



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### Executive Board

Thursday, February 26, 2026 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101**

#### Watch or listen

- Watch the meeting live at <https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>
- Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 850 8255 4806, Passcode: 943145

#### Attend

- The public can attend meetings at [PSRC's offices](#).
- PSRC staff will be available to provide floor access from 10 minutes before the meeting starts until 15 minutes after it begins.
- If you arrive outside of these times, please call 206-464-7090 for assistance.

#### Provide public comment

- **Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda. Each member of the public will have 2 minutes to speak.**
- **In-person**  
Public comment may be made in person at PSRC's offices.
- **Comment during the meeting by Zoom or phone:**  
[Registration](#) is required and closes at 8:00 a.m., the day of the meeting. Late registrations will not be accepted.
- **Written comments**  
Comments may be submitted via email to [srogers@psrc.org](mailto:srogers@psrc.org) by 8:00 a.m., the day of the meeting. Comments will be shared with board members.

Public comments are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter [42.56](#).

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1. **Call to Order (10:00)** – Executive Dave Somers, President
2. **Communications and Public Comment**  
Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda.
3. **President's Remarks**
4. **Executive Director's Report**
5. **State Legislative Update (10:15)** – Robin Koskey, PSRC
6. **Committee Report**
  - a. Operations Committee – Executive Ryan Mello, Vice President

- 7. Consent Agenda - Action Items (10:25)**
  - a. Approve Minutes of Meeting Held January 22, 2026
  - b. Approve Vouchers December 31, 2025, Through February 2, 2026, in the Amount of \$1,778,044.58
  - c. Approve King County Auditing Officer Delegation Resolution
  - d. Approve Contract Authority for 2026 General Assembly
  - e. Adopt Routine Amendment to the 2025-2026 Transportation Improvement Program
  - f. Approve Certification of the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Des Moines
  - g. Approve Project Tracking Policies
- 8. Discussion Item (10:30)**
  - a. Federal Legislative Update – *Leslie Pollner and Lisa Barkovic, Manatt*
- 9. Discussion Item (10:45)**
  - a. Regional Centers Redesignation and Monitoring – *Liz Underwood-Bultmann and Nancy Ferber, PSRC*
- 10. Discussion Item (11:05)**
  - a. Regional Transportation Plan Preliminary Public Comments – *Ben Bakkenta and Noah Boggess, PSRC*
- 11. Information Items**
  - a. New Employee Status Report
  - b. FY2025 Audit Results for PSRC and the CPSEDD
  - c. Economic Update: Puget Sound Region Loses 12,900 Jobs in 2025
  - d. Summer Planning Academy (SPA) For High School Students Program
  - e. VISION 2050 Awards – Call for Nominations 2026
  - f. Joint Board Session on Addressing Underserved Communities in Our Region –April 30, 2026
  - g. Annual General Assembly Save the Date – May 28, 2026
  - h. 2026 Board Meeting Schedule
- 12. Other Business**
- 13. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 26, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
- 14. Adjourn (12:00)**

Board members please submit proposed amendments and materials prior to the meeting for distribution. Organizations/individuals may submit information for distribution. Send to Sheila Rogers, e-mail [srogers@psrc.org](mailto:srogers@psrc.org), or mail.

For language or ADA assistance at PSRC board meetings, please contact us at 206-464-7090 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. For TTY-based telecommunications relay service dial 711.

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## Puget Sound Regional Council

### MINUTES

#### Executive Board

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Executive Board was called to order at 10:01 AM by Executive Dave Somers, PSRC President. A video of the meeting was streamed live as well as recorded and is available for viewing on PSRC's website. A call-in number was provided on the meeting agenda for members of the public to call in by phone and listen live. Roll call determined attendance and that a quorum was present.

### COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments received.

### PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Somers announced the following new members and alternates who would be joining the board in 2026:

- Councilmember Rosie Ayala representing Pierce County
- Councilmember Scott Bader serving as alternate for the City of Everett
- Deputy Mayor Patti Belle serving as alternate for the City of Lakewood
- Deputy Mayor Neal Black serving as alternate for the City of Kirkland
- Deputy Mayor Dave Hamilton serving as alternate for the City of Bellevue
- Yarrow Point Mayor Katy Harris representing Other Cities & Towns in King County
- Mayor Anders Ibsen representing the City of Tacoma
- North Bend Councilmember Mark Joselyn serving as alternate for Other Cities & Towns in King County
- Sammamish Deputy Mayor Amy Lam representing Other Cities & Towns in King County
- Councilmember Eddie Lin representing the City of Seattle
- Mayor Mo Malakoutian representing the City of Bellevue
- Councilmember Alexis Mercedes Rinck representing the City of Seattle
- Councilmember Melissa Stuart serving as alternate for the City of Redmond
- Deputy Mayor Tracey Taylor-Turner serving as alternate for the City of Auburn

- Monroe Councilmember Jacob Walker representing Other Cities & Towns in Snohomish County
- Executive Girmay Zahilay representing King County
- Commissioner Ryan Calkins representing the Port of Seattle

President Somers reported that PSRC's Annual General Assembly would be held on Thursday, May 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Seattle Convention Center—Summit Building, and noted that a "save the date" notice would be distributed soon.

He also stated that the 2026 Nominating Committee would be announced in March. The committee would be responsible for proposing candidates for the positions of President and Vice President at the General Assembly.

Additionally, he advised that information regarding the call for VISION 2050 Awards would be forthcoming and encouraged members to watch for future communications.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Josh Brown Updates and Announcements:

- Welcomed new members of the PSRC Executive Board and shared that staff will follow up to schedule one-on-one meetings with them.
- Announced the Newly Elected Officials Workshop on February 27, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the PSRC offices.
- Provided an update on recent regional employment trends being tracked by PSRC.
- Highlighted the Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, provided the board with an update on key federal and state policy updates.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

President Somers noted that the Operations Committee did not meet that morning, as there were no pressing action items requiring committee consideration at this time.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Wahl/Mello) to:**

- Approve Minutes of Meeting Held December 4, 2025**
- Approve Vouchers Dated November 10, 2025, Through January 6, 2026, in the Amount of \$2,481,766.76**
- Adopt Routine Amendment to the 2025-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## **DISCUSSION ITEM: FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

PSRC's federal consultants, Leslie Pollner and Lisa Barkovic of Manatt, provided a timely update on recent federal budget and policy developments and discussed their implications for local governments.

## **DISCUSSION ITEM: 2025 HOUSING MONITORING UPDATE**

Eric Clute, PSRC Associate Planner, presented the 2025 Regional Housing Strategy monitoring update, highlighting new data and analysis on emergency housing and permanent supportive housing production. The update emphasized continued affordability challenges across both rental and ownership markets, driven by high housing costs and elevated interest rates. A significant share of low- and moderate-income households remain cost-burdened. He reported that homelessness in the region has reached a historic high, with more than 21,000 people experiencing homelessness in 2024, nearly half of whom are unsheltered. While the region's supply of emergency shelter and permanent supportive housing has increased by 16% and 28%, respectively, demand continues to outpace growth.

The presentation also noted ongoing policy changes at the local and state levels, including implementation of newly adopted comprehensive plans and recent state legislation intended to address housing affordability. Federal policy impacts remain uncertain and will continue to be monitored.

Board members were invited to provide feedback on how housing monitoring data can best support jurisdictions in meeting new state housing requirements and implementing local plans. Staff confirmed that PSRC will continue to provide annual housing monitoring updates, with the frequency of some data measures adjusted based on availability.

