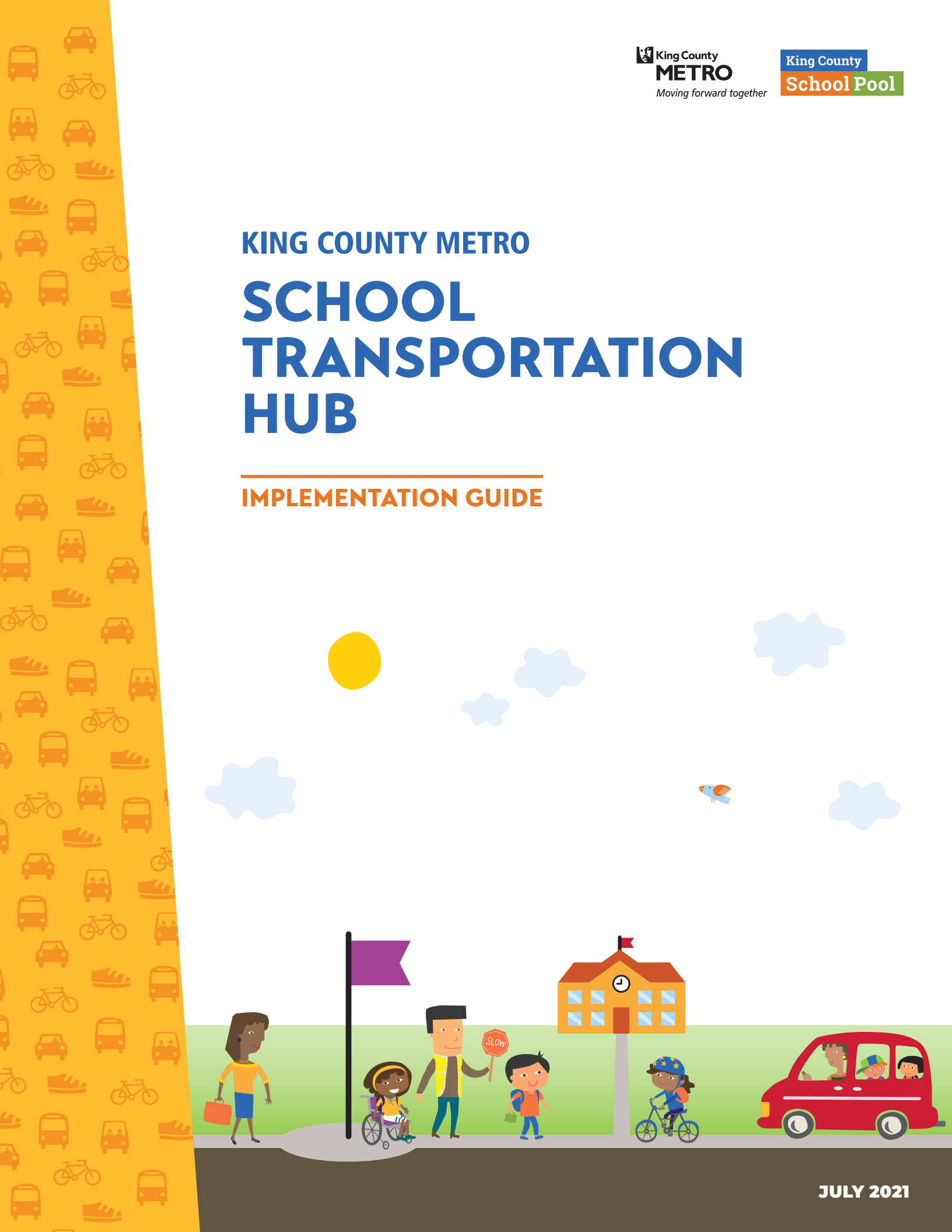


KING COUNTY METRO

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION HUB

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE





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Introduction

A School Transportation Hub (Hub) can help the whole family get to and from where they need to go (including school!) more efficiently and sustainably. A Hub can:

- ★ Reduce traffic emissions and congestion around schools, which improves traffic safety for families and neighbors.
- ★ Support jurisdictions as they work towards their Commute Trip Reduction goals.
- ★ Promote community building and collaboration.

