

**Topic:** Connecting people and mobility**Convener:** Jim Courtney**Room:** A**Discussion Summary:**

Moving people from point A to point B is not enough. What will communities need, in terms of choices, in the next 20 years or so to be accessible to residents and visitors? How can we provide access to the entire community through public transportation? What can we do to improve the ability of people to access transportation?

- Can't send a bus everywhere. Consider moving people who are dependent on mass transit closer to light rail and bus lines. Use mixed-income housing, partly subsidized and partly market-rate.
- Put bus stops in places that are accessible to people with disabilities and to the elderly. Identify other barriers to mobility and fix them. How do we create a safe environment for people to move?
- Why do people leave their homes? Visit friends, shop, medical, work. Focus on getting people to all these destinations, not just to entertainment districts. (But getting to jobs in entertainment districts is important, too, and there is no housing near many of those districts.)
- Credit crisis – If people can't buy cars, what happens to our community? Ford and GM may close.
- Make decisions about mobility that help us weather difficult demographic times, but also position us for the future. Older population is increasing.
- Why do we put big parking lots by the street and the buildings behind them?
- Also, OP dealing with making its community more walkable. Lights at crosswalks timed for cars, not humans. We're asking for millions to expand Hwy 69, and it's just for cars. Didn't look at mass transit.
- Casinos send buses out to pick up elderly, but our community can't get elderly to doctors' appointments.
- After WWII, cookie-cutter ranch houses popped up everywhere. Most of them in suburbs may be occupied by original owner because no stairs. Then children moved out and started building two-story, bigger homes. What will happen to those two-stories and split-levels when people are older and can't climb stairs?
- Inefficient use of land – 119<sup>th</sup> & Metcalf – huge number of parking spaces. Wouldn't need w/ public transit.
- OPBC – Old People in Big Cars. A big problem for public safety when the elderly shouldn't drive but do.
- Solutions: Information, convey resources to people, support systems, policies and codes mobility-neutral.

**Meeting time:** Session 2: 10:30 a.m.**Recorder:** Jennifer Wilding