## **DISCUSSION ITEM: HOUSING INCENTIVES AND TOOLS SURVEY RESULTS**

David Dixon, PSRC Associate Planner, presented results from the Housing Incentives and Tools Survey (HITS), highlighting local progress in updating comprehensive plans and development regulations to meet new legislative requirements and advance housing goals. The work builds on the Growth Management Policy Board's 2025 comprehensive plan review and aligns with PSRC's ongoing focus on housing affordability, growth management and equity. He reviewed the 2022 Regional Housing Strategy as a framework for implementing VISION 2050 and noted PSRC's support to jurisdictions through guidance, webinars, data, and plan review.

Survey results show significant progress since 2022, including expanded housing capacity of more than 800,000 units (primarily in moderate-density zones) and broader adoption of policies addressing housing needs across income levels and racial disparities. Use of affordable housing tools has increased, particularly multifamily tax exemptions and mandatory inclusionary zoning. Thirty-six jurisdictions dedicate sales tax revenue to affordable housing, and 54 participate in regional coalitions such as ARCH, AHA, SKHHP, and SSHAP.

A full report will be available in February, and staff will continue sharing updates and best practices.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

Included in the agenda packet:

- Draft Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program
- New Employee Status Report
- Newly Elected Officials Workshop Flyer
- 2026 Meeting Schedule

**OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business brought before the board.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 26, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

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Adopted this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Executive Dave Somers, President  
 Puget Sound Regional Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Josh Brown, Executive Director

**ATTACHMENT:**

- A. Executive Board Attendance, January 22, 2026

Executive Board - January 22, 2026		7.a - Att. A
Members and Alternates that participated for all or part of the meeting included:		Present
<b>King County</b>	Executive Girmay Zahilay	
	CM Sarah Perry	1
	<b>Vacant Alt</b>	
Seattle	<b>Vacant Alt</b>	
	CM Rob Saka	
	CM Eddie Lin	1
	CM Alexis Mercedes Rinck	
	CM Robert Kettle Alt	
	CM Dan Strauss Alt	
Bellevue	<b>Vacant Alt</b>	
	MYR Mo Malakoutian	
Federal Way	DP MYR Dave Hamilton Alt	1
	MYR Jim Ferrell	
Kent	<b>Vacant Alt</b>	
	MYR Dana Ralph	
Kirkland	CM Toni Troutner Alt	1
	MYR Kelli Curtis	1
Renton	DP MYR Neal Black Alt )	
	MYR Armondo Pavone	1
Redmond	CM James Alberson, Jr. Alt	
	MYR Angela Birney	1
Auburn	CM Melissa Stuart Alt	
	MYR Nancy Backus	
Other Cities/Towns in King County	DR MYR Tracey Taylor-Turner Alt	
	MYR Jeff Wagner, Covington	1
	MYR Thomas McLeod, Tukwila	1
	CM Amy Lam, Sammamish	1
	MYR Chris Roberts, Shoreline Alt	1
	MYR Katy Kinney Harris, Yarrow Point Alt	1
<b>Kitsap County</b>	CM Mark Joselyn, North Bend Alt	1
	COMM Katie Walters	1
Bremerton	COMM Christine Rolfes Alt	
	MYR Greg Wheeler	1
Port Orchard	<b>Vacant Alt</b>	
	MYR Rob Putaansuu	
Other Cities/Towns in Kitsap County	CM Jay Rosapepe Alt	
	<b>Vacant</b>	
<b>Pierce County</b>	MYR Ashley Mathews, Bainbridge Island Alt	1
	EXEC Ryan Mello <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	1
	CM Rosie Ayala	1
Tacoma	CM Robyn Denson Alt	
	MYR Anders Ibsen	
Lakewood	CM Kristina Walker Alt	
	CM Ryan Pearson	1
Other Cities/Towns in Pierce County	DP MYR Patti Belle Alt	
	CM Stan Flemming, University Place	
<b>Snohomish County</b>	CM Jeff Sproul, Orting Alt	1
	EXC Dave Somers <b>PRESIDENT</b>	1
	CM Sam Low	1
Everett	CM Jared Mead Alt	
	MYR Cassie Franklin	1
Other Cities/Towns in Snohomish County	CM Scott Bader Alt	
	MYR Pro Tem Bryan Wahl, Mountlake Terrace	1
	CM Jacob Walker, Monroe	1
	CM Susan Paine, Edmonds Alt	
<b>Port of Bremerton</b>	MYR Mike Rosen, Edmonds Alt	
	COMM Axel Strakeljahn	1
<b>Port of Everett</b>	COMM Gary Anderson Alt	
	COMM David Simpson	1
<b>Port of Seattle</b>	COMM Glen Bachman Alt	
	COMM Ryan Calkins	1
<b>Port of Tacoma</b>	COMM Toshiko Hasegawa Alt	
	COMM John McCarthy	
<b>Washington State Department of Transportation</b>	COMM Kristin Ang Alt	1
	Secretary Julie Meredith	1
<b>Washington State Transportation Commission</b>	Assistant Secretary John White Alt	
	COMM Nicole Grant	1
	COMM Gael Tarleton Alt	



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### CONSENT AGENDA

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Executive Ryan Mello, Chair, Operations Committee

**Subject:** **Approve Vouchers Dated December 31, 2025, Through February 2, 2026, in the Amount of \$1,778,044.58**

### IN BRIEF

Two representatives of the Operations Committee review and sign off on the vouchers. In accordance with RCW 42.24.080 the Executive Board approves the vouchers.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend the Executive Board approve the following vouchers:

#### REQUESTED

<u>WARRANT DATE</u>	<u>VOUCHER NUMBER</u>	<u>TOTALS</u>
01/07/26 - 02/02/26	AP Vouchers	\$ 387,684.00
12/31/25 - 01/30/26	Payroll	\$ 1,390,360.58
		<b>\$ 1,778,044.58</b>

For additional information, please contact Andrew Werfelmann, Budget Manager, at [awerfelmann@psrc.org](mailto:awerfelmann@psrc.org) or 206-971-3292.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**To:** Executive Board  
**From:** Executive Ryan Mello, Chair, Operations Committee  
**Subject:** **Approve King County Auditing Officer Delegation Resolution**

### **IN BRIEF**

On Thursday, February 26, 2026, the Operations Committee will recommend the Executive Board adopt the King County Auditing Officer Delegation Resolution.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Recommend the Executive Board adopt Resolution PSRC-EB-2026-01, appointing PSRC auditing officers for the purpose of authorizing the issuance of warrants and electronic transactions prior to board approval.

### **BUDGET IMPACT**

There is no budget impact to this action.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Puget Sound Regional Council utilizes the services of King County as its treasurer. This requires King County to issue payments on behalf of PSRC and CPSEDD. To comply with [RCW 42.24.180](#), a resolution is required to allow PSRC to request payment warrants prior to board approval.