This guide provides a step-by-step framework for jurisdictions, schools, and partners on how to implement a Hub by:

- ★ Outlining **important partnerships** and **regional transportation resources** that can help families explore more sustainable commute options.
- ★ Offering **creative ways to link adults' commute needs** with established and emerging SchoolPool and Safe Routes to School commute programs.
- ★ Providing the [School Transportation Hub handout \(Appendix B\)](#) with **easy-to-use information for families** interested in exploring new commute options.

The SchoolPool program recognizes that a lot of coordination goes into getting a family out the door and arriving back home each day. Transportation staff frequently face the following challenges:

- ★ Adults say they default to driving their student to school so that they can get to work on time.
- ★ Commute Reduction Programs that encourage active or shared trips to school do not always offer adults the tools they need to participate with their student.
- ★ New tools are needed to support the whole family on their commutes and reduce single-family car trips.

In response, King County SchoolPool presents the **School Transportation Hub**—a new commute trip solution that considers the needs of the entire family.

King County Metro's SchoolPool program supports families choosing to use shared and active ways to travel to and from school. Walking, rolling, taking the bus, or sharing a ride helps to reduce traffic congestion around schools, improves student safety, and makes the commute more fun for all.



See the [Glossary \(Appendix A\)](#) for SchoolPool terminology

Key Features of a School Transportation Hub

Hubs are a solution for the family commute.

They support both adults and student as they travel to school and their next destination, without relying only on a personal vehicle.

Hubs provide mobility choices.

They are both a gathering place for the school commute and a launching place for the adult commute. Located near schools, they offer a variety of active and shared ways to get around.

Hubs connect people.

Families can connect to transportation options and with other families, students, and community members.

Hubs are flexible.

Transportation options and other features of a Hub may be customized for your community. They connect families to nearby transit options, support carpools and vanpools, or provide a meeting place for walking and biking groups. Hubs are community focused, shaped around the transportation needs and interests of the families and neighbors who use them.

Figure 1. School Transportation Hubs connect families with their options for transportation to/from school and other destinations



Why a School Transportation Hub?

A Hub provides adults with options for getting around and helps families navigate the school commute. Reasons to implement a Hub include:

- ★ **Help more adults and students participate** in healthy, active ways to get around and enjoy time together.
- ★ **Decrease traffic congestion and emissions** near schools by encouraging families to use shared and active ways to get around. Fewer people driving near schools can also improve traffic safety!
- ★ **Provide adults with more autonomy to make their own commute decisions** that support their health and wellness, such as getting physical activity or having dedicated down-time on the bus.
- ★ **Support building connections between families and community collaboration** when they explore shared commute options.
- ★ **Encourage adults to discuss and model various ways to get around**, which helps students learn about and make more environmentally sound transportation decisions when they are ready.
- ★ **Support jurisdictions** as they work towards their Commute Trip Reduction and Sustainability goals.
- ★ **Offer a location to share educational resources** with adults and students about healthy, active ways to get around and enjoy time together

A lot of coordination goes into getting families out the door, off to school, and arriving back home each day. Help families reclaim their commutes—and reduce traffic congestion and emissions!

Who Implements a School Transportation Hub?

Jurisdictional and/or school staff should guide Hub implementation launching at key transitional times, such as the new school year.

However, Hubs should be developed in close coordination with school staff, PTAs, and other school community champions to shape a Hub that is most useful to the community. These groups know their students' and school families' needs best.



Let's Do This!

