



Snoqualmie Valley Transportation  
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### **Duvall-Monroe Shuttle team earns 2019 WSDOT Wall of Fame award**

Contributed by Snoqualmie Valley Transportation

The little white bus service that's been circulating passengers in and around Duvall and Monroe for the past year has just received a rare honor, the Washington State Department of Transportation Wall of Fame award.

Given annually at the Washington State Public Transportation Conference, the award recognizes exemplary dedication, innovation, customer service and professionalism. This year, it also recognized a welcome community collaboration that resulted in the creation of the Duvall-Monroe Shuttle.

This award typically goes to WSDOT staff members, said Monica Ghosh, Community Liaison with the organization's Public Transportation Division.

"This year, however, the award committee was struck by the fact that three organizations (SVT, Hopelink, and SNOTRAC), all of which receive grant funding through WSDOT, collaborated closely to create this much-needed service. Their concerted effort to address community needs and break down traditional transportation barriers was a significant factor in WSDOT's decision to recognize them."

According to the nomination, the shuttle "provides vital access to medical appointments, shopping, and community and recreational activities," and "the team worked tirelessly to overcome traditional transportation barriers."

Launched in August, 2018, from the work of the Snoqualmie Valley Transportation Coalition, the shuttle is supported by Hopelink, Snoqualmie Valley Transportation, Easterseals, Snohomish County Transportation Coalition (SNOTRAC), King County Metro Transit's Community Access Transportation division, Community Transit, Snohomish County Human Services, the Snoqualmie Tribe and the valley cities of Monroe, Duvall, Carnation, Snoqualmie and North Bend.

Accepting the award at the Aug. 20 presentation were SVT Executive Director Amy Biggs, and SNOTRAC Executive Director and Mobility Manager Marianna Hanefeld.

"It's remarkable that an organization the size of scope of WSDOT takes the time to notice and honor rural community innovations," Biggs said, "And we are very lucky to have such a wonderful community Liaison in Monica Ghosh, who nominated us."

Hanefeld added, "While our individual names are on the certificates, the credit for the work really goes to the coalition members who tirelessly attended meetings, reviewed data and explored innovative solutions over the course of almost two years. They lobbied their city councils and community organizations and citizens to garner support for this project."

The Duvall-Monroe Shuttle was launched as a pilot project of the Snoqualmie Valley Transportation Coalition, which is now developing a five-year strategic plan for transportation solutions in the rural Snoqualmie Valley. Funding for the shuttle comes from a variety of sources, including King County Metro, the cities, and initially, an Easterseals grant that led to the creation of SVTC and the shuttle. Metro has provided significant funding to continue the shuttle through the 19-20 project year, and participating cities will be asked to continue their support to make up the remainder of the needed funding.

Like most rural transportation routes, the Duvall-Monroe shuttle has taken a while to catch on with riders, but it has already made more than 1,200 connections of people to school, hospitals, clinics and stores. The fare for the short trip between Duvall and Monroe is a \$1 suggested donation.

Shuttle service provider SVT has been doing local transportation for more than 15 years and now provides more than 42,000 trips per year using the little 14-or-less passenger buses on their routes supported by WSDOT, Metro and the Snoqualmie Tribe.

For more information on the sub-regional mobility coalitions, contact [mobility@hopelink.org](mailto:mobility@hopelink.org) or 425-943-6760.

For more information on SVT, visit [www.svtbus.org](http://www.svtbus.org), or call 425-888-7001.

Cutline: Washington State Department of Transportation executives awarded representatives of the Duvall-Monroe Shuttle project with the 2019 WSDOT Wall of Fame award Aug. 20, during the Washington State Public Transportation Conference. Pictured from left are: Brian Lagerberg,

Director of the WSDOT Public Transportation Division; Amy Biggs, Snoqualmie Valley Transportation Executive Director; Marianna Hanefeld, Snohomish County Transportation Coalition Executive Director; and WSDOT Secretary of Transportation Roger Millar. (Photo Courtesy of Washington State Transit Association)



About Snoqualmie Valley Transportation: Snoqualmie Valley Transportation (SVT) is a project of Mt. Si Senior Center. SVT began its services in 2003 with funding assistance from Snoqualmie Indian Tribe, King County Metro Transit, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Learn more about the bus services and find maps and schedules at [www.svtbus.org](http://www.svtbus.org), or call 425-888-7001.