

**CIVIC BOOT CAMP RESOURCE GUIDE**

**TRANSPORTATION  
ACCESSIBILITY:  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
CONNECTIONS**

**April 21, 2023**



## DESCRIPTION

Seattle's regional transit system is an essential system for many, especially those who require ADA and mobility support. So, what is being done to ensure these residents are able to utilize transit services easily and efficiently?

During the third and final program of Seattle CityClub's Civic Boot Camp on Transportation Accessibility, we will discuss accessibility related to transit centers and bus stations to and from home, with a specific focus on sidewalk and street disability access in our neighborhoods. This program will include a walking/wheelchair user tour and multiple transportation authorities who will describe the challenges and opportunities in creating greater user-friendly local accessibility in the greater Seattle region.

(This event will not be recorded or live-streamed).



## ABOUT SEATTLE CITYCLUB

Seattle CityClub is a 40-year-old nonpartisan, civics-focused nonprofit providing a platform for insightful and educational conversations that include a diverse range of perspectives.

  @seattlecityclub

## ABOUT CIVIC BOOT CAMP

Civic Boot Camps offer participants in-depth perspectives from local leaders on critical local issues and inspiration to take action in their communities. Civic Boot Camps address the historical and current context of local and regional issues such as racial justice, homelessness, climate change, economic equity, healthcare, immigration, and civil rights.



## Speakers:

- **Anna Zivarts**, Director of Disability Mobility Initiative Program, Disability Rights WA
- **Tanisha Sepúlveda**, Program Co-coordinator, BIPOC Mobility Action Coalition
- **Tom Hewitt**, ADA Department Coordinator, Seattle Department of Transportation
- **Hayden Harvey**, Senior Manager, Government Relations, LIME
- **Brian Mannion**, Director, Mobility Division, King County Metro
- **KL Shannon**, Community Organizer, Seattle Neighborhood Greenways



## **Anna Zivarts**

### **Director of Disability Mobility Initiative Program**

Anna Zivarts is a low-vision mom and nondriver who was born with the neurological condition nystagmus. Since launching the Disability Mobility Initiative (DMI) at Disability Rights Washington in 2020, Anna has worked to bring the voices of nondrivers to the planning and policy-making tables through organizing, research and policy campaigns led by nondrivers. Anna launched #WeekWithoutDriving in 2021 and is writing a book for Island Press about valuing the expertise of nondrivers. Anna serves on the board of the League of American Bicyclists and the National Safety Council's Mobility Safety Advisory Group.



**Brian Mannion**

**Director, Mobility Division, King County Metro**

Brian Mannion is Deputy Director of King County Metro's Mobility Division. The Mobility Division is charged with understanding customers' mobility needs and planning, developing, and aligning Metro's services to better meet those needs. Brian leads and supports teams focused on areas including bus service planning; managing Metro's bus stops; transit fare policy and pricing; Access Paratransit service; ADA accessibility; and customer service.

Brian brings a wide range of public-service experience to his role at Metro. Most recently, he served as a senior manager in Washington State's COVID-19 response, where his team delivered projects such as providing free transportation to vaccination sites and launching DOH's first mobile vaccination vans. Before that, he worked as a Strategic Project Manager at Washington State Ferries, where he led efforts such as commissioning a new state ferry and managing operational changes across the system.

Brian lives in Beacon Hill and is a daily transit rider.



**Hayden Harvey**  
**Senior Manager, Government Relations, LIME**

Hayden develops community and municipal partnerships across the Northwest, working with local teams in four states and two provinces to deliver millions of carbon-free rides each year for cities. Based in Seattle, you'll find Hayden exploring public lands from the Canadian Rockies to the High Sierra in his spare time.



**KL Shannon**  
**Community Organizer, Seattle Neighborhood**  
**Greenways**

I am a longtime organizer who grew up in Seattle's Central District and started my organizing career with Jobs with Justice and Mothers for Police Accountability. My body of organizing work includes issues that impact communities of color: Economic Justice, Housing, Immigration, Police Accountability, and Transportation. I'm helping to raise my fourteen-year-old nephew and actively support him by disrupting the school yard-to-prison pipeline that snags our black and brown boys.