STEP 1: Assess Adult's Transportation Needs

Start by connecting with the school community and families to:

- (1) gather information about current family commutes,
- (2) determine what modes they are interested in, and
- (3) what barriers a Hub may help them overcome to support their commutes before and after the school commute.

Who: Partner with PTAs, school staff, or social workers to engage with adults and families.

How:

- ★ Conduct short interviews or questionnaires with PTAs or other school liaisons to learn about community transportation needs.
- ★ Survey adults/families to learn what options are most used today or of greatest interest in the future.
- ★ Ask about barriers families face today in using shared and active modes of travel for their regular commutes.
- ★ Discuss where Hubs should be located—or if there are locations to avoid.

See [Appendix C](#) for more survey question ideas.

You may find that many families want similar options. That interest can provide the critical mass to launch a Hub. Then, the Hub can grow and evolve over time as family interests and needs may shift.

TIPS for SUCCESS

- ★ Use surveys in a variety of formats. Consider in-person, print, or online surveys, provided in multiple languages.
- ★ Work with local partners to promote the survey or identify other outreach opportunities to reach families, including combining survey efforts with partners.
- ★ Offer other methods for community members to share their thoughts and participate, such as phone calls, texts, and/or attending an existing community meeting (with interpretation, as needed).



STEP 2: Identify Potential Hub Locations

Once you understand adults' transportation interests and needs, the next step is to conduct a cursory inventory for a Hub location.

Who: Talk with school staff, PTSA members, and/or district transportation staff to explore potential Hub locations

How: Identify possible Hub locations through local knowledge, site visits, and mapping data. Generally, Hub locations should:





- ★ Be off of school property
- ★ Be within a half mile or less of the school (bonus if the location is between two or more schools!)
- ★ Provide features that align with adults' expressed interests and needs from Step 1, such as lighting, sidewalks, a bus stop, or parking

TIPS for SUCCESS

- ★ Locations could include common neighborhood destinations, such as community centers, libraries, parks, places of worship, or existing bus stops.
- ★ Consider other neighborhood mobility efforts, such as existing neighborhood vanpools, or potential project partners, such as public housing, to support critical mass needed for shared travel options.
- ★ Reference the survey and interview results from Step 1 when selecting locations. Consider the mobility options and features requested by adults and align Hub locations with these requests, if possible.
- ★ See Table 1 for more ideas on how to assess Hub locations that align with families' transportation needs.



Table 1. Hub Features by Transportation Option

| Transportation Option | Hub Location Features |
|---|---|
| Taking Transit  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Easy access (~1-2 blocks) to a bus route that takes adults to popular or needed destinations, and/or local transit hubs (e.g., Park & Ride or Transit Center) <input type="checkbox"/> Good street lighting for walking to and/or waiting at a nearby bus stop <input type="checkbox"/> Legal and safe parking availability for multiple cars, especially if integrating with a school Park & Walk program (see Step 4 for more!) <input type="checkbox"/> Safe places to cross to get to and from nearby bus stops <input type="checkbox"/> Optional availability of an on-demand, first-last mile service (e.g., pilot programs offered by King County Metro such as Community Ride or Via to Transit) |
| Using Rideshare  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Good lighting at the rideshare meeting spot and parking location <input type="checkbox"/> Legal and safe overnight parking to leave participating vanshipare or vanpool vans (if driver does not take it home) <input type="checkbox"/> Legal and safe daytime parking for adult vehicles, especially if integrating with a school Park & Walk program (see Step 4 for more!) |
| Bicycling  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Safe bicycle route from school to the Hub location and vice versa <input type="checkbox"/> Secure adult bicycle parking capacity at the Hub <input type="checkbox"/> Secure adult and youth bicycle parking capacity at school |
| Walking  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Easily accessible by walking or rolling to and from school with safe sidewalks <input type="checkbox"/> Safe places to cross on the route to school <input type="checkbox"/> Good street lighting for visibility during the darker seasons |

STEP 3: Engage Hub Partners

Partners can help with permitting, service provisions, promotion, and numerous other components to launch a successful Hub. The opportunity for program partnership will depend on your selected location, preferred transportation options, and other factors that are unique to your Hub.

