

# Metro Transportation Equity Cabinet

## Meeting #1 NOTES - DRAFT WORKING DOCUMENT

May 14, 2019

12:00-2:00 p.m.

Impact Hub, 220 2nd Ave S, Seattle, WA 98104

### Equity Cabinet

Paulina Lopez (Duwamish River Clean-Up Coalition)

Ellany Kayce (Nakani Native Program)

Niesha Brooks (community leader)

Sareshea Evans (Friends of Waterfront Seattle)

Michelle Benutua (Seattle Parks Foundation)

Jessica Ramirez (Puget Sound SAGE)

Tamieko Cook (ATU)

Alex Mayo (Civil Survival)

Anna Zivarts (Rooted in Rights)

Chalisa Thompson (Highline College)

Sili Savusa (White Center Community Development Association)

Jeff Smith (United Indians of All Tribes)

### Staff

King County Metro: Rob Gannon, Tristan Cook, Tessa McClellan, Mary Bourguignon, Carrie Lee, De'Sean Quinn, DeAnna Martin, Ade Franklin

King County DNRP: Christie True, Darren Greve, Bob Burns

King County Executive Office: Arun Sambataro

Consultant Team: Jennifer Wieland, Emily Yasukochi, Hana Creger, Annalise Ritter, Sophie Glass

### Acronyms:

CBO – Community Based Organization

EC – Equity Cabinet

GM – General Manager

KC – King County

### Opening Remarks from Co-chairs

De'Sean will be transitioning the co-chair role to Tony To, De'Sean will be involved as staff support for Equity Cabinet.

Paulina will be co-chair moving forward along with Tony.

Even though there are co-chairs, all Cabinet members have the same power in decision-making and informing how the work moves forward.

Christie True thanked the group for Open Space work, and provided an update on where the EC's recommendations are now – legislative recommendations will go to council. Still more work to do; stepping back for a while as the EC works on transportation; expect to return later with additional work.

Rob Gannon thanked the group for investment of time. KC Government/Metro: lots of ideas about how the agency should run; difficult balancing act. Looking to EC to work through the agency's challenges in partnership. Committed to participating in the process and wants EC to hold him accountable for being present. Wants to take a position of listening, not leading this work. King County is full of people with good ideas on how to deliver service. The County's position is to move equity to the center of decision-making. There will be people who agree with this at the outset, but later on may push back. Metro's position: Start with YES to equity and let other things fall into place, and this is coming from the GM via the County Executive.

### **Project Overview** (McClellan, Lee, Quinn)

Metro sees mobility as a human right.

Presented Metro's *Becoming a Mobility Agency* video.

Two projects driven by KC Council legislation: Mobility Framework – develop framework for implementing equitable mobility; Regional Planning – develop a plan to fund and implement METRO CONNECTS long range plan.

This project expands on the legislation by looking across the agency and adding sustainability. This work will result in policy updates.

### Discussion:

- The language is (too) comfortable – need to center this work around communities of color, not just “all people” - need to get out of Seattle Nice and start saying who exactly we're talking about.
- Comment on wording under “inequities” - racism is very specific and intentional against certain people, the systems have been set up by white people for white people. Need to acknowledge this.
- Acknowledge no income in addition to low income.
- What conversations are happening between/among government agencies? They need to be included in this.
- Want Native community to have a prominent role in the climate piece; want to make sure that the work that people are doing on this front is connected/ensuring those voices are guiding this in a real way.
- Need an agreement of where we're starting from, values of equity that we all share. Note prevalence of black/indigenous work so far - related: check our language.
- Include definitions of all acronyms for future presentations
- What other community outreach is underway and how will it connect to this?
  - Metro is developing income-based approach to fares. Multi-meeting process w/40 stakeholder organizations. Designing something to be implemented in March 2020, with more to come after that. The Mobility Framework will inform that work.

Quinn: We're going to be throwing a lot at you, but the goal is to be very transparent.

Meetings between May and October. Outcome is set of recommendations and development of a report.

