



MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting: Health & Equity Subcommittee
Location: Teleconference
Date: March 17, 2020

Attendees:

First Name	Last Name	Organization
Ted	Bailey	Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Debi	Besser	Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC)
Daniela	Bremmer	Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Barb	Chamberlain	Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Abby	Chazanow	Sound Transit
Kit	Chiu	WSP USA
Rad	Cunningham	Washington Department of Health
Andy	Dannenberg	University of Washington (Chair)
Paul	Inghram	Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
Patrick	Lynch	Transpo Group
Kyle	Miller	Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)
Amy	Pow	Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
Paula	Reeves	Washington Department of Health, Subcommittee Staff
Yes	Segura	Smash the Box
Ryan	Thompto	Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)
Shannon	Walker	Seattle Department of Transportation
Julie	West	Public Health – Seattle King County

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND QUICK OVERVIEW OF WORK TO DATE

Dr. Andrew Dannenberg

- The meeting began with a brief welcome from Dr. Andrew Dannenberg
- Paula Reeves led the roll call of attendees

Dates and Deliverables – Subcommittee Workplan

Dr. Andrew Dannenberg

- Dr. Andrew Dannenberg presented an overview of the draft workplan for the subcommittee (previously shared as part of the meeting invitation)
- The workplan outlines 7 key action items for the subcommittee to progress:
 - Establish baseline of existing transportation system inequities – review existing literature (not a new study)

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- Identify a checklist or tool to evaluate equity in proposed policies – review existing checklist/tools (not a new tool)
 - Review equity policy recommendations from California, Oregon, and other states to identify ones that may be useful in Washington
 - Review equity aspects of policy recommendations from other WSTC AV subcommittees, when they become available (perhaps in 2021)
 - Seek guidance on improving community engagement of historically marginalized populations for Health and Equity Subcommittee
 - Select health and equity policy recommendations and test with equity checklist/tool
 - Develop communications strategy to promote Subcommittee's policy recommendations to other Subcommittees and to AV Work Group
- Open Discussion:
 - Regarding resources related to achieving the action items, questions emerged around resourcing, and whether there would be available funding to support some of the more intensive pieces of work required (such as additional research for baselining)
 - It was suggested that sub-groups be established to coordinate and advance specific tasks
 - It was noted that there is no allocated funding available to support possible analysis required, however, subcommittee members suggested that they would like to explore potential avenues to seek out funding this work
 - Regarding the action "Seek guidance on improving community engagement of historically marginalized populations for Health and Equity Subcommittee", it was noted that there is already much guidance provided from different agencies across the state. It was recommended that the wording for the action be revised to indicate that the group will focus on figuring out how resources could be leveraged to better engage members of the community.
 - Regarding the action "Establish baseline of existing transportation system inequities – review existing literature (not a new study)", a question was raised regarding the definition of inequities, and the methods that would be used to conduct the baselining exercise
 - While existing studies may help to address the baselining of some measures, other areas may require more intensive study than what is available
 - The existing Washington State Department of Health map is an online resource that may help to inform this baselining exercise. While the data displayed publicly has been aggregated to larger census tract geographies, the Department of Health could potentially get access to more granular data if that becomes a need, such as at a census block level.
 - It was recommended that in addition to establishing the baseline according to existing literature, that this action include direction to identify gaps in understanding that will require further study beyond what could be accomplished within this subcommittee.
- Dr. Andy Dannenberg and Paula Reeves have requested that subcommittee members interested in contributing to specific action items indicate their interest via email.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Paula Reeves to send out an email to the subcommittee with the list of actions listed in the work plan, with a request for members to respond with the areas which they would like to contribute.



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Topic Closed.

Proposal for Definitions of “Health” and “Equity”

Dr. Andrew Dannenberg

- Following on a discussion from the previous in-person meeting on February 19th, Dr. Andrew Dannenberg presented several definitions for “Health” and “Equity” that he had compiled. This includes definitions from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Washington State Department of Health, and the Governor’s Committee on Health Disparities, which have been shared with subcommittee members as part of the agenda package.
- The definitions presented are intended to serve as a starting point for the subcommittee to work with.
- Open Discussion:
 - It was suggested that the subcommittee may also consider other definitions from the UN. Although Dr. Dannenberg noted that the WHO is a part of the UN, a subcommittee members suggested that there may be more specific programs under which “Health” and “Equity” may be further defined.
 - There was some concern around the global nature of the WHO definitions, as the US and State context for equity is quite different than other places around the world. It was suggested that the subcommittee focus on Washington State Department of Health definition, and also to consider other resources, such as the Mobility Equity Framework developed by the Greenlining Institute, which was brought up by Margo Dawes during the previous meeting. Greenlining Institute Mobility Equity Framework:
<http://greenlining.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Mobility-Equity-Framework-Final.pdf>

Topic Closed.