Who: School and district staff, PTSA and community champions, local business owners, and/or jurisdictional partners

How:

- ★ Engage school partners early on, once you know adults' needs and interests, and have an idea of potential Hub locations. Early engagement can help you build support and identify potential challenges or other opportunities.
- ★ Talk with partners about the Hub concept, the benefits, and how they can be involved. Their buy-in may be crucial to making the Hub a reality.

TIPS for SUCCESS

- ★ Table 2 on the following pages outlines key community partners, their expertise, and the support they can provide to help launch the Hub.



Table 2. Expertise and Support from Partnerships

| Partner | Engagement Rationale | Expertise and Support |
|---|--|--|
| School Principal | Principal buy-in is important for creating a Hub that is responsive to families' needs and launching the Hub in affiliation with the school. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide knowledge of families' commute behaviors and school-commute related challenges <input type="checkbox"/> Provide background on current arrival and dismissal processes and challenges <input type="checkbox"/> Share ideas for improving arrival and dismissal that align with the Hub's implementation <input type="checkbox"/> Help make the case to nearby property owners where the Hub could be located <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the Hub to families and school staff, encouraging adults to use the Hub <input type="checkbox"/> Sign letters of request for additional support from service partners |
| School District Transportation Coordinator | School district buy-in and written support can facilitate other school-community and jurisdictional conversations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Provide school district approval of the Hub, if necessary <input type="checkbox"/> Offer expertise on school district safety and transportation procedures <input type="checkbox"/> Provide volunteer requirement information or approval if volunteers facilitate the encouragement programs <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the Hub to families and school staff, especially if the Hub serves multiple schools |
| School-based Social Workers | School social workers or community-family liaisons are aware of the day-to-day challenges and logistics students and families navigate. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Offer insight into how families navigate challenging decisions, including transportation and families' needs, as well as how to best communicate with them <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the Hub to families, with a holistic approach of connecting families to other transportation related resources <input type="checkbox"/> Share in-language communications that explain the Hub concept, and the transportation options and resources available at the Hub <input type="checkbox"/> Connect families to additional transportation resources (e.g., ORCA cards, relevant and in-language educational materials, etc.) |

Table 2. Expertise and Support from Partnerships, continued

| Partner | Engagement Rationale | Expertise and Support |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| PTSAs and School Champions | School champions and members of Parent-Teacher-Student Associations (PTSA) or organizations (PTOs) can help navigate school administration, align the program with relevant school community goals, and often support many communications and encouragement efforts. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Offer knowledge of families' commute behaviors, school-commute related challenges, and transportation needs <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information on arrival and dismissal process and challenges from the adult perspective <input type="checkbox"/> Promote the Hub through connection to a lot of families—through routine digital, print, and in-person communications and events <input type="checkbox"/> Distribute the School Transportation Hub Handout digitally and in print (Appendix B) <input type="checkbox"/> Help grow critical mass support to create a school-specific adult rideshare vanpool, if desired, along with other services (e.g., bike parking, transit stop adjustments, etc.) |
| Jurisdictions | Jurisdictional staff offer local knowledge, navigation of jurisdiction or county processes, and relationships to help advance the Hub. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Identify any permitting needs, especially if the Hub is on jurisdictional property <input type="checkbox"/> Help establish a shared-use agreement, or Memorandum of Understanding, with parking lot owner, which may be the jurisdiction if the Hub is on public property <input type="checkbox"/> Help identify safe walking routes to connect the school with the Hub <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate partnerships with other city services, such as Parks & Recreation, Public Works, Police, and Fire Departments <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate efforts and support from jurisdiction policies, such as Commute Trip Reduction ordinance and Vision Zero/Target Zero programs <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate communications through established relationships with King County service providers, such as King County Metro and King County Parks |
| Parking Lot Owners and Renters | Parking lot owners and renters can provide a location to establish a Hub. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinate terms of use of facilities <input type="checkbox"/> Offer buy-in for permission to use a certain number of parking spaces during defined times <input type="checkbox"/> Install any desired signage about the Hub or for dedicated parking spaces <input type="checkbox"/> Support requests for bike racks on or near the property <input type="checkbox"/> Provide additional eyes-on-the-Hub for safety of people and personal property |

