

ELDER-FRIENDLY COMMUNITY: TRANSPORTATION



Health, Housing and
Human Services Council

*Whether for
pleasure or
necessity, access
to safe, reliable,
and convenient
transportation
supports the
ability to stay
comfortably in
one's home.*

Elder-Friendly Community
Steering Committee

BI Senior Center
Community Housing Coalition
Health, Housing and Human
Services Council
Helpline House
Housing Resources Board
Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers
KC Area Agency on Aging
Lutheran Community Services NW
WA Adult Day Services Assoc.

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Transportation and Mobility Options Are Important

Transportation provides access to medical care, shopping, and participation in cultural, recreational and social activities. Ease of mobility is essential to maintain personal connections and independence. When older adults can no longer drive, they report feelings of isolation and loss. Alternative means of transportation support the ability to stay in one's home when a person can no longer drive.

Strategies for Transportation and Mobility

Improve safe, reliable, & convenient transportation options

- Promote local coordination among agencies and individuals with an interest in expanding transportation options.

Encourage public policies and programs for alternative transportation when driving is no longer an option

- Support easy access for public transportation system riders.
- Expand the capacity of voluntary service providers to offer personal transportation.
- Market transportation provider services such as taxis and buses to older residents, and encourage retailers and medical providers to arrange transportation for their customer's use.

Enhance non-motorized mobility options

- Design and/or retrofit the travel environment for walking and bicycling, and wheelchairs for safety, connectivity, and accessibility.
- Ensure sidewalks and walking paths are in good repair, crosswalks well marked, and travel areas well lit for safety.

Help older drivers drive safely

Focus on assisting mature drivers to drive safely and reduce accidents.

- Encourage governmental and private incentives for individuals to take driver education courses.
- Evaluate existing streets and roads and plan for new ones, with designs developed to promote safe driving for older drivers.