



JUDY

Age: 70 years | Rider

Residence: Northwest Washington State

Anytime Judy has moved homes she first researches the accessibility of the area's transportation system.

Pedestrian crossings in Washington are not always accessible for blind people, so they run the risk of being hit by a biker or car.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Skagit Transit continued to operate. However anyone with symptoms was asked not to ride.

QUOTE

"Health personnel need to be educated about what is available for residents! I shouldn't have gotten the answer 'I don't know' but I understand why they gave it. Because there isn't many people who can't drive. But they need to have an action plan in place."

Though Judy and her husband are blind, they have always lived in areas with excellent transportation services. However, they face challenges when the health service they need is in another county, requiring additional planning.

Despite this, they manage to plan and get to their health appointments on time by taking Paratransit or a fixed-route bus. When Judy became sick with COVID-19 and was unable to use public transportation, she was also unable to access certain services such as the local drive-through testing site. This was an especially isolating ordeal.

Due to her experience, Judy wants people who are visually impaired to know that there are audible COVID-19 tests. She believes these resources need to be publicly shared with everyone.