Table 2. Expertise and Support from Partnerships, continued

| Partner | Engagement Rationale | Expertise and Support |
|--|--|---|
| School and Transportation Hub Neighbors | Neighbors can be stewards of traffic safety and participate in the Hub offerings. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Help advocate for transportation services (e.g., vanpool or vanshipare, bike parking, transit stops and adjustments) <input type="checkbox"/> Join or use the services available at the Hub, contributing to needed critical mass <input type="checkbox"/> Increase safety through awareness: watching out for families coming and going between the school and Hub <input type="checkbox"/> Share promotional messaging, especially traffic safety messaging related to student and family safety, with other neighbors |
| King County Metro | King County Metro is the county's primary transportation service provider with numerous transportation offerings for both adults and students. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Facilitate rideshare programs for the Hub, such as Vanpool and Vanshipare formation <input type="checkbox"/> Leverage SchoolPool resources to support encouragement and education programs for students, adults, and school neighbors <input type="checkbox"/> Provide information and tools to support transit use, such as ORCA card information and possible incentives <input type="checkbox"/> Engage with a network of large and small employers, jurisdictions, and community-based organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporate promotions into regional or local communications, as applicable <input type="checkbox"/> Highlight efforts on regional or local level to garner further support and attention from partners and community members |
| Large Employers | Large employers are required by most jurisdictions to support their employees in using transportation options other than driving alone. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Promote services available through potential Hubs and dissemination of the model to help with employer's CTR goals <input type="checkbox"/> Distribute the School Transportation Hub Handout digitally and in print (Appendix B) |

STEP 4: Consider Concurrent Encouragement Programs

School commute programs are a good way to motivate students and their families to use shared or active transportation options. These programs complement infrastructure improvements and advance Hub goals by helping shift behavior through educating families about their travel options and associated benefits. These programs also provide encouragement to take small steps and try something new.

Who: Connect with school community members—including students!

How: Coordinate with Hub partners and/or student leadership to identify opportunities for encouragement programs or celebrations to support Hub implementation.

- ★ **Frequency:** Programs can be one-day celebrations, such as the annual international Walk & Roll to School Day, or they can be ongoing, routine efforts, such as Walking Wednesdays.
- ★ **Date and Time:** Coordinate the event with the launch of the Hub.
- ★ **Communication and Promotion:** Be sure to promote the event! Share information on what it is and how to get involved in school communications, on PTSA social media, and through backpack mail.