For additional information, please contact Lili Mayer, Finance Manager, at [lmayer@psrc.org](mailto:lmayer@psrc.org) or 206-971-3268.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Resolution PSRC-EB-2026-01



Puget Sound Regional Council

**RESOLUTION NO. PSRC-EB-2026-01**

**A RESOLUTION of the Puget Sound Regional Council  
Appointing of Auditing Officer(s) for the Purpose of Authorizing the Issuance of  
Warrants and Electronic Transactions Prior to Board Approval**

**WHEREAS**, there may be circumstances when the Board does not meet prior to a day in which they would need to approve vouchers for the Council's warrants and claims;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need by the Puget Sound Regional Council to process warrants and electronic payments in a timely and consistent manner;

**WHEREAS**, it would be of financial benefit to appoint Auditing Officer(s) to certify the voucher approval document for the correct and certified submission of vouchers to the King County Finance Office without awaiting a Board meeting to authorize specific payments;

**WHEREAS**, RCW 42.24.180 authorizes the issuance of warrants before approval of the vouchers by the Board in order to expedite the payment of claims;

**WHEREAS**, this Agency shall enact the following policies and procedures pursuant to RCW 42.24.180:

1. All routine operating claims against Puget Sound Regional Council will be pre-audited and signed by the Auditing Officer
2. The Auditing Officer shall be bonded for no less than \$50,000 to assure the faithful discharge of their duties
3. PSRCs Accounting Procedures establishes the necessary purchasing and disbursing procedures that implements effective internal control for issuance of warrants and claims
4. The Board shall review and approve the claims paid at its next regularly scheduled public meeting; and
5. If the Board disapproves some claims, the Auditing Officer will recognize these claims as receivables and will pursue collection diligently until the amounts are either collected or the Board approves the claims.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Executive Board of Puget Sound Regional Council does hereby authorize the Auditing Officer(s), Josh Brown, Marc Daily, Lili Mayer, and Andrew Werfelmann to submit vouchers for payment and disbursement in accordance with PSRC's accounting procedures prior to the Board taking action to approve said claims.

**ADOPTED** by the Executive Board this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

\_\_\_\_\_

Dave Somers, Executive  
Snohomish County  
President, Puget Sound Regional Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Josh Brown, Executive Director



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**To:** Executive Board  
**From:** Executive Ryan Mello, Chair, Operations Committee  
**Subject:** **Approve Contract Authority for 2026 General Assembly**

### **IN BRIEF**

Executive Board authorization is required for the Executive Director to enter into a contract in excess of \$10,000 per year. A request is being made to authorize the Executive Director to enter into one or more contracts to include but not limited to space rental, catering, speaker and audio-visual expenses related to the 2026 General Assembly.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Recommend the Executive Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into one or more contracts in support of the 2026 General Assembly. The total cost for all contracts will not exceed \$47,000.

### **BUDGET IMPACT**

The Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Biennial Budget and Work Program includes funding for this project. The total budget for the contracts is not to exceed \$47,000.

### **DISCUSSION**

The Puget Sound Regional Council's General Assembly includes all mayors, county executives, commissioners and councilmembers of PSRC member jurisdictions, tribes and statutory members. Each elected representative is a voting member of the General Assembly. The General Assembly will convene on May 28, 2026, to adopt the

Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Plan, elect officers, and adopt the Regional Transportation Plan.

For additional information, please contact Josh Brown, Executive Director, at [jbrown@psrc.org](mailto:jbrown@psrc.org) or 206-464-7515 or Sheila Rogers, Executive Administrator, at [srogers@psrc.org](mailto:srogers@psrc.org) or 206-464-5815.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair, Transportation Policy Board

**Subject:** **Adopt Routine Amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**

### **IN BRIEF**

Seven agencies submitted nine projects this month for routine amendment into the Regional TIP. The projects are summarized in Exhibit A. These projects were awarded local, state and federal funding through various funding processes, such as Move Ahead Washington funds managed by the Washington State Department of Transportation. PSRC staff reviewed the projects for compliance with federal and state requirements, and consistency with VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan. At its meeting on February 12, the Transportation Policy Board recommended adoption of the amendment.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Executive Board should adopt an amendment to the 2025-2028 Regional TIP to include the projects as shown in Exhibit A.

### **DISCUSSION**

Under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), PSRC has project selection authority for all projects programming regional funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ), and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Urbanized Area Formula Program (5307), State of Good Repair (5337), and Bus and Bus Facilities Formula (5339).

While PSRC does not have project selection authority for other types of federal, state or local funds, the Executive Board does have responsibility for adding these projects to the Regional TIP. Each project must comply with requirements regarding plan

consistency, air quality, and financial constraint. The attached Exhibit A illustrates the action needed to amend the Regional TIP.

The recommended action would approve the TIP amendment request based on a finding of consistency with VISION 2050, the Regional Transportation Plan and the air quality conformity determination of the Regional TIP. Approval is also based on a determination that funding is reasonably expected to be available to carry out the project. Information describing plan consistency, air quality conformity and the funding basis for approving the request is further described below.

### **Consistency with VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan**

The projects recommended for action were reviewed by PSRC staff and have been determined to be consistent with the multicounty policies in VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan.

### **Air Quality Conformity**

The projects in Exhibit A were reviewed and it has been determined that a new air quality analysis and conformity determination is not required because each project falls into one or more of the following categories:

- It is exempt from air quality conformity requirements.
- It is an existing project already included in the current air quality modeling.
- It is a non-exempt project not able to be included in the regional model.

### **Funding Reasonably Expected to be Available**

For the projects in Exhibit A, PSRC has confirmed that the funds are reasonably expected to be available.

### **PSRC's Project Tracking Policies**

This amendment includes the following requests by Community Transit (CT) for modifications to projects awarded PSRC's FTA funds:

- Redistribute \$11,652,669 in 2025-2026 5307 Equity funds from *Transit Revenue Vehicles 2023-2026* to *Swift BRT Gold Line*.
- Redistribute \$318,315 in 2025 5307 Earned Share funds from *Transit Revenue Vehicles 2023-2026*, and \$8,053,615 in 2023 5339 Earned Share funds from *Swift BRT Gold Line* to *Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance*.

The scope for *Transit Revenue Vehicles 2023-2026* will remain the same; the overall funds in the project will be reduced after the redistributions because the average cost of the buses was previously over-estimated.

The scope and total cost for *Swift BRT Gold Line* will also remain the same. In addition to the FTA redistributions, state funds will be added and local funds removed to

maintain the same project cost. The redistribution is needed due to a delay in the bus purchases for the Gold Line project that will prevent the Equity funds from meeting the obligation deadline. The redistribution will allow the funds to instead be used for design work on the Gold Line project. This has been confirmed to meet all requirements related to Equity Formula funding.

Funds redistributed to *Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance* will be directed to projects at facilities with the highest need, with the scope updated to include the Smokey Point Transit Center, Kasch Park Operations and Maintenance Campus, and bus stop repairs in Marysville. CT now has firmer plans for the facility rehabilitation locations and has determined that the total estimated project cost will remain the same.

Additionally, CT will be requesting an extension for \$8,000,000 in 2026 CMAQ funds awarded to *Swift BRT Gold Line* and a scope change from the purchase of zero emission buses to hybrid buses. The agency has been able to proceed with the purchase of 10 zero emission buses funded by PSRC in other projects. However, manufacturers have expressed uncertainty regarding future zero emission bus availability and timelines—particularly for the 60-foot articulated buses required for the Gold Line’s 15-mile route. These requests will be processed through PSRC’s annual extension process, which is currently underway. Extension recommendations will be brought to the April board meetings for review and approval.

The redistributions described above were found to be consistent with PSRC’s project tracking policies and were reviewed and recommended by the Transportation Operations Committee at their meeting on January 28, 2026.

### **Federal and State Fund Source Descriptions**

The following federal and state funding sources are referenced in Exhibit A.

5307 (Urban)	FTA Urbanized Area Formula Grants
5339	FTA Bus and Bus Facilities program
5339(C)	FTA Low or No-Emission Vehicle Program
Demonstration	Federal Congressionally Directed Spending Earmarks
MAW	State Move Ahead Washington Account
NHPP	National Highway Performance Program
PFG	FTA Passenger Ferry Grant Program

For additional information, please contact Jennifer Barnes, Program Manager, at [jbarnes@psrc.org](mailto:jbarnes@psrc.org) or 206-389-2876.

