



Transportation Workgroup Meeting

Date: November 7, 2023

Attendees

Council members present: Cecelia Hernandez, Peter Kang, Meagan Kerr, Becky Durrick, Viktoria Martinez, Megan Schulz, Jennifer Simms, Catherine Richards, Farrah Tyus.

Council members absent: Starkesha Rogers, Jennifer Sims, Amber Merrimon.

Agenda

1. Icebreaker.
2. Review Group Agreements.
3. Recap of Goals 1-6.
4. Action Plan: Complete steps 7-9.

a. What individuals need to be at the table?

The group first discussed the importance of knowing what the current state of transportation routes are in different areas of the region to get a clearer view of what the need would be like. They also discussed the importance of understanding where the system routes are lacking. Amongst these topics, individuals such as child care center staff, city mass transit employees, family support specialist, WIC representatives, and k-12 liaisons are important to include in the conversation.

b. What funding would it take to implement the goals/steps?

Several members of the group recommended finding grant dollars and using city resources to help get the word out. Another group member expressed the importance of collaboration with community partners to help spread the word. One group member described this as being a “manpower dependent effort”.

c. Are there any other entities working on similar goals?

The group discussed that this work could possibly be included in other aspects of ECEC, but not as a main focus. Another group member expressed that there are other groups who share the need for transportation resources, such as: preschool for all grant recipients, faith groups, early intervention, and the local school boards.

Before next workgroup...

- Brainstorm at least one other agency or organization that is working in our area of focus and email it to one of the Birth to Five Illinois team members. Our plan is to have a guest speaker at our next workgroup.
- Begin thinking of what partnerships can be leveraged to support the goals/recommendations.