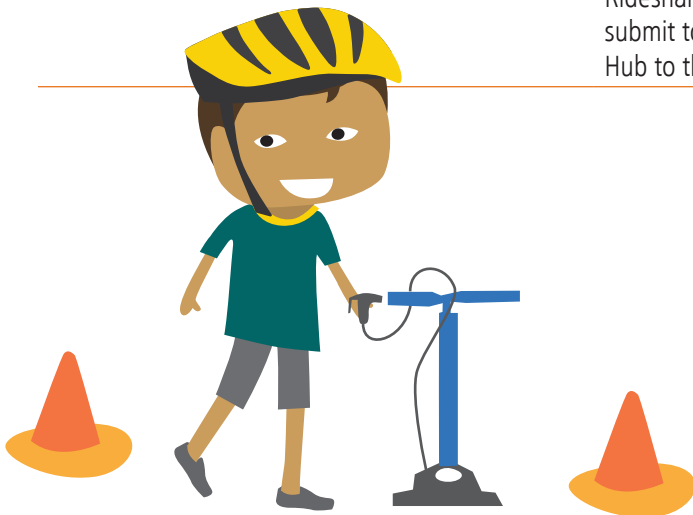
TIPS for SUCCESS

- ★ Select an existing SchoolPool campaign (see Table 3 below for ideas) and follow the implementation guide for step-by-step support.
- ★ Have an idea but aren't sure how to make it happen? Reach out to [King County Metro's SchoolPool](#) program for help.
- ★ Don't be afraid to start small. Encouragement programs can be simple and easy to implement.
- ★ Find encouragement tools and templates available in several languages in the [SchoolPool Toolkit](#).



Table 3. Integrate School Commute Programs with Hubs

| Commute Program | Definition | Hub Integration | Resources |
|---|---|--|---|
| Park & Walk | A Park & Walk program encourages families to park at a designated spot near the school and walk the last few blocks to school together. | A Hub location can also be the location of or adjacent to a Park & Walk location. This integrated siting allows adults to walk into school with their student and return to the Hub to take their next trip using options available at the Hub. Consider parking availability for this strategy. | Find out more about how to implement a Park & Walk using the King County SchoolPool's Park & Walk Program Guide . |
| Walking School Buses and Bike Trains | A Walking School Bus (WSB) is an organized group of students who walk to and from school with adults. A Bike Train (BT) is similar, but students and the adult(s) use bicycles to get to and from school. The WSB or BT has a designated route and stops where students gather or get dropped-off near their homes or local community hubs, such as parks or places of worship. | The Hub can be a WSB or BT stop along the route into school or from school. An adult and their student arrive at the Hub for the student to "hop on" the WSB or BT, and the adult proceeds to use a transportation option available at the Hub. | Use King County SchoolPool's Walking School Bus Guide and templates (zipped folder) to launch a WSB in your school community. |
| SchoolPool Carpool | A SchoolPool carpool program offers secure carpool matching for families with students who attend the same school(s) using RideshareOnline.com. | Carpool matching can be used to help adults find families using the Hub to help get the students to school from the Hub, and in reverse. Additionally, adults can register for their own RideshareOnline.com account and submit to find carpools from the Hub to their next destination. | Learn more about the secure trip-matching platform RideshareOnline.com SchoolPool , specific for school families. |



STEP 5: Create a Launch Plan and Promote

With partner support, finalize the Hub location, select transportation options, and create your launch plan.

Who: Work closely with all project partners in this step, including: school and district staff, PTSA members, community and neighborhood groups, and other agency staff.

How: Use the following checklist to prepare for Hub launch:

- Establish your launch timeline** – Consider launching at transitional times when families are more likely to assess their options and be open to making new plans. This could include: the beginning of the year, after a longer school vacation, or when larger classes enroll in the entry grades (commonly, kindergarten, 6th grade, and 9th grade).
- Draft promotional messaging** – Include information on what the Hub is, where it's located, what services are available, and the benefits of the Hub. Be sure messaging is clear, direct, and calls families to action. Don't forget about partnership shout-outs to show support for the Hub!
- Coordinate with school and district staff to get the word out** – Promote the Hub through back to school packets, new student materials, school newsletters, and online transportation information.
- Install any needed signage** – Help families navigate the Hub. Consider low-cost options, such as temporary signs and sidewalk chalk, to highlight Hub features, such as:
 - » Use wayfinding information to help families follow the best route to and from the Hub.
 - » Designate Vanpool meeting spots and parking spots at the Hub.
- Promote the Hub** – In addition to school communications, share the Hub through trusted community channels to share the news! Be sure to keep all partners involved, as appropriate, and share the Hub with major employers, school neighbors, and more.



STEP 6: Evaluate

After launching the Hub, assess if it's working, what might need to be adjusted, or if there are new opportunities to expand the Hub.

