and Travel Ambassador Program	Build upon existing travel training programs by establishing a Bus Buddy Program in each county that matches volunteers with people who have special transportation needs and could ride the fixed route bus system if they need help. In addition, this project would expand the Snohomish County Travel Ambassador Program throughout the region, which utilizes paid or volunteer community members to meet with diverse service providers, consumer groups, schools, senior centers, businesses, etc. to present information about existing transportation resources and how to access them. Additionally, the travel ambassadors assess unmet needs and community resources for future coordination opportunities. The project would also evaluate the effectiveness of these models.	Expanded Service
Targeted Outreach	10	Mini Bus Tours	Mini Bus Tours is group travel training that is particularly effective for seniors and youth who may be nervous or inexperienced, but are generally capable of learning fixed-route skills with minimum assistance. Seniors, especially, are often more comfortable when riding with their friends. After a short presentation and demonstration of different materials such as the Regional Reduced Fare Permit application, PugetPass and schedule books, the trainer and the group of individuals plan a trip they would like to take, either immediately following the presentation or at a later date. At the designated time and location, the group boards a regularly scheduled bus and the trainer explains the ins and outs of fixed-route travel along the way.	New Service
More People Helping	7	One-Stop Online Transportation Resource Center	This project would consolidate state/local trip planners, WSDOT regional trip planner, FindARide, and other transportation resources in one user-friendly web site. It introduces the many resources that are available, with links to multiple sites containing tools and information. A person can determine existing transportation resources in the Puget Sound region, important contact and basic eligibility information, and what fixed routes to take to get to and from major locations within Washington State. The Resource Center also provides contact information about major resources that may not provide online services,	Expanded Service

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			such as travel training and pertinent coordination programs. This project also includes automatic updates of FAR and Trip Planner.	
Targeted Outreach	Not ranked		Work with AARP to target travel options training for active seniors	
Targeted Outreach	Not ranked		Enhance automated rider information systems to also be a service planner (locate childcare, hospitals, colleges, employment based on transit stops). Add a feature that allows people with special transportation needs to be matched with a ride that is suitable to their needs.	
More People Helping	Not ranked		The One-Stop Transportation Resource can be a single location or single phone number for people with special needs to contact in order to find out what transportation resources are available in the area to meet their specific needs, how to access them and who to contact for more information or assistance. Using a detailed assessment matrix covering the different programs' operations and eligibility criteria, the Resource refers the caller to specific programs that may meet their individual needs. A vital element of this service is the integration within the newly developed 2-1-1 system.	