### **ATTACHMENT**

- A. Exhibit A - Projects Proposed for Routine Amendment to 2025-2028 TIP

Month: February

## Project(s) Proposed for Routine Amendment to 2025-2028 TIP

Year: 2026

Exhibit A

Sponsor	Project Title and Work Description	Funding		PSRC Action Needed			
				Project Tracking	New Project/ Phase	UPWP Other	Amend
1. Community Transit	<b>Swift BRT Gold Line</b> Existing project receiving redistributed funds for Bus Rapid Transit providing fast, frequent service between Everett Station, Marysville, and Arlington's Smokey Point Transit Center.	\$11,652,669	Federal 5307(Urban)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$2,000,000	State				
		\$400,946	Local				
		\$14,053,615	Total				
2. Community Transit	<b>Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance</b> Existing project receiving redistributed funds for rehabilitation, renovation, and maintenance of transit facilities, including at Hardeson base building in Everett and Smokey Point Transit Center in Arlington, and bus stop repairs in Marysville.	\$8,053,615	Federal 5307(Urban)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$318,315	Federal 5339				
		\$8,371,930	Total				
3. King County Parks Department	<b>Eastrail Corridor South</b> New project programming a preliminary engineering phase for a paved regional trail between Gene Coulon Park and Lake Washington Boulevard N, from Burnett Avenue N to Houser Way N.	\$200,000	MAW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$4,020,800	Local				
		\$4,220,800	Total				
4. Kitsap Transit	<b>KT Fast Ferry Passenger-Only Vessel Replacement</b> New project programming a construction phase for replacement of the MV Finest with a modern, high-speed, high-capacity passenger-only ferry for the Kingston-Seattle route.	\$13,500,000	Federal PFG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$4,031,963	Local				
		\$17,531,963	Total				
5. Mukilteo	<b>5th Street Preservation and Bicycle &amp; Pedestrian Project</b> New project programming preliminary engineering, right-of-way, and construction phases for a grind and overlay of the roadway, a new separated shared use path, RRFBs, drainage, and lighting.	\$5,020,000	Federal NHPP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$1,264,000	Local				
		\$6,284,000	Total				

Sponsor	Project Title and Work Description	Funding		PSRC Action Needed			
				Project Tracking	New Project/Phase	UPWP Other	Amend
6. Pierce County	<b>168th Street E</b> Existing project programming a new construction phase for bike lanes, sidewalk, bicycle and pedestrian crossing treatments, curb and gutter improvements, and illumination between SR 7 and B Street E with on-street parking on the north side of the street.	\$2,218,984	Federal Demonstration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$346,316	Local				
		\$2,565,300	Total				
7. Pierce Transit	<b>CNG Bus Replacement and Workforce Development Training</b> New project programming an other phase for replacement of six diesel hybrid buses with six new compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and related workforce development training in CNG engine systems.	\$6,704,879	Federal 5339(c)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$1,185,766	Local				
		\$7,890,645	Total				
8. WSDOT Northwest Region	<b>SR 518/Gilliam Creek Fish Passage (Phase 1)</b> New project programming preliminary engineering and construction phases for removal of existing fish passage barriers and replacement with a fish passable structure. This is a multiyear project and the programming reflects the funds available within the span of the regional TIP.	\$26,246,000	MAW	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$26,246,000	Total				
9. WSDOT Olympic Region	<b>SR 16/Goodnough Creeks &amp; McCormick Creeks - Remove Fish Barriers</b> Existing project programming right-of-way and construction phases for removal of existing fish passage barriers and replacement with a fish passable structure. This is a multiyear project and the programming reflects the funds available within the span of the regional TIP.	\$9,749,440	Federal NHPP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
		\$217,874	MAW				
		\$9,967,314	Total				



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### CONSENT AGENDA

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Councilmember Ed Prince, Chair, Growth Management Policy Board  
Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair, Transportation Policy Board

**Subject:** **Approve Certification of Comprehensive Plan for Des Moines**

### IN BRIEF

The Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board recommend that the Executive Board certify the 2024 comprehensive plan update for Des Moines. The certification report describes how the comprehensive plan meets applicable requirements.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

**The Executive Board should certify that the transportation-related provisions in the following conform to the Growth Management Act and are consistent with the multicounty planning policies and the Regional Transportation Plan:**

- [City of Des Moines 2024 Comprehensive Plan](#)

The draft certification report is available at the link provided for the board's review.

### DISCUSSION

A major emphasis of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) is the need to coordinate local, regional and state planning efforts. Within the central Puget Sound region, local governments and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) have worked together to develop an overall process for reviewing local, countywide, regional and transit agency policies and plans for compatibility and consistency.

Consistent with [PSRC's plan review process](#), PSRC staff provided comments on the draft plan and now recommends certification of the following adopted comprehensive

plan:

- **Des Moines** adopted its 2024 comprehensive plan update on September 25, 2025. PSRC staff provided comments on the draft plan in May and July 2025.

The comprehensive plan was reviewed in accordance with the adopted plan review process using PSRC's [Plan Review Manual](#) and [VISION 2050 consistency tool](#). The plan was found to be substantially consistent with VISION 2050 (the multicounty planning policies) and the Regional Transportation Plan and to conform to transportation planning requirements in the Growth Management Act. PSRC staff coordinated with jurisdictional staff in the review of the plan and the development of the certification report.

The adopted plan review process calls for the Executive Board to take certification action on comprehensive plans on recommendation from the Growth Management and Transportation Policy Boards. Options for Executive Board action are to:

- Certify that the plan is consistent with multicounty planning policies and the Regional Transportation Plan and conforms to Growth Management Act requirements for transportation planning, or
- Conditionally certify that the plan addresses most provisions of regional plans and policies and the Growth Management Act, with a requirement that a limited set of outstanding issues be addressed prior to full certification, or
- Do not certify.

Based on previous board direction, jurisdictions with plans that are certified or conditionally certified are then eligible to apply for PSRC funding or proceed with any project submitted into the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

## NEXT STEPS

The Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board acted to recommend certification at their January and February meetings. Additional local plans will be brought forward to recommend for certification at future meetings.

For additional information, please contact Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, at [pinghram@psrc.org](mailto:pinghram@psrc.org) or Liz Underwood Bultmann, Principal Planner, at [lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org](mailto:lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org).



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### CONSENT AGENDA

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair, Transportation Policy Board

**Subject:** **Approve Project Tracking Policies: Proposed Revisions**

### IN BRIEF

PSRC's [Project Tracking Policies](#) are designed to ensure the timely use of PSRC's federal funds and to increase the delivery of transportation investments that support the region's long-range plans. Among other things, the policies address the required annual delivery target of PSRC's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds. Each year, a rebalancing process is conducted to address any gaps in delivery, following a specific set of procedures identified in the project tracking policies.

PSRC's Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) has recommended revisions to two specific project tracking policies. The Transportation Policy Board was briefed by staff on the preliminary RPEC discussions at its January meeting and the final RPEC recommendations were presented in February. At its meeting on February 12, the Transportation Policy Board recommended approval of the updates to the Project Tracking Policies for PSRC's Federal Funds.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Executive Board should approve of the following updates to the *Project Tracking Policies for PSRC's Federal Funds*:

- Increase the limit for administrative transfer of FHWA funds between phases from \$50,000 to \$100,000.
- In PSRC's rebalancing process to address gaps in the region's annual delivery target for FHWA funds, allow cost estimate increases to be eligible for consideration of increased federal shares. The additional funds, over and above the standard procedures for increased federal shares, will be capped up to a limit of 20% over the phase cost estimate at the time of

award, or \$750,000, whichever is smaller. These limits will be reviewed again after two years of implementation.

