

July 1, 2008

RE: Best Practices Workshop on Coordination of Special Needs Transportation Services

Dear Washington State Special Needs Transportation Stakeholder,

This is to invite you to participate in a workshop to be held on Thursday, July 17 as part of the Special Needs Transportation Study sponsored by the Joint Transportation Committee (JTC). At the workshop, consultant staff will report on best practices and models of coordination both within Washington, and elsewhere in the country.

The goal of the workshop is twofold: First, consultant staff from Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates will present model programs that focus on:

- innovative statewide coordinating councils
- successful models of coordinated Medicaid non-emergency transportation and public transportation
- coordination of pupil and public transportation

Secondly, workshop participants will have an opportunity to assess the applicability of these model programs to Washington, discuss which are most viable to pursue, and identify steps needed to implement them locally. You have been identified as someone who can provide an important perspective and provide specific insights on this subject.

Specific information about the workshop follows:

When: Thursday, July 17, 2008 from 1:00 to 4:30 pm

Where: John L O'Brien Building, 504 15th Avenue, Olympia, WA, House Hearing Room B (First Floor)

I hope you will join us for what we think will be a very informative dialogue with other practitioners interested and involved with improving the status of special needs transportation. Please confirm your attendance by contacting me via telephone at (503) 595-6085 or via email at csoper@nelsonnygaard.com

Sincerely yours,

Connie Soper, Principal
Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates

Best Practices Workshop
July 17, 2008, 1:00-4:30 pm
John L O'Brien Building
504 15th Avenue, Olympia, WA
House Hearing Room B (First Floor)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- 1. Introductions and Opening Remarks 1:00**
Connie Soper, Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates

- 2. Statewide Coordination Councils..... 1:15-2:15**
Will Rodman, Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates and Rich Garrity, RLS & Associates
 - (a) How do we define "Coordination?"
 - (b) Presentation of Best Practices: Statewide Coordination Councils
 - (c) Discussion: How do Best Practices Relate to Washington State?

- 3. Break 2:15-2:30**

- 4. Coordinating Medicaid and Public Transportation Programs 2:30-3:30**
 - (a) Presentation of model programs that coordinate Medicaid Non-Emergency Medical Transportation, with an emphasis on cost-sharing agreements that have been agreed to in other states.
 - (b) Discussion: How do best practices relate to Washington State?

- 5. Opportunities to Coordinate Pupil/Public Transportation 3:30-4:15**
 - (a) Dave O'Connell, Mason Transit, will describe how his program integrates pupil and public transportation services in Mason County
 - (b) McKinney-Vento Requirements: Transportation for Homeless Students—challenges and opportunities to coordinate. Presenters include: Melinda Dyer and Allan Jones from the Office of Superintendent of Pupil Instruction and Lynn Moody, Hopelink.
 - (c) Discussion: How can these best practices be replicated elsewhere in the state?

- 6. Wrap-Up/Next Steps 4:15-4:30**