

All Aboard **NORTHWEST**

AllAboardNW.org

“Train Trek” Project Outline

About the Project

Train Treks are a series of outreach and engagement meetings held in local communities. They are an efficient and effective way to meet local stakeholders, gain valuable information, make connections on the ground, and build the coalitions needed to realize our vision of a better-connected Greater Northwest.

Train Treks can be focused along a specific corridor (for a specific route proposal), a specific audience (elderly, college students, etc.), a specific type of development (Transit Oriented Development, local industrial economic development), or scope of service and benefit (rural communities with few other options). All Aboard Northwest (AANW) has hosted Train Treks in communities small and large across the Greater Northwest.

Need

Personal Connections

Even in the 21st Century, showing up matters. While we offer electronic connections to those who cannot attend otherwise, we gain the most useful insight and local respect by meeting with people in-person.

Inspiring Conversation

There's a lot of misinformation about what is practical and what is possible for our communities. Train Treks allow participants to learn more about regional transportation issues and engage in thought-provoking conversation with advocates.

Regional Focus

We need to collaborate over state lines if we hope to succeed where previous efforts have fallen short. The regional level is the right scale to organize and address these issues, and federal funding is increasingly difficult for states to obtain for rail projects without regional cooperation.

Purposes

The purposes of Train Treks are to:

- Improve awareness of rail issues and opportunities in the Greater Northwest.
- Discover opportunities for better collaboration with stakeholders and partners.
- Increase AANW's capacity to educate the public and elected officials to serve its mission and vision, in line with its charter as a nonprofit organization.
- Promote multi-modal transportation options, focused on a comprehensive, long-distance passenger rail network.

Goals

1. Educate the public about a route, issue, or scope of focus.
2. Receive support (probably predominantly vocal - non financial).
3. Fulfill an "action call" (support for a specific proposal, vision, project, legislation)
4. Research and information about a local, that we can convey to the right persons/interest groups/ elected leaders.
5. Implement long-term economically-viable, user-friendly, non-automobile transportation services through the region on a core passenger rail system: Seamless transportation.

Team Needs

Financial support/sponsorship to pay basic administrative costs and fund travel needs (hotels, venues, food, etc) along the Trek. We estimate an approximate budget need of \$20,000 for a regional Train Trek.

Leadership Contacts

Dan Bilka
(605) 480-2532
dan@allaboardnw.org

Charlie Hamilton
(206) 966-6333
charlie@allaboardnw.org

Patrick Carnahan
(360) 207-9894
patrick@allaboardnw.org