

Regional Transportation Plan

Regional Staff Committee
November 20, 2025



Puget Sound Regional Council



We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

psrc.org/equity

Today's Presentation

- Summary of six Regional Public Meetings
 - Upcoming outreach activities
- Continued board discussion of RTP financial strategy
 - New revenue potential and implementation issues
- Review of Draft Regional Transportation Plan elements



Public Feedback to Date – Regional Public Meetings

Six RTP public meetings

- 260+ attendees
- Overall scenario preferences =
 - 15% Scenario 1
 - 21% Scenario 2A
 - 46% Scenario 2B
 - 19% Scenario 3



Public Feedback to Date – Regional Public Meetings

Summary themes from attendees:

- Different needs around the region – some communities more reliant on cars, fewer transit and walk/bike options
- Less interest in more roads, but more interest in *better* roads
 - maintenance is critical, functioning roads are the underpinning of all other modes



Public Feedback to Date – Regional Public Meetings

Summary themes from attendees:

- Transit investment ranked highly for majority of attendees – need more of it, more frequent and seamless connections
- Also calls for better connected and safer sidewalks and bicycle networks
- Accountability for investment – let's see results



Public Feedback to Date – Additional Outreach

- Online and community tabling surveys, May through October 2025
 - ✓ ~250 responses
 - ✓ Similar comments regarding needs, concerns around:
 - *Reliable transit with good connections*
 - *Traffic and road safety*
 - *Maintenance and preservation*
 - *Safer pedestrian and bicycle networks*



Public Feedback to Date – Additional Outreach

Equity Advisory Committee key priorities = accessibility and affordability

Discussion themes:

- Need additional infrastructure but concerned about the additional costs to households
- The transportation system needs to meet the needs of people with low income, seniors and people of color, but these communities also experience the highest financial burdens



Financial Strategy – Key Reminders

- The plan must include *all* expected investments into the future and identify revenues to fund them
- New or increased revenues may be assumed into the future, but must include a rationale and strategies for ensuring availability
- Cities and local transit agencies continue to have the highest gaps in available revenues compared to needs



Approach for Potential New Revenue Sources

- Focus on those sources that can be implemented consistently across the region and that are more likely to generate greater potential revenue
- Five sources identified:
 - Road usage charge
 - Increased vehicle fees
 - Increased sales tax rates for local transit
 - Increased county road levy
 - Retail delivery fee



Feedback to Date

October–November TPB discussion points:

- Sales tax rates are already high, some cities may be “maxed out”
- Is it realistic to assume a RUC?
- Different jurisdictions will, and need to, use different tools
- Concerns about sources that are regressive and how to improve
- Be bold but realistic



RTP Financial Strategy – Proposed Approach

- Concerns have been raised about increased household costs and equity, particularly disproportionate burdens for certain communities
- There are different impacts and considerations around the region: income levels, property values, tax/fee rates, as well as levels of transportation services