## **DISCUSSION**

PSRC's project tracking program was first implemented in 2000 to monitor delivery of projects awarded PSRC's federal funds and has evolved over time to reflect new and emerging circumstances. The project tracking policies have been revised over the years to ensure the successful delivery of projects by addressing issues caused by project delays and the potential risk of losing unused funding, but are balanced with the recognition that unexpected project issues can occur that call for some flexibility in the policies.

In September, RPEC began a review and discussion of potential revisions to two project tracking policies. The committee's discussion and final recommendations for updates to these two policies are summarized below.

### **Administrative Transfer of PSRC Funds Between Phases**

While PSRC's FHWA funding awards are granted competitively to specific phases of projects, current policies include a provision that allows the administrative transfer of up to \$50,000 between phases within a project to accommodate evolving needs, provided all applicable phases remain fully funded. For the transfer of funds between phases above the \$50,000 threshold, a policy exception is required and must be approved by PSRC's Executive Board. The \$50,000 limit was adopted by the board in 2015.

Through extensive previous deliberations by both RPEC and PSRC's boards, the following parameters guide this policy:

- PSRC funds are awarded by project phase, not to the entire project.
- If a project is unable to utilize awarded funds for the requested purpose, unspent funds should go to the next eligible project on the adopted contingency list.
- The policy also acknowledges the benefit of some limited flexibility to accommodate minor changes in project conditions.
- The limit for administrative transfer is based on an amount determined reasonable for a potential new funding award.
- Administrative transfer up to the established limit is allowed, providing all phases remain fully funded.

RPEC recommends that the limit for administrative transfer between phases of a project be increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The basis for the revision is acknowledgement that project costs have increased substantially since the limit was previously set in 2015. Additionally, data shows that funding requests below \$100,000 do occur but they are less common; as such, \$100,000 is determined to be a reasonable amount for a potential new

funding award. Consistent with the existing policy, all applicable phases must remain fully funded, and requests for transfer of funds greater than \$100,000 would be a policy exception and require board approval.

### **Allowable Cost Estimate Increases for Increased Federal Shares**

The adopted project tracking policies include a rebalancing process to address any gaps to meeting the region's annual delivery target for FHWA funds. One key component of these procedures is to increase the amount of the federal award to projects awarded PSRC's FHWA funds in the current year. This strategy is referred to as increasing the project's "federal share," which has a ceiling of 86.5% of the total cost of the awarded phase.

Once a delivery gap amount is determined, an equal amount of funds is applied to all eligible projects up to this overall amount needed to fill the gap. Once a project phase reaches its maximum allowable federal share, any remaining funds still required to fill the gap are uniformly distributed to other projects that still have capacity to accept additional federal funds. The additional federal funds are exchanged with an equal amount of existing local and/or state funds in the project phase.

Under current policies, only the phase cost provided at the time of award is considered when evaluating a project's capacity to receive an increase to its federal share. If the cost estimate at the time of delivery is higher than initially submitted, that is not currently factored in a project's capacity to receive additional funds.

The following parameters guide this policy:

- Over many previous deliberations, PSRC's boards and RPEC have to date been firm that cost overruns are the responsibility of the sponsor.
- PSRC staff does not have the time or expertise needed to review or vet project cost estimates that are provided with funding applications, and as such, cost estimates are accepted as submitted by the project sponsor. However, it is expected that cost estimates are based upon best available information and technical understanding of the project scope elements and site characteristics, and include an appropriate contingency factor to cover potential risks and uncertainties.

Feedback from RPEC acknowledged that initial planning-level cost estimates should be carefully developed by project sponsors, but that unanticipated cost increases can still occur. This may sometimes be due to inflation that has exceeded historical trends, or scope elements that evolve as a project's design progresses. There was a suggestion that concerns could be balanced by placing a limit on the amount of a phase cost increase that could potentially be covered by increased federal shares. Additionally, while requiring, for example, a stamped, signed engineer's cost estimate may not always be feasible at the time of initial funding request, it is something that can reasonably be expected as a sponsor is preparing to obligate a project's federal funds in a construction phase.

For policy consistency and fairness to all jurisdictions, the following parameters were identified as necessary for a cost estimate increase to be considered for award of increased federal shares:

- Only projects with delivery in the current fiscal year would be considered. To be included in the current year's annual FHWA rebalancing process, the updated cost will need to be submitted to PSRC no later than February 15.
- An updated construction cost estimate submitted for consideration will need to be stamped and signed by a licensed engineer. For other phases, appropriate documentation specific to the details of the phase cost—e.g., a letter signed by a licensed engineer, right-of-way plan or other relevant document—will be required. The reason for the cost estimate increase must also be provided.
- The cost increase will only be considered as applied to the scope of work as awarded; added scope elements are not eligible for supplemental award.
- As it is tied to each year's potential delivery gap and the annual rebalancing process, there is no guarantee of the availability or amount of additional funding award. As such, a cost estimate increase submittal must include financial documentation showing sufficient local funds to cover the full amount of the cost increase are either secured or can be reasonably expected (per standard programming rules).

RPEC recommends that increased phase cost estimates be eligible for consideration of increased federal shares, within the parameters outlined above but within the following limits: any additional funds awarded, over and above the standard procedures for increased federal shares, will be capped up to a limit of 20% over the cost estimate at the time of award, or \$750,000, whichever is smaller. The committee determined that this would accommodate unanticipated project cost increases within a reasonable limit consistent within typical cost estimate contingency assumptions. The committee also recommends that this limit be reviewed after two years of implementation to determine if additional adjustments are warranted.

The Transportation Policy Board recommended approval of these revisions to the project tracking policies at their February 12 meeting. If approved by the Executive Board, consideration of increased phase cost estimates will be included in this year's rebalancing process for FHWA funds.

For more information, please contact Jennifer Barnes at [jbarnes@psrc.org](mailto:jbarnes@psrc.org) or (206) 389-2876.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

February 19, 2026

**To:** Executive Board  
**From:** Josh Brown, Executive Director  
**Subject:** **Federal Legislative Update**

### **IN BRIEF**

PSRC's federal consultants, Leslie Pollner, Managing Director, and Lisa Barkovic, Senior Policy Advisor, from Manatt will provide a timely update on recent federal budget and policy developments and implications for local governments.

### **DISCUSSION**

PSRC began working with a federal consultant in December 2022. In October of 2025, Leslie Pollner transitioned to a new Washington, D.C. law firm, Manatt. Given that Ms. Pollner was the primary PSRC consultant and represented the agency well, we moved to her new firm. Lisa Barkovic also made the transition to Manatt and began working with PSRC in the fall of 2025.

Manatt is a bi-partisan firm and provides PSRC with advice, expert information and relationship building support on federal affairs, legislation and programs. The law firm has expertise and capacity to provide in-depth analysis of federal legislation and provide updates on federal programs and funding, adding capacity for PSRC staff. Manatt also facilitates deepened relationship building with federal agency staff and members of PSRC's federal congressional delegation and staff. PSRC staff meet with Manatt weekly and contemporaneous updates are provided on breaking developments to remain current on what is happening in Washington, DC.

Ms. Pollner will be presenting in person, and Ms. Barkovic will be presenting virtually.

### **Biographies**

[Leslie Pollner, Managing Director](#)

Leslie Pollner is a managing director in Manatt's Government Advocacy & Contracting practice in Washington, D.C., leveraging her federal, state and local government experience to help public and private-sector clients develop innovative solutions and advocacy strategies to reach their goals. Her practice spans transportation and infrastructure, water, energy and environment, housing, community and economic development, public safety and homeland security, technology and innovation, workforce development, public health and human services, education, and tax and local finance.

