

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Seattle, with a dense forest in the foreground and a large, snow-capped mountain (Mount Rainier) in the background under a clear blue sky. The city skyline is visible in the middle ground, surrounded by greenery.

2026 Project Tracking & Delivery Project Extensions & Exceptions

Transportation Policy Board
April 9, 2026



Puget Sound Regional Council

Today's Presentation



- Overview of Project Tracking Program
- 2026 Project Extensions
 - Project Tracking Action Request #1: Recommendation for one-year extension requests
- 2026 Exception Requests
 - Project Tracking Action Request #2: Recommend approval of three requests for an exception to PSRC project tracking policies



Overview & Background

Project Tracking Program and Policies:

- In place since 2003
- Goal = efficient and timely project delivery, minimize cost of delays, preserve federal funds coming to the region

Policies updated over time

- Current policies address annual delivery target for FHWA funds
 - *Must be met or loss of unused funds*
- Policies set firm obligation deadlines but allow opportunity for one extension, exceptions



What adds to the delivery gap?

- Federal programming shortfall
- Extensions
 - Approved 1-year extension moves project delivery to following year but funds still must be delivered in current year
 - PSRC policy allows one extension per project phase, but exceptions occasionally requested
- Returns and de-obligations



Project Extension Policies

Policies allow for a one-time extension of PSRC's June 1 deadline for FHWA funds

- **Short-term extension of 45 days** – these projects will still deliver in the current federal fiscal year
- **Long-term extension of 1 year** – these projects are moved to the next fiscal year, adding to current year delivery gap

Applies only to Right-of-Way and Construction phases



Project Extension Policies

Per adopted policies, extensions will not be granted due to:

- shifting priorities within the agency
- insufficient funding
- lack of certified grant administration status
- work was not begun in a reasonable time to meet the deadline

In general, reasons for delay must be outside the sponsor's control



2026 Project Extension Process

- Extension requests were due to PSRC on February 15
- February/March – requests reviewed for consistency with adopted project tracking policies by PSRC staff, RPEC/Countywide Chairs, and WSDOT
 - Included detailed follow-up with sponsors to address questions and clarify project circumstances
 - Two 1-year extension requests withdrawn – voluntarily returning the funds
- Extension requests with chairs/staff recommendations summarized in Attachment A



2026 Project Extension Requests



- One-year extensions
 - Add to delivery gap
- 45-day extensions
 - Do not add to gap
 - Information only