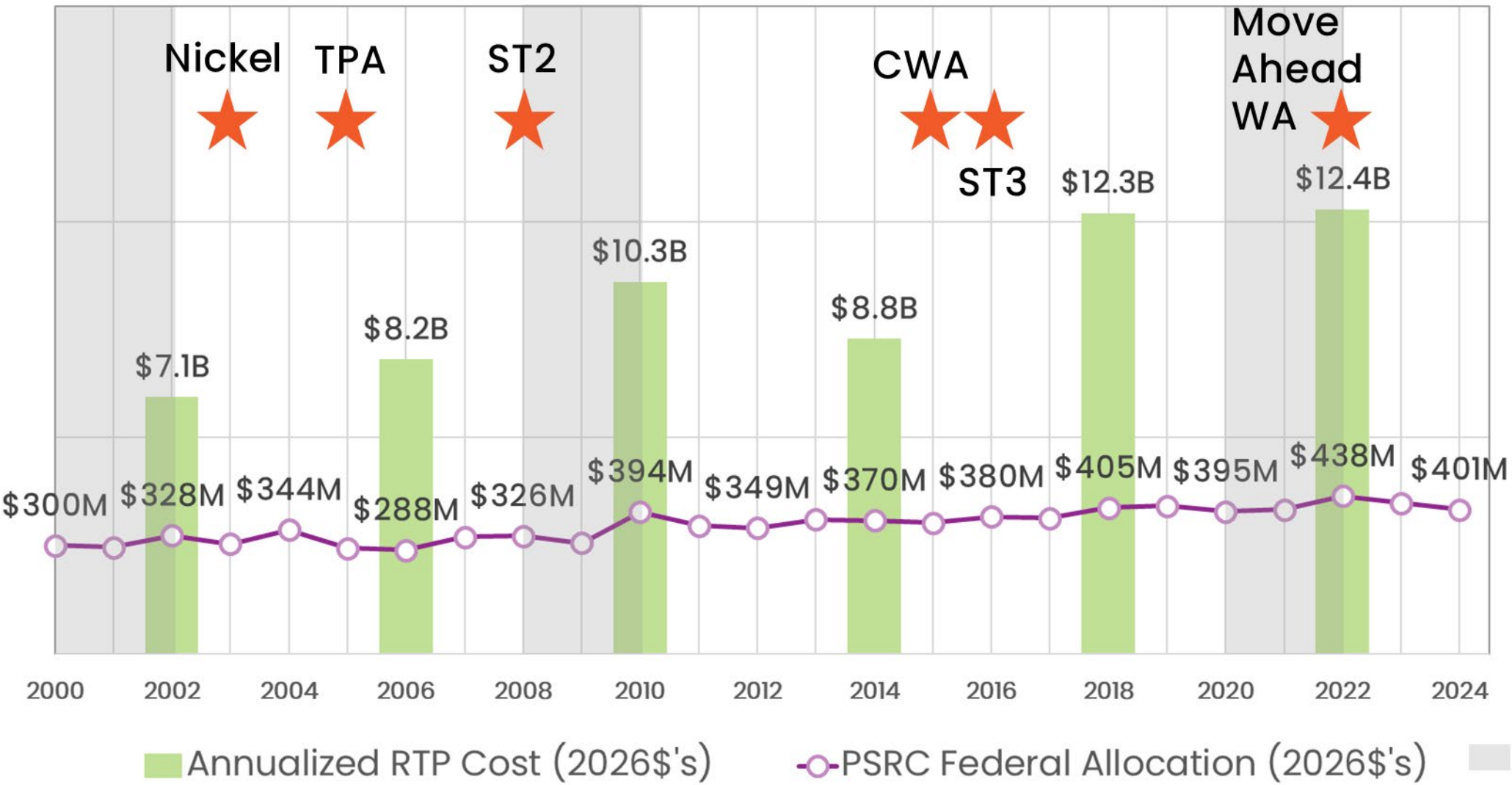


RTP Financial Strategy – Proposed Approach

- Different combinations of the five potential new revenue sources can raise enough to fund the \$49 billion gap
 - ❖ The average household would spend \$2,890/yr on public transportation costs
- There are implementation issues that will have to be addressed:
 - ❖ Changes to existing distribution methodologies to address the higher gap for cities and local transit
 - ❖ Consideration of equity and disproportionate burdens



