



# Community Transportation Advisory Group [CTAG] Meeting

---

## Meeting Summary for Tuesday, April 5, 2022 4:30pm–5:30pm

*This meeting was held virtually through video conferencing software. To attend a future meeting, visit the [CTAG webpage](#) and follow the directions on the next posted meeting agenda.*

### Attendees

Analeise Volpe

Charlie Arcese

David Comp

Donna Mansour Loken

Ellen Clark

Greg Hays

Bruce Prior

Jewell Hamilton

Jillian Trinkaus

Mark Challender

Stoney Bird

Terry Terry

Zoe Hemez

### Technical Advisement

Hugh Conroy

Whatcom Council of Governments (WCOG)

Jaymes McClain

WCOG

Jason Ardt

Whatcom County Public Works

Kirsten Wirt

Whatcom Smart Trips

### Introduction

The CTAG members were asked to introduce themselves and as part of their intros comment on what transportation modes they use in their normal trip-making routines.

### Discussion

The topic focus for the meeting was safety in our regional transportation systems. Two prompts were emailed out to CTAG members before the meeting asking about their safety concerns when making trips



in the region and what strategies they believe could alleviate those concerns. The summarized responses were shown to group and then were discussed and expanded upon in-meeting.

**“What are one or two examples of aspects of the transportation systems in your regular trip-making routine that may make you feel unsafe?”**

- Narrow, busy roads that are difficult for biking or crossing by foot
- Poor lighting
- High/fast traffic in urban areas
- Debris in bike lane/road shoulder or general poor lane conditions
- Incomplete bike lanes
- Pedestrian/biker visibility to vehicles
- Crosswalks on arterial streets
- Personal safety when walking in downtown Bellingham
- Crossing to the other side of I-5 without a car
- Narrower walkways, specifically tree wells and the recently expanded restaurant seating across sidewalks, affecting travel by mobility device
- Poor pedestrian access to transit stops

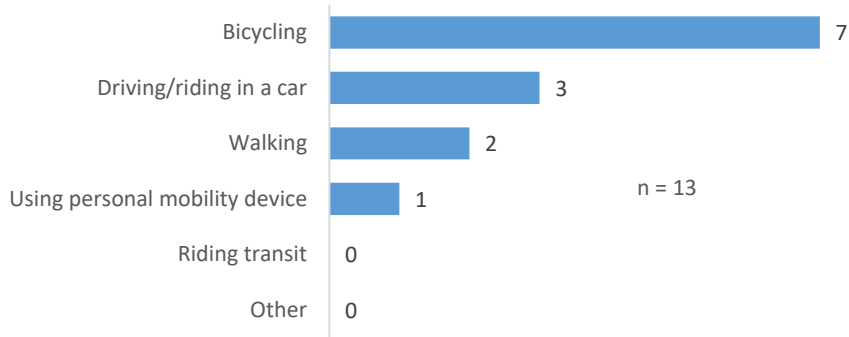
**“What strategies or improvements to our transportation systems do you think could help increase your level of safety and comfort when making trips (especially as it pertains to specific modes like busing, biking, driving, walking, etc)?”**

- Better infrastructure separation between cars and other modes
- More bicycle-pedestrian connections/paths that are separate from roads
- Public transit no-pay days
- Bicycle safety classes, especially for children
- Better street lighting
- Traffic calming in urban areas
- More bike lanes on populated corridors (like Lakeway Dr in Bellingham)
- Better rules-of-the-road education/enforcement
  - “Right turn on red” driver awareness
  - Drivers with right of way stopping for non-right of way traffic (like bikes stopped at a side street), creating unpredictability
- Intra-regional bicycle connections
- City or region-wide outreach marketing, like Bellingham’s “Ride like a Driver, Drive like a Biker”



An in-meeting poll asked participants:

**When traveling by which mode are you most concerned about your safety?**



In the open discussion, members brought up examples of specific locations they thought were unsafe for certain travel:

- 5-leg intersection at Fairhaven Middle School backing traffic up and posing safety concerns for children crossing the street
- Speed limit change and lack of sidewalk access to transit stop at Lakeview St and Cable St
- Speeding on arterial streets in urban areas that have pedestrian activity, like Lakeway Dr
- Lack of crosswalks on Lakeway Dr connecting Whatcom Falls neighborhood to the Railroad trail (only one crosswalk at Kenoyer Dr)
- Limited lighting and people jaywalking on N State St past Chuck’s Automotive, where there is new multi-family housing
- Limited lighting at crosswalks near Fairhaven Haggen
- No shoulder for bicyclists (or sidewalks for pedestrian) on James St between Orchard and Telegraph

The meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.