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- Intercity Transit
- LOTT Clean Water Alliance
- Port of Olympia
- PUD No. 1 of Thurston County

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:

- Lacey Fire District #3
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- The Evergreen State College
- Thurston Conservation District
- Thurston Economic Development Council
- Timberland Regional Library

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thurston Regional Planning Council

FROM: Karen Parkhurst, Planning and Policy Director

DATE: June 24, 2022

SUBJECT: Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Update

PURPOSE

To provide an overview of early outreach on the update to the Human Services Transportation Plan and enlist help from members to reach a diverse community.

Summary:
[Human Services Transportation Plan \(HSTP\)](#)

- To qualify for certain funding sources, federal and state law requires that the Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) adopt and update a Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP). This coordinated plan must be "developed and approved through a process that included participation by seniors, individuals with disabilities, representatives of public, private, and nonprofit transportation and human services providers and other members of the public."
- The HSTP articulates current transportation services, needs, gaps, and strategies to support people - who because of age, ability, or income - may face transportation barriers and challenges. The update - due later this year - includes a greater focus on equity and an overview on the impacts of COVID on transportation options - including use of COVID funds to support transportation services.
- The HSTP also includes a project list. For projects to qualify for the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) Consolidated Grant Program, they must be on this list. TRPC also has the opportunity to "grade" the projects. Based on demographics, WSDOT provides each RTP/MPO with a certain number of A's, B's, C's, and an unlimited number of D's. These grades equate to points. Once WSDOT has completed initial review and ranking of submitted projects, it then applies the regional points.
- Every 4 years, TRPC must update the HSTP. Every 2 years, TRPC must update the Prioritized Project List.
- Early outreach shows that the goals set forth in the last several versions of the Plan still resonate with the community:
 - Increase mobility options.
 - Improve individual service.
 - Increase coordination with other systems and programs.
 - Improve efficiency.
 - Identify and obtain sustainable funding to close gaps.
 - Broadly distribute information about available transportation options.

REQUESTED ACTION

Identify other ways to communicate with underserved members of the community. The Plan will be released to stakeholders and WSDOT for comment by September 1, 2022. Once staff makes changes based on those comments, the Plan will return to the Council for action in November/December 2022.
 kp:bl



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EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

How has equity been considered in this agenda item?

The recently completed Transportation Priorities Survey will inform this project, as it identifies transportation needs and priorities for the diverse population of the region. For both projects, TRPC will use focus groups, interviews, presentations at meetings, and other outreach tools, to identify needs, gaps, and to broaden awareness of available transportation services and tools. The plan focuses on those who - because of age, income, or ability - may face limited transportation options, which includes populations who may not traditionally participate in planning efforts.