



Transportation

Getting where
you want to go

Objectives

- Identify the range of public transportation options in King County and their accessibility features
- Identify how to receive training on using public transportation (transit instruction)
- Identify cost-reducing programs and how to apply
- Identify the steps involved through a “mock outing”
- Obtain resources and tools for using public transportation

Transportation OPTIONS in King County

- Bus (Metro, Sound Transit, Community Transit) DART, regular fixed route, bus rapid transit)
- Access (ADA Paratransit system)
- Taxi (wheelchair accessible)
- South Lake Union Streetcar
- Link Light Rail
- Senior Shuttle (HYDE SHUTTLE)
- Senior Volunteer Transportation
- Hopelink (DSHS/Medicaid/MAID/Medical Coupon)
- Other (church, medical center, senior center, cultural center)

Bus (fixed route)

- Lift or ramp equipped
- 2 securement areas (forward facing)
- 4-point securement
- Lift indicator strip or button when deboarding
- Varied surfaces at stops – not all are able to receive a lift.
- Drivers can ask passengers near the front to move but they cannot make them.
- Pay with a pass or cash

Metro Access (King County's ADA Paratransit)

- For those whose disability prevents use of regular bus some or all of the time
- Must be eligible to ride
- \$1.25 each way
- Shared ride
- Approved Personal Care Attendant (PCA) rides free.
- More than just medical appointments
- NOT medical transportation
- NOT “same day” transportation
- NOT always the fastest or best option
- NOT able to change route



Bus Rapid Transit (Metro Rapid Ride, Community Transit "Swift")

- More like a train
- Moves more people more quickly
- Uses signal controls, bus only lanes, curb bulbs
- 3 doors (lift entry at the front)
- Pay before boarding or at front
- No schedule – next bus posted at some stops
- Same cost as regular bus.
- NOW at Federal Way to Seatac – A line (connects to light rail). Going to Redmond/Bellevue next – B line
- B line will have "passive restraint" (rear facing, securement by driver optional)

Metro's Dial a Ride Transit (DART)

- Fixed route bus
- Able to leave route to limited area to reduce travel to or from a stop
- Call ahead to schedule 1-866-261-DART
- NOT door to door
- Can't always come to your door.

Wheelchair Accessible Taxis

- Started as a pilot project by King County to provide cabs with wheelchair accessibility. Now in permanent and growing.
- Top 10% of applicants selected for the lottery (free license for city/county after 5 years)
- Drivers receive special training, random drug testing
- Cab drivers are independent contractors and make their own schedules
- Response time varies but has goals to improve to 20 min.
- Accept Taxi Scrip
- Yellow cab (206) 622-6500
- Farwest (206) 622-1717
- Green Cab (206) 575-4040
- STITA (airport only) (206) 246-9980

Other transportation options

- South Lake Union Streetcar
- Link Light Rail
- Senior Shuttle (HYDE SHUTTLE)
- Senior Volunteer Transportation
- Hopelink (DSHS/Medicaid/MAID/Medical Coupon)
- Other (church, medical center, senior center, cultural center)

PROGRAMS to reduce cost

- RRFPP – Regional Reduced Fare Permit
- Taxi Scrip
- FREE options:
 1. Hyde Shuttle
 2. Kent Shopper Shuttle
 3. West Seattle Water Taxi Shuttle
 4. Senior Volunteer Transportation (over 60, medical appt. only, car transfer independent, not able to accommodate wheelchairs)
 5. Group Health (same as Senior Volunteer Transportation)
 6. Route 99 – “streetcar” in downtown Seattle

Travel Tools

- Outing planning checklists
- Special Assistance Cards
- Access planning form
- Hopelink planning form
- Downtown Accessible Map
- High visibility items (bright colored clothes and reflective materials)

Having a Spinal Cord Injury: special considerations

- Medications
- Hydration
- Bowel and bladder plan – when to travel and where to manage
- ID/medical information
- Skin integrity
- Tilts/pressure reliefs/releases – tilts not always possible
- Assistance Animal
- Knowing your chair – what to do if there is a malfunction, dimensions and weight
- “Up time” – planning outings that match your energy level/activity tolerance
- Blood pressure issues (high or low). Autonomic dysreflexia management/instructions
- When to go alone when to go with someone
- IN AN EMERGENCY, TRANSIT OPERATORS (DRIVERS) CALL 911

ORCA

- One regional card for all
- RRFP capability
- Smart card – can load a pass or dollar amount
- Tap to use (need to be within a couple inches, can use a plastic sleeve)
- Remembers a transfer
- Used on all puget sound transit agencies

Mock outing: Let's go somewhere

- Planning – route, schedule, to/from stops
- Preparation – outing checklist for you and your mobility aid
- Getting to the stop
- Getting on – asking for the lift, boarding, paying, securement, communicating with the driver
- Getting off – notifying the driver, securements, deboarding
- Getting to the destination
- Return – same or different?
- Back-up plan if bus is late, encounter construction etc.

Contact:

“Getting there”

transportation resource center

4EC room 2 Harborview Medical Center (9th and
Alder Entrance)

Jodi Connolly (206) 744-8747