**Tanisha Sepúlveda**  
**Program Co-coordinator, BIPOC Mobility Action**  
**Coalition**

Tanisha Sepúlveda is an architectural associate with BCRA in Tacoma, and a program co-coordinator for the BIPOC Mobility Action Coalition (BMAC). As a power wheelchair user since 2010, Sepúlveda recognizes the lack of accessibility in the built environment and advocates for equitable access to transit and housing, with focus on sidewalk repair and maintenance.



**Tom Hewitt**  
**ADA Department Coordinator**  
**Seattle Department of Transportation**

Tom Hewitt is the ADA Coordinator for the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and comes to Seattle over 16 years of experience in accessibility and transportation in both operations and the built environment. Tom, born and raised in Northern New Jersey, received his Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from the Ohio State University and shortly after graduating, moved to Florida to work as a transit planner and GIS analyst. Once there, he also started working on Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance projects in transportation settings for various clients ranging from towns and counties to state departments of transportation and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). He then moved to Maryland to open an office for his previous company and worked as an in-house consultant for the Maryland Transit Administration as their Facilities Engineering ADA Expert, focusing on accessible transit facilities and coordination with local and regional DOTs and service providers. Tom's position prior to joining SDOT was as Director of Service Development for MTA where he oversaw MTA's bus network redesign (BaltimoreLink) and in addition to service and schedule enhancements, incorporated accessible design into bus stop improvements. In addition to his ADA Coordinator role, Tom currently acts as SDOT's lead on all ADA-related elements in the public right-of-way and works with a variety of departments, divisions, and partners to improve accessible transportation for all.

## **Links related to the speakers:**

[Meet Anna Zivarts, the Director for Disability Rights  
Washington](#)

[Anna Zivarts in The Seattle Times](#)

## **Speakers' Organizations:**

[King County Metro](#)

[Disability Rights](#)

[Lime](#)

[Seattle Department of Transportation](#)

[Seattle Neighborhood Greenways](#)

# Civic Engagement Opportunities

Our region's civic health depends on each one of us to get involved in civic life. Here are some ways you can get engaged:

## Advocate

- Ride public transit.
- Pay it forward by covering another person's fare.
- Provide employees with cost-reduced or free transit passes.
- Bring awareness to carpooling and car-share opportunities with your friends and network.
- Attend transportation meet ups, electronic vehicle meet ups, bike meet ups.
- Push your officials to work on making sidewalks safer.

## Learn

- Subscribe to podcasts to learn more about the transportation department's interconnectivity.
- Read the latest news and blogs posted on their websites.
- Subscribe to their email newsletters.
- Engage with the disability community on accessibility.

## Connect

- Build connections with your neighbors and start a ride-share group.
- Offer to carpool with coworkers to reduce carbon emissions and build friendships.
- Take the foot ferry from Downtown to West Seattle instead of driving.
- Rent an e-scooter and go out with some friends to zip around the city!
- Participate in a Group Ride with Cascade Bike Club!

# Civic Engagement Opportunities (cont.)

## Donate

- Donate a used bike to Bike Works.
- Donate pre-loaded Orca cards to local homeless shelters, students, and domestic violence shelters in your neighborhood.
- Donate your time by offering your vehicle to the elderly and youth.
- Fill potholes in your neighborhood.

## Volunteer with Local Organizations:

- Bike Works – Committed to making cycling accessible, affordable and welcoming to people of all backgrounds, abilities and incomes.
- Catholic Community Services – Provides transportation and other volunteer opportunities to support seniors and people with disabilities in King County and Western Washington.
- Find-a-Ride.org - By offering rides to disabled, elderly, and other people you can make a difference!
- HopeLink – Donate your time or money to help others get around.
- Sound Generations – Provides transportation to senior citizens of West Seattle.
- Transportation Choices – Advocacy work to bring affordable transit and commute opportunities for all.

# RESOURCES

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE  
RESOURCES AND  
DATA.](#)