RTP Financial Strategy – New Revenues Through Time



Recession /
Pandemic



RTP Financial Strategy – Proposed Approach

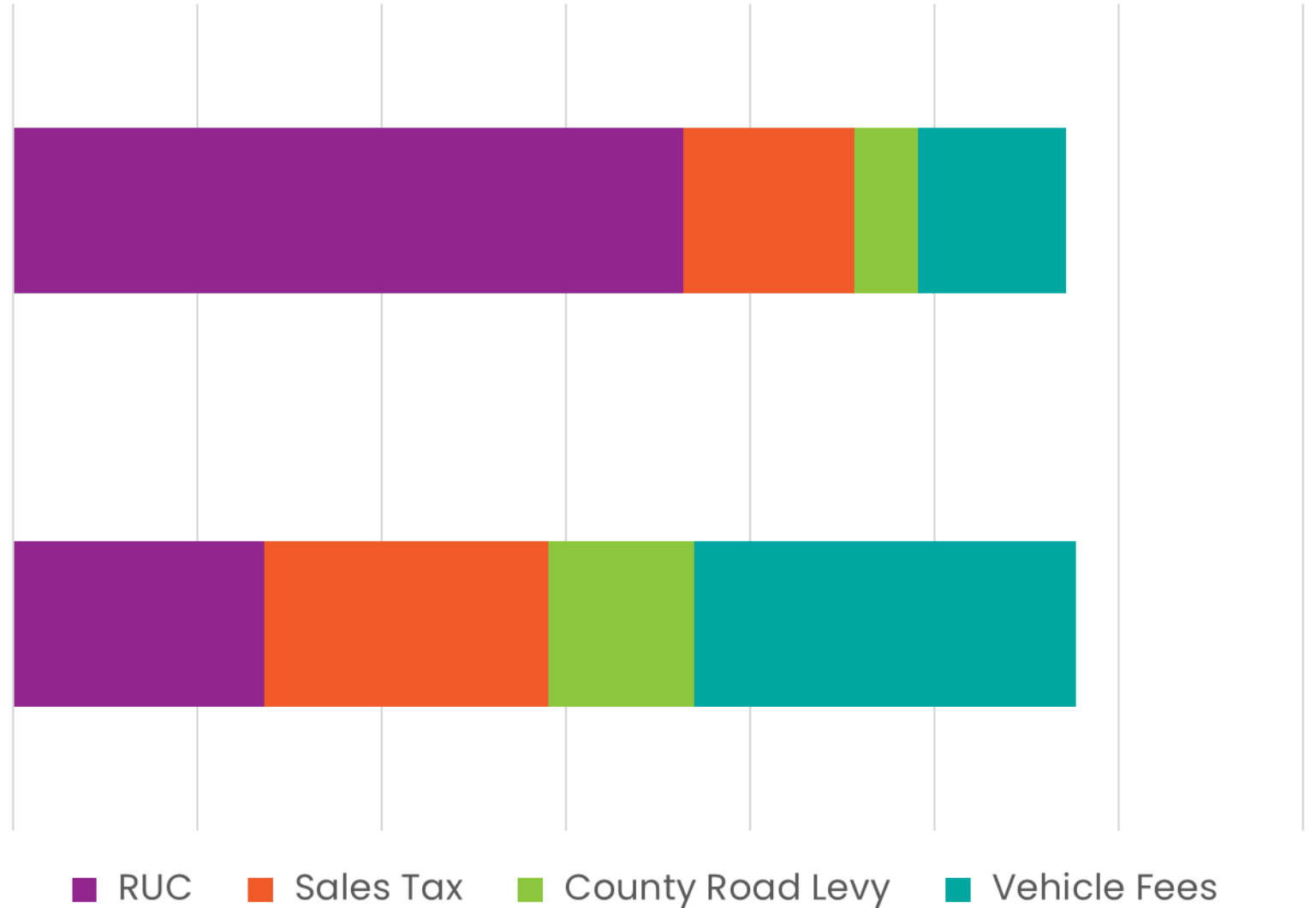
- The RTP financial strategy does not need to identify one solution or set of rates
- The proposed approach would identify options for each revenue source – recognizing the diverse needs and conditions around the region
- The proposed approach would also identify key steps necessary to implement each revenue source, including:
 - Authorizing agency, policy and implementation issues, action steps moving forward



RTP Financial Strategy – Revenue Scenarios

❖ Higher share of revenue from user fees

❖ Focus on traditional sources



RTP Financial Strategy – Approach & Next Steps

- The draft plan will describe the five potential new revenue sources and their potential revenue generation across the options discussed today
- Key policy issues will be identified as well as steps required to implement / authorize each source
- The ability to fill the funding gaps by agency category will be described



RTP Financial Strategy – Approach & Next Steps

- All other potential revenue sources, beyond the identified regionally consistent sources, will also be noted
- Specific action items for PSRC and other agencies will be described at the board's direction
 - For example: future PSRC work program to advance transportation funding options, particularly to address local needs, in collaboration with state, regional and local partners



Draft Plan – Elements and Approach



- Streamlined plan document
 - Summary of plan results and key findings
 - Actions and future work
- Links and standalone documents for key plan elements



Draft Plan – Currently Available Documents

On the [RTP Engagement Hub](#):

- Adopted scope of work and background materials
- Plan scenarios and board presentations
- Outreach opportunities
- Current Transportation System Report and Visualization Tool
- Future Transportation System Report and Visualization Tool
(*coming soon*)



Draft Plan – Elements and Approach



- ❖ Draft plan in December will include more detailed:
 - Outreach and Engagement report
 - System Performance Report – *plus standalone information on climate, air, health, freight*
 - Maintenance and Preservation background
 - Financial Strategy background
 - Active Transportation Plan
 - Coordinated Mobility Plan
 - Regional transit access assessment



Draft Plan Action Items

- **Transportation Finance** – ongoing work program to advance transportation funding options, particularly to address local needs
- **Maintenance and Preservation** – continued work to improve estimation methodologies and data collection
- **Climate** – advance implementation of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan; advance work to address climate impacts and vulnerabilities of the transportation system



Draft Plan Action Items

- **Future system gaps** – explore opportunities to address gaps in the future system, e.g. addressing transit gaps in alignment with the 2030 VISION and RTP update
- **Safety** – advance implementation of the Regional Safety Action Plan

More discussion can occur to finalize these, and any other, action items and key messages for inclusion in the final plan



Schedule to Plan Adoption

- **November 20** – Virtual RTP Regional Public Meeting (see flyer)
- **December 11** – TPB authorizes staff to release the draft plan for public comment
 - Public comment period open from mid-December to end of January 2026
 - Additional outreach to focus groups, key stakeholders
- **January through April 2026** – board reviews public comments, finalizes plan document
- **May 2026** – General Assembly plan adoption



Thank You!

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