Previously, Leslie served as senior policy advisor and co-leader of the Local Government Advocacy team at a global law firm. She was also deputy mayor for federal affairs in Los Angeles under Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, where she led the city's Washington, D.C. office, directed federal advocacy initiatives and oversaw lobbying efforts for the Los Angeles port, airport and public utilities commissions. During Mayor Villaraigosa's presidency of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Leslie acted as the city's principal liaison, collaborating with mayors nationwide on priority issues. Earlier in her career, Leslie was chief of staff to U.S. Representatives Suzanne Kosmas and Tim Mahoney. In addition, she has held senior roles in public affairs consulting and crisis communications, advising Fortune 500 companies and shaping communications strategies for national organizations.

#### Lisa Barkovic, Senior Legislative Advisor

Lisa Barkovic is a senior legislative advisor in Manatt's Government and Regulatory practice. Leveraging her unique experience in federal appropriations, transportation, housing, economic development, environment, and public safety, Lisa helps clients across all levels of government develop innovative and tailored advocacy strategies to advance their goals in Washington.

Her practice centers on guiding local governments, public safety agencies and private organizations through evolving state and federal regulations on disaster response, drawing on her extensive background with FEMA-related legislation and local law enforcement coordination. Lisa also advises clients on public transportation policy, with a focus on both formula and discretionary grant programs, surface transportation reauthorization and emerging tech issues, such as shared autonomous mobility. Before joining Manatt, Lisa spent more than 20 years as a senior policy and public affairs advisor at a global law firm, where she counseled clients on public policy, regulatory compliance, transportation and infrastructure initiatives, and federal budget and appropriations. She also served in the office of former Congressman Mark Foley, where she contributed to drafting legislation and appropriations requests, developed legislative strategies and acted as the primary liaison to the Congressional Travel & Tourism Caucus.

For additional information, please contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at [rkoskey@psrc.org](mailto:rkoskey@psrc.org) or 206-798-4462.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

**To:** Executive Board  
**From:** Josh Brown, Executive Director  
**Subject:** Regional Centers Redesignation and Monitoring

### **IN BRIEF**

The Executive Board will hear an update on the process to redesignate regional centers as called for by the [Regional Centers Framework](#). The board will consider a recommendation from the Growth Management Policy Board at an upcoming meeting.

### **DISCUSSION**

Centers are the hallmark of [VISION 2050](#) and the Regional Growth Strategy. The region's 30 regional growth centers and 10 manufacturing/industrial centers are hubs for the region's most significant businesses, major cultural facilities and transportation connections. They guide regional growth allocations, advance local planning, inform transit service planning and represent priority areas for PSRC's federal transportation funding.

In 2018, following extensive review by the Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB), the Executive Board adopted the [Regional Centers Framework](#), which defines standards for the designation of regional and countywide centers. The Regional Centers Framework directed review of centers in 2025 and every five years thereafter. At the first review in 2025, existing regional centers are expected to fully meet eligibility and designation criteria.

### **Regional Center Redesignation Review**

Over time, regional centers have been designated through different processes, and some existing centers are not meeting planning or growth expectations today.

Recognizing the variation among centers, a key objective of the Regional Centers Framework is to have more consistent requirements between new and existing centers. However, the [Regional Centers System Monitoring Report](#) found that several existing regional centers continue to not fully meet the designation criteria. Some are not growing, don't meet density expectations or lack regional transit connections. Others lack detailed and up-to-date local planning.

GMPB has discussed the redesignation process since summer 2025, focusing on how to address centers that do not fully meet the criteria. Recognizing that planning for a center is an ongoing process, the board discussed providing flexibility for completing required subarea plans, especially considering the demands of recent state-level planning mandates. The board also discussed the need to balance expectations between rapidly growing centers and incentivizing growth for centers that are growing slowly. The board discussed the importance of walkable centers to successfully attract growth and development, while recognizing that the location of some transit investments may warrant exceptions to maximum size criteria.

### **Criteria and Certification Reports**

Staff prepared draft criteria and certification reports that provide a brief summary of each center and its subarea plan. Information and analysis of the centers are presented through two key reporting tools:

- **Criteria reports** provide a preliminary recommendation on redesignation, along with any conditions or comments. The reports provide a general overview of the regional center and summarize how each center meets designation criteria. Reports also include any additional context or supporting information provided by the jurisdiction following meetings with PSRC staff.
- **Certification reports** evaluate the most recent center subarea plans and assess alignment with the VISION 2050 consistency tools for [manufacturing/industrial center](#) and [regional growth center](#) plans.

Many centers are performing well and meet most of the criteria. PSRC staff have met with jurisdictions to review draft reports, discuss successes and barriers to development and upcoming local work. Reports with recommended conditions reflect discussions with jurisdiction staff on work due by a specified date or other comments for future implementation.

GMPB will have the option to make a recommendation to the Executive Board to redesignate regional growth centers at its February 2026 meeting or consider a recommendation at a future meeting. All draft criteria and certification reports provided to GMPB are available in the [February GMPB meeting packet](#).

The Executive Board will hear an update on GMPB discussions and actions, and the

Executive Board will have an opportunity to ask questions to prepare for final action in March or at a future meeting.

The complete set of redesignation recommendations shows that regional growth centers are meeting the majority of the regional criteria. Redesignations with conditions provide a collaborative path to complete remaining work within a specified timeframe.

Preliminary recommendations include conditions for some centers based on several common themes:

- Re-review some centers in 2028 for progress on planning and growth goals
- Establish a 2028 deadline for some centers to meet regional criteria or apply for countywide designation
- Direction to complete or revise subarea plans
- Review some boundaries for size or walkability
- Review or revise growth targets for some centers

Review of manufacturing/industrial centers will follow in subsequent months. Per the [scope of work](#) for this monitoring process, PSRC boards and committees will consider potential updates to the Regional Centers Framework later in 2026.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The Executive Board will consider a recommendation for regional growth center redesignation following GMPB action. The Executive Board will also consider redesignation of manufacturing/industrial centers at a future meeting.

For additional information, please contact Liz Underwood Bultmann, Principal Planner, [lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org](mailto:lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org) or Nancy Ferber, Senior Planner, [nferber@psrc.org](mailto:nferber@psrc.org).



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Josh Brown, Executive Director

**Subject:** **Regional Transportation Plan Preliminary Public Comments**

### **IN BRIEF**

The public comment period for the draft Regional Transportation Plan concluded on February 2, 2026. At the February Executive Board meeting, staff will provide a preliminary overview of the comments received, including the number and type of commenters and overall comment themes. More refined details and staff responses to comments will be provided in March for further board discussion.

### **DISCUSSION**

The draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was made available for public review and comment between December 15, 2025 and February 2, 2026. As a reminder, Attachment A is a brief summary of the work conducted to develop the draft plan prior to its release for public comment. Staff has begun the process to review and categorize all comments received, which will be organized in a summary matrix and posted on PSRC's [RTP Engagement Hub](#) when complete.

At the meeting on February 26, staff will provide a preliminary overview of the public comments received and discuss next steps for board review and action. To facilitate this review, staff will be categorizing the comments across specific plan topics as well as by three comment types: no action taken, technical corrections and clarifications, or comments for board review. Staff will also be working to provide draft responses to each comment.

This information will be provided in a complete report that will be posted to the website prior to the March board meeting. At the March meeting, staff will review this information

for more detailed board review and discussion of the comments received and corresponding draft staff responses.