Review and discuss 8 adopted policy goals (WSDOT)

Dr. Andrew Dannenberg

- The Infrastructure & Systems Subcommittee of the Washington State Autonomous Vehicle Working Group have produced a “Cooperative Automated Transportation (CAT) Draft Policy Framework”
- Daniela Bremmer and Ted Bailey provided the subcommittee with an overview of their work to date.
 - The Infrastructure & Systems Subcommittee has spent the last year developing this framework. It is intended to inform overarching policies on CAVs for Washington State
 - To develop the framework, the subcommittee looked at policies from a range of sources, including national policy frameworks
 - While the framework covers a broad range of topic areas, it takes the perspective of the Infrastructure & Systems Subcommittee. It is expected that similar policy frameworks will be developed by the other subcommittees to accompany this framework.

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- The framework currently sets out 8 overarching goals, one of which, is “Equity”
- The Infrastructure & Systems Subcommittee is currently working on developing strategies and actions for each of the goals. For each, they are outlining 4 concurrent strategies that would be used to implement each goal.
- At this point in the process, they are looking to other subcommittees for input on the strategies and actions, to outline gaps and revisions required.
- While they are working towards a revised set of actions ahead of a workshop on April 1st, there will be another opportunity for review after the workshop.
- Under the Equity section, the 4 strategies identified are:
 - Expand the number of marginalized communities involved in drafting CAT policies
 - Serve diverse populations
 - Meet the mobility needs of vulnerable populations
 - Incorporate community health into project prioritization criteria
- Open Discussion
 - Regarding the definition of equity used in this framework, subcommittee members raised some concerns. The equity goal, as defined, focuses on access, which subcommittee members felt was too limited.
 - Ted Bailey responded by providing further context on the development of the goal, indicating that it was developed with an infrastructure lens in mind. From the perspective of the Infrastructure & Systems subcommittee, the strategies and actions remain too broad, and they would actually like to make them more focused.
 - Daniela clarified that this framework is not intended to encapsulate all the work that the other subcommittees would have to do. Rather, the other subcommittees would also have to develop strategies that reflect their respective perspectives.
 - Strategies and actions outlined in the draft policy framework from the Infrastructure & Systems subcommittee need to be compatible with the thinking of other subcommittees. As equity is not a key focus of the infrastructure & Systems subcommittee, they are looking to this subcommittee for assistance in ensuring that the language used is accurate.
 - A suggestion was made to revise the definition of equity to be inclusive of more than just access. Ted Bailey responded that if the equity subcommittee recommends a change to the goal, they would also appreciate an updated set of associated strategies and actions.
 - Regarding strategy number 1, the example action suggests the creation of an Equity subcommittee of the Autonomous Vehicle Working Group to expand the number of marginalized communities involved. Subcommittee members noted that this has already occurred with the creation of this subcommittee, and commented that the action of developing the committee itself will not be effective in helping to expand the number of marginalized communities involved in the drafting of CAT policies.
 - Regarding the timing of feedback required from the equity subcommittee, Daniela noted that they are working towards a workshop on April 1st, and that suggestions ahead of that workshop will need to be received by the end of the week. However, there will be additional opportunity after the workshop to re-engage with the subcommittees to seek



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further feedback, review, and prioritization. A final recommendation to the executive committee is expected for September

- **ACTION ITEM:** Daniela Bremmer has requested that subcommittee members with comments on the existing strategies and actions under the equity section of the Draft Policy Framework be shared with her by the end of the week.
- Several key dates to consider include:
 - May 6 – Executive Committee Meeting (may be shifted or made digital)
 - October 20-21 – WA State Transportation Commission: deadline to submit report to the legislature (WSTC will likely ask for a January 2021 extension)
 - December 11 – WA State Transportation Commission AV Working Group: Infrastructure and Systems Subcommittee Meeting (in Olympia, WA)
 - March 2021 – WA State Transportation Commission AV Working Group: Infrastructure and Systems Subcommittee Meeting (in Olympia, WA)
- Paula Reeves added that the Equity subcommittee has a seat at the Executive Committee table, and will have approximately 15 minutes to provide updates on ongoing work.

Topic Closed.

Questions, discussion and next steps

All

- In closing, Dr. Andrew Dannenberg reiterated that he and Paula Reeves will send out the list of strategies identified in the subcommittee workplan, and ask that members respond with which areas they are interested in participating in.
- Paula Reeves reiterated again that policy recommendations for the Executive Committee will be needed in the fall. Proposals for submission will be needed ahead of then
- Paula Reeves also reminded subcommittee members that these teleconference calls will continue each month between the in-person meetings. Any materials that need to be presented should be provided to Paula and Dr. Andrew Dannenberg ahead of time. A share site is also being set up for easier dissemination of materials.

NEXT TELECONFERENCE MEETING: April 21, 2020 12pm – 1pm

MEETING ADJOURNED.