Work to update policies will continue after October if EC is open to continuing.

Proposed meetings scheduled 2x month, rotating times and locations. To be discussed further.

### **12:50-1:30 p.m. What is a Mobility Framework?**

Hana Creger of Greenlining Institute described historic redlining practices, discouraging and preventing investment in communities of color, with impacts that are still being felt today. Greenlining was created to combat the practice of redlining and its outcomes. Greenlining is not a grassroots organization; relies

on partnerships with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs). It's a public policy thinktank working to bring investments into marginalized communities.

Mobility Equity Framework – designed to be applicable and adaptable to any community. At its core, it's a community driven process. Developed through a year of research on national and international best practices. Key finding: introducing technology into an unhealthy transportation system doesn't fix it.

Goals of framework: increase access to mobility options, reduce pollution, enhance economic opportunities.

- Step 1: Community Needs Assessment – developed by community. Workshops where residents co-designed equity solutions
- Step 2: Equity Analysis to assess and compare equity outcomes. Community to select indicators and metrics.
  - Economic Opportunity detail: Transportation services should not only be moving people to enhance opportunity, but also to provide good jobs
- Step 3: Community decision-making, resulting in implementation of mobility projects

Tristan to send Hana's contact information to the group/work to get communication figured out.

Discussion:

- Question about cost of living in Bay Area and displacement. Good jobs/wages/fair labor practices are how this intersects with mobility.
- Tech companies and private shuttles – what's happening and is that something that King county needs to think about? Want to include this in lessons learned.
- How did language play out in Bay Area? Cultural competency. CBOs generally carried out the framework in the Bay Area.

De'Sean reviewed the Draft Guiding Principles

Discussion:

- Guiding Principles are very whitewashed, doesn't see self in the principles. Pretty typical of stuff that comes out of local government. Need to call out WHO we are talking about – just say it! Want to make sure there's ample time to talk about this.
- Ability to influence Metro beyond this work is critical. Want all of us to get to a different place.
- The Guiding Principles need to be written by the community.
- "Seeing this (Guiding Principles document) makes me not want to speak up" - needs to be more accessible.
- Need to be able to feel uncomfortable and make others feel uncomfortable. Need to do this with love, have that in one's heart and mind when speaking. Recommends reading *White Fragility*, help us to get to another level of discomfort.
- #8 – high skill, high wage opportunity – good to see this, but otherwise don't see self in this document. What is "priority population"?

Next meeting:

1. Values as a group
2. Working on Guiding Principles: includes homework – think about principles and revisions.
3. Define what Priority Population means.

**Updates from Open Space sub committees**

- After Thursday all councilmember meetings completed; message is good, send legislation sooner rather than later. Department sending in June.
- June 20<sup>th</sup> press event and celebration, stay tuned for more information (it's also National Refugee Day)
- Coordinated with CFT committee to review applications – recommending 7 of 10 applications.
- Work about to begin: implementation of Community Engagement Action Plan, so they know about CFT? Funds, enacted for 2020 grant funds.
- Subcommittee assistance with shaping \$10M equity grants in Parks levy.

### **Next Steps**

Transition co-chair duties from De'Sean to Tony.

Travel Trends and Best Practices handouts describe some of the technical work that the consultants are undertaking – if there is anything missing, let Tristan know.

Travel Trends: looks at existing data about how people are traveling today – but we will lean on the EC to understand travel that people want to do but can't because of barriers.

How to access information about people who live outside of King County? Using regional data set.

Tristan will send out calendar invitations for future proposed meetings.

EC to send an email to Tristan with any of the proposed dates that don't work.

Look around us to see who is missing from the table. Want to leave a legacy – looking for opportunities for new people to invite to the table, groom the next generation to continue this work. Reach out to Paulina/Tristan if you have someone in mind.

Young people need to be participating in this conversation.

Want Metro and other institutional partners to start bringing together some of the groups/conversations. It's all connected.

**2:00 p.m. Adjourn**