In addition to any public comment proposals that will be brought for board review, Transportation Policy Board members will be asked to submit any additional proposed plan amendments to PSRC prior to the March 12 Transportation Policy Board meeting. Notification will be sent to members once the comments report is published. Staff will compile all proposed amendments and forward them to the board prior to the meeting.

The board will review proposed edits or amendments to the draft plan at their meetings on March 12 and April 9, when a recommendation to the Executive Board to adopt the final RTP is scheduled. Formal action on individual amendments or combined categories of actions will be processed via Transportation Policy Board member motions. The Executive Board is scheduled to take action at their April 28 meeting to recommend that the General Assembly adopt the final RTP at their meeting on May 28, 2026.

For more information, please contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at 206-971-3286 or [bbakkenta@psrc.org](mailto:bbakkenta@psrc.org), or Noah Boggess at [nboggess@psrc.org](mailto:nboggess@psrc.org) or 206-464-6170.

## **ATTACHMENT**

### A. Summary of RTP Development

## SUMMARY OF RTP DEVELOPMENT

Work to develop the 2026-2050 Regional Transportation Plan began in February 2024.

PSRC's Transportation Policy and Executive Boards identified key priorities guiding development of the plan, including:

- Safety
- Climate
- Equity
- Transit & Accessibility
- Recognize Diverse Needs and Community Context
- Maintenance & Preservation
- Decarbonize the System
- Financial Strategy
- Ferry System Service & Reliability

Data collection on the current transportation system was conducted throughout 2024 and the board began detailed discussions on the plan's potential financial strategy. A scope of work reflecting current policy priorities was adopted in December 2024.

## NEW FEATURES AND EXPANDED OUTREACH

- ✓ Reflecting a unique moment in time, the investments submitted into the draft plan are based on *newly updated comprehensive plans, current transit plans and a new State Highway System Plan*, reflecting the most current assessment of transportation needs and costs moving forward.
- ✓ The *plan consistency framework* addressed by each Regional Capacity Project submitted into the plan was updated to reflect current state of the practice.
- ✓ The board spent many months throughout both 2024 and 2025 discussing and reassessing the plan's *financial strategy*, including how and at what level new revenues should be considered.
- ✓ As part of that reassessment, the board directed analysis of *four plan scenarios* representing different levels of investment and different levels of needed revenues.
- ✓ Extensive *public outreach and engagement* was conducted throughout the process, including community tabling events, seven regional public meetings and an online survey and feedback opportunity via the [RTP Engagement Hub](#).
  - ❖ *Public feedback informed the ultimate plan scenario selected to move forward into the draft plan.*
  - ❖ Materials were made available on the Hub throughout the process, including new *Current Transportation System* and *Future Transportation System* reports and visualization tools
- ✓ The new *Regional Safety Action Plan* adopted in May 2025 and the new *Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan* completed in November 2025 informed and are incorporated into the new RTP.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 19, 2026

### INFORMATION ITEM

**To:** Executive Board  
**From:** Josh Brown, Executive Director  
**Subject:** **New Employee Status Report**

PSRC has three new employees:

**James Kolberg** – Principal Modeler, Data

**June Quick** – Assistant Planner, Transportation Planning

**Richard Boyechko** – Communications Intern, Govt. Relations and Communications

For more information, please contact Thu Le, HR Manager, at [tle@psrc.org](mailto:tle@psrc.org) or 206-464-6175.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

February 26, 2026

### INFORMATION ITEM

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Josh Brown, Executive Director

**Subject:** **Fiscal Year 2025 Audit Results for the Puget Sound Regional Council and the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District**

### IN BRIEF

On February 18, 2026, the State Auditor's Office (SAO) held their annual exit conference via Teams. At the exit conference, the SAO presented the results of their audit of both PSRC and CPSEDD. Staff expect that the final audit report for both PSRC and CPSEDD will reflect clean audits with no findings, management letters or exit items to report.

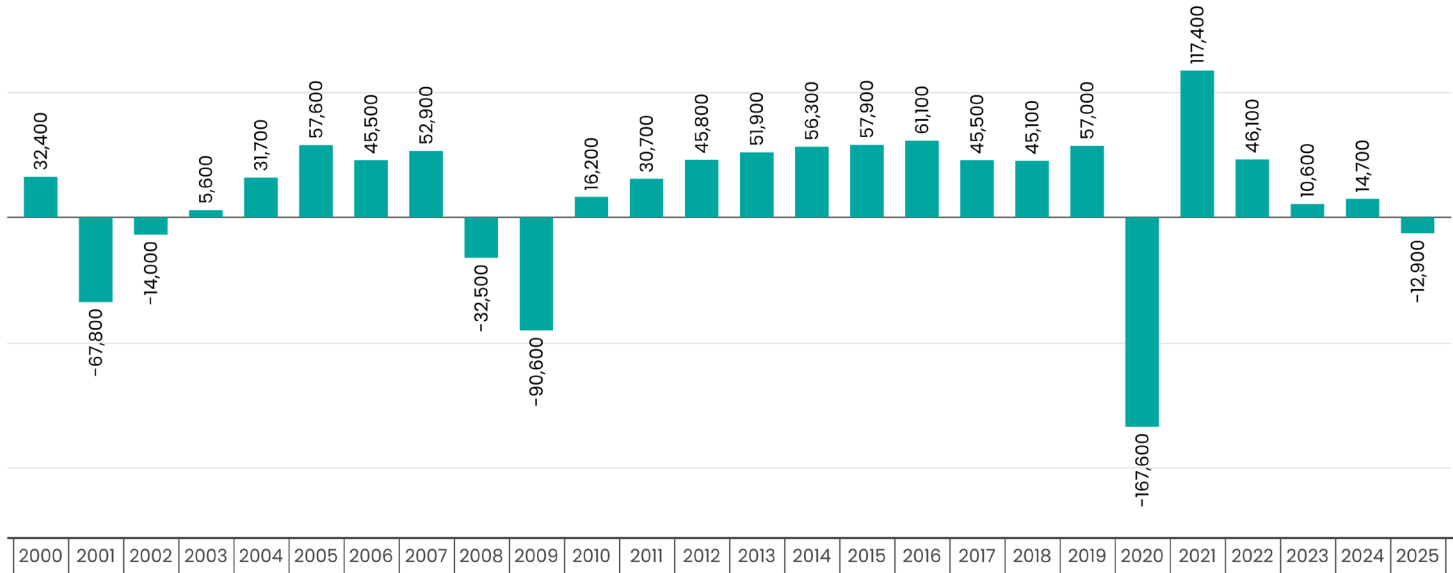
Audit reports, including financials, will be available for review the week of February 23, 2026 on the SAO website at: [www.sao.wa.gov](http://www.sao.wa.gov).

For more information, please contact Lili Mayer at (206) 971-3268 or [LMayer@psrc.org](mailto:LMayer@psrc.org).