Who: Follow up with families, school staff, PTSA members, and implementation partners

How: Use the following evaluation strategies:

- Ask adults who are using the Hub** why they are using the Hub or why they are not. Consider how the services and logistics work for them or create barriers to using the Hub.
- Gather feedback from school staff and PTSA members** about how the Hub has affected school traffic and how students are traveling to school. Ask for any feedback they received about the Hub and any lessons learned from implementation and promotion.
- Assess student and/or family transportation behaviors.** Consider using a Safe Routes to School Student Travel Survey¹ before and after implementation to identify mode shift.
- Check-in with key partners** to gather feedback about Hub development, promotion, and operations. Consider opportunities to leverage partner involvement to improve the success of the Hub.
- Share back the themes** from qualitative feedback and the quantitative data from the evaluation with involved partners.

¹National Center for Safe Routes to School's Student Travel Survey (to be filled out by parents or guardians) is available at saferoutesdata.org in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Somali, Arabic, Russian, and nine additional languages.

TIPS for SUCCESS

While evaluating, consider if this Hub:

1. Needs continued support, promotion, and facilitation to operate by a designated jurisdictional or school staff, or a school-community champion,
2. Has significant support and energy from the school and neighbor community with a desire to grow the options available. Consider if a robust Mobility Hub is the right next step (see Phase 2 on the next page), or
3. Is running smoothly and efficiently with a critical mass and community support for the current options such that no additional support is needed.



Phase 2: Expanding the School Transportation Hub into a Robust Mobility Hub

A **Mobility Hub** is a strategic effort to reduce transit barriers and create more seamless transitions between multiple transportation modes. Mobility hub locations include numerous transportation services, plus features and enhanced facilities with signage, trip planning tools, and placemaking elements.

To expand the School Transportation Hub into a Mobility Hub:

1. Assess your current Hub's location, available transportation services, and demand for these services.
2. Assess the need for additional infrastructure and amenity investments, such as infrastructure, trip planning tools, and placemaking features.
3. Connect with jurisdictional and King County Metro staff to consider demand, needed investments, and funding for implementation.

Ready to expand? Reach out to vanpool@kingcounty.gov to discuss your ideas.



Resources

KING COUNTY SCHOOLPOOL GUIDES:

[Park & Walk Guide](#)

[Walking School Bus Guide and templates](#)

[Walk & Roll to School Day Guide](#)

[Bike Fairy Program](#)

[Bike Rodeo Guide](#)

Many more ready-to-go resources are available through the [King County Metro's Safe Routes to School Toolkit!](#)

KING COUNTY METRO RIDESHARE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

[Vanpool, Vanshare, Community Van, carpool support and more](#)

REGIONAL TRANSIT FARE

[ORCA card information](#)

COMMUTE TRIP REDUCTION

[City CTR Ordinances](#) for King County, WA

MOBILITY HUB DEVELOPMENT:

[Eastgate Mobility Hub Vision 2025](#)

[Mobility Hubs](#) by Shared-Use Mobility Center

Portland Bureau of Transportation [Mobility Hub Typology Study](#)



Appendix A. Glossary

Active transportation or active commuting describes any type of people-powered movement such as walking, rolling, running, and biking, and is inclusive of using mobility devices.

Adult, for the purposes of this guide, refers to a parent, guardian, or another adult who takes care of the student and helps them get to and from school.

Roll refers to using active wheeled modes such as bikes, kick-scooters, skateboards, roller blades, etc.

School Transportation Hub is a specific location or area within a neighborhood near a school that offers a variety of transportation options for both student and adult commutes.

Transportation Options refers to all the ways one has for getting around other than driving alone or within a family vehicle only, including, but not limited to, walking, rolling, taking transit, carpooling (with other people of driving age), and vanpooling.

Walk is an inclusive term that includes people traveling with and without the use of a mobility aid. **Walking** encompasses all forms of mobility devices, including using a wheelchair, cane, walker, or other mobility aid that allows a user to travel at pedestrian speed.



Appendix B.

School Transportation Hub Handout

RECLAIM *your* FAMILY COMMUTE



A lot of coordination goes into getting your family out the door, off to school, and arriving back home each day. You may already be familiar with programs that encourage you to get your student to school or yourself to work without needing to drive.

King County Metro is here to support your family's full commute needs! We connect you with healthy, affordable options that also provide you quality time with your student on the way to school—plus, time for you as you continue to your next destination.

King County Metro partners with jurisdictions and schools to offer services that support your family—to make your life easier while also reducing traffic congestion and emissions in our communities.

Consider Your Options

Link your commute with your student's school trip while getting fresh air or sharing the ride with others! Use active and shared ways to get around—to school, work, and beyond—to support the health and wellness of students and families.

- ★ Reducing the traffic around schools can **improve air quality**.
- ★ Getting some fresh air (and the wiggles out!) on the way to school helps students arrive **ready to learn**.
- ★ Sharing the ride with friends or neighbors **builds community** and can **save you money**.



SCHOOLPOOL *for* YOU AND YOUR STUDENT

King County Metro services and SchoolPool programs give you the flexibility you need as a parent or caregiver. SchoolPool programs can make getting to and from school fun, active, and easy with your student. Then, use King County Metro services to connect to your next destination. You'll spend less time searching for parking or sitting in traffic, and experience more time dedicated to you.

Carpool

- ★ Use SchoolPool's secure school-based carpool matching platform from [RideshareOnline.com](https://rideshareonline.com) to match and share the trip to and from school with families in your area.
- ★ Register for your own adult commute trips to find carpool or vanpool rides to and from your home, student's school, or another location!



Find a rideshare program that works for you:

- ★ Join a vanpool with parents.
- ★ Set up a carpool with other adults.
- ★ Hop in a vanshare to get to the closest transit center.

Learn more at kingcounty.gov/metro/rideshare.

Park & Walk

- ★ Park a few blocks away from school at a dedicated [Park & Walk](#) location and walk the last few blocks with your student into school.
- ★ Then, jump in a carpool or vanpool with fellow parent(s) or hop on a nearby bus to connect to where you need to go.



Interested in taking the bus?

- ★ Find out which route and stop can quickly take you where you need to go with tripplanner.kingcounty.gov.
- ★ Use an ORCA card for the fastest way to pay your fare.

Walking & Biking Groups

- ★ Lead, join in, or send your student off with a [Walking School Bus or Bike Train](#), an organized group of students who walk, roll, or bike to and from school along a designated route with adults.
- ★ Then, hop on your own bus, continue on your bike or by foot, or join in a vanpool with other parent(s) or school-neighbors



If you bike with your students, keep pedaling to get to your nearby bus or transit center.

- ★ Bring your bike along using the racks on the front of the bus.
- ★ Store your bike in the secure, on-demand lockers at transit centers.
- ★ Learn more at kingcounty.gov/metro/bike.



Prepare for the Unexpected

If you need to reach your student quickly during the day, we can help! King County Metro may cover the cost of up to eight taxi rides. Check with your employer if they are enrolled in the [Home Free Guarantee](#) benefit program.

Find more ways King County Metro can support you and your family, including fun activities for your student, at kingcounty.gov/metro/schoolpool.

Appendix C.

Step 1: Adult Transportation Needs Assessment Questions

Customize the following questions to assess families' transportation needs:

1. How do you get your student to school?
2. Where do you go after you get your student to school?
3. How do you get there?
4. What do you like about the way you get around?
5. What do you dislike about the way you get around?
6. How would you like to get there if it was easily accessible to do so?
7. What would you need to make that transportation option(s) easily accessible / easy to use?
8. If we created a location close to school that made it easier to get your students to school and you to your next destination, what would it include? Where would it be located?