# Economic Update: Puget Sound Region Loses 12,900 jobs in 2025

## Job Change: Year Over Year



Source: Washington State Employment Security Department

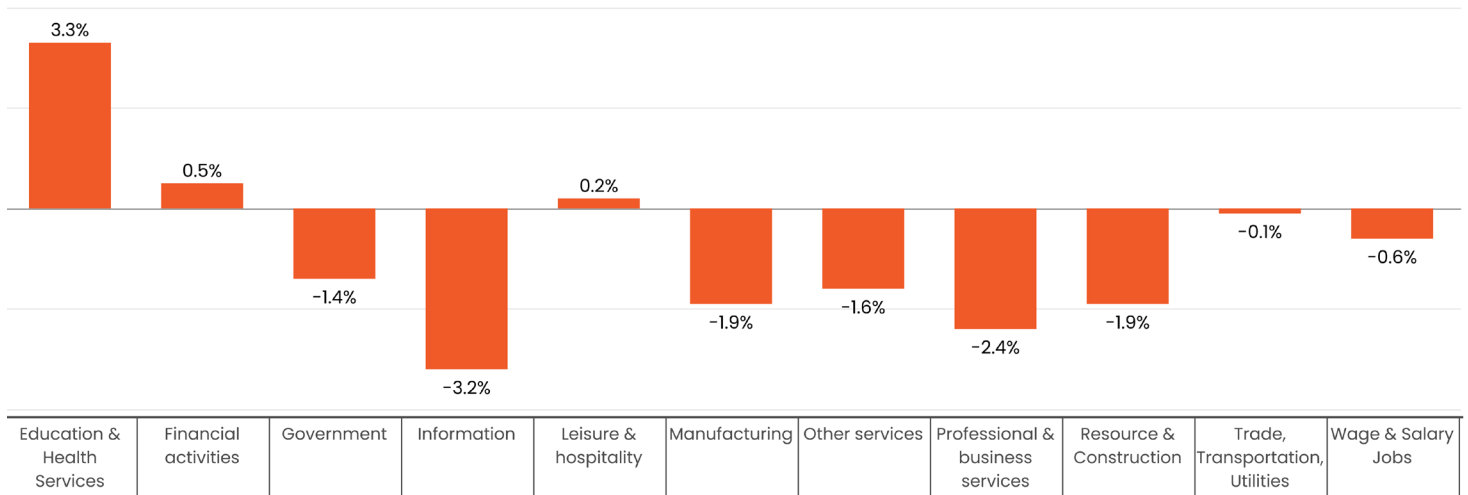
Jobs data reported for King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties

In 2025, the central Puget Sound region lost 12,900 jobs. If you exclude the anomaly of the COVID-19 pandemic, this is the first time the region has experienced an annual decrease of jobs since 2009, during the depths of the Great Recession.

The loss of 12,900 jobs in 2025 comes on the heels of slowing regional job growth in 2023 (10,600 jobs added) and 2024 (14,700 jobs added).

Historically, jobs in the Puget Sound region have grown by between 30,000-40,000 jobs per year. Employment growth during the Amazon boom was significantly higher, peaking at 61,100 jobs added in 2016.

## % Change in jobs by Sector, 2025/24



Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

The sectors hit hardest by losses are construction and service industry jobs, which includes tech. Job growth continued in the health care sector. Monthly job data disaggregated by individual industry is not available.

### Regional Economic Strategy

PSRC is working with partners to craft a new Regional Economic Strategy that will align regional efforts to boost economic growth. Regional leaders are exploring strategies to support job growth as part of the plan. The plan will be adopted in December 2026 and focus on expanding economic opportunity, business climate, global competition and quality of life.

### About PSRC

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC)—the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the greater Seattle area—coordinates strategic decisions among local governments to shape the region’s future. Representing nearly 100 members, including four counties (King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap), cities and towns, ports, Tribal governments and state and local transportation agencies, PSRC plays a central role in guiding regional transportation, economic development and growth.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Robin Koskey**

Director of Government Relations & Communications  
 Rkoskey@psrc.org | 206-798-4462



# Summer Planning Academy (SPA) for High School Students

Are you curious about how cities grow, change, and develop? Have you ever wondered how governments decide where train lines should go? Do you have ideas about how to make our communities better places for everyone? If so, you should apply for the Summer Planning Academy (SPA)!



Puget Sound Regional Council



The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) is looking for high school students from King, Snohomish, Pierce, and Kitsap counties who want to learn about urban planning in our region and share ideas about how to make the central Puget Sound region a better place to live, work, and play.

SPA is a leadership development opportunity offered free of charge to students interested in planning a better future for our region. The program encourages students to think creatively about how better planning can help people lead better lives.

Upon successful completion of SPA, students are eligible to receive a **\$500** scholarship. SPA sessions will take place in Downtown Seattle on July 29, 31, August 5, and 7.

To learn more about PSRC, SPA, and to apply, go to [www.psrc.org/our-work/summer-planning-academy](http://www.psrc.org/our-work/summer-planning-academy) or scan the QR code.

Questions? Email us at [spa@psrc.org](mailto:spa@psrc.org).



# VISION 2050 AWARDS

## Call for Nominations 2026

The Puget Sound Regional Council is seeking nominations for the VISION 2050 Awards Program through **March 27, 2026**.

The VISION 2050 Awards celebrate progress to enhance the region's communities and natural environment while advancing equity and opportunity for all. The awards recognize innovative work to create a better future for central Puget Sound.

### Eligibility

PSRC will only be accepting nominations directly from its [membership](#). Others seeking to nominate projects can do so through the member jurisdiction in which the project is located. PSRC will help connect potential nominees with local governments to help with the nomination process. Please contact [Michele Leslie](#) with questions.

Nominations must be for projects, programs, plans or partnerships within the four-county region of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties that help achieve VISION 2050. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at [psrc.org/vision](http://psrc.org/vision).

All nominated projects must be completed and open, plans must be adopted by their jurisdictions, programs must be in operation and partnerships must be formally working together.

### Submit a Nomination!

Nominations must be submitted online through the [VISION 2050 Awards Nomination Form](#)

Learn more at: [www.psrc.org](http://www.psrc.org)

Scan the code for  
the nomination form



### The region's VISION for 2050

is to provide exceptional quality of life, opportunity for all, connected communities, a spectacular natural environment, and an innovative, thriving economy. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at [www.psrc.org](http://www.psrc.org)



# Joint Board Session On Addressing Underserved Communities In Our Region

Thursday, April 30  
10:00 AM — 12:00 PM  
Hybrid Meeting

PSRC hosted four joint board sessions focused on underserved communities in 2021 – 2023. A new series is planned, and the first session will revisit the importance of building inclusive and resilient communities with opportunity for all in the Puget Sound region. Designed for both new and returning board members and their staff, the session will provide a timely refresher to support the development of effective strategies for today’s political climate. All PSRC board members are highly encouraged to attend.

RSVP information coming soon.



# 2026 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Save the Date



Thursday, May 28, 2026

10:00 a.m. — 1:00 p.m.

Seattle Convention  
Center – Summit  
900 Pine St,  
Seattle, WA 98101

This annual meeting is a key opportunity for members to vote on major decisions, including the adoption of PSRC’s budget and the election of officers. **All mayors, county executives, commissioners, and councilmembers from PSRC member jurisdictions and tribes are eligible to vote** and are strongly encouraged to attend. We ask that at least one elected official from your jurisdiction participate to help establish a quorum.

**We look forward to gathering with you—please save the date!**

**Registration will open in early April.**



Puget Sound Regional Council



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### INFORMATION ITEM

January 19, 2025

**To:** Executive Board

**From:** Josh Brown, Executive Director

**Subject: 2026 Executive Board and Operations Committee Meeting Schedule**

The Executive Board and Operations Committee meet on the **fourth Thursday of every month**. Unless noted, the Operations Committee meetings are held from 9:00 to 9:50 a.m. and the Executive Board from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Members will be notified if a meeting is changed or canceled.

January 22

February 26

March 26

April 23

May 28 – Annual General Assembly, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Seattle Convention Center

June 25

July 23

August – No meeting

September 24

October 22

November – No meeting

December 3 – Early meeting date

Questions can be directed to Sheila Rogers at (206) 464-5815 or [srogers@psrc.org](mailto:srogers@psrc.org). For additional board information, visit PSRC's website at <https://www.psrc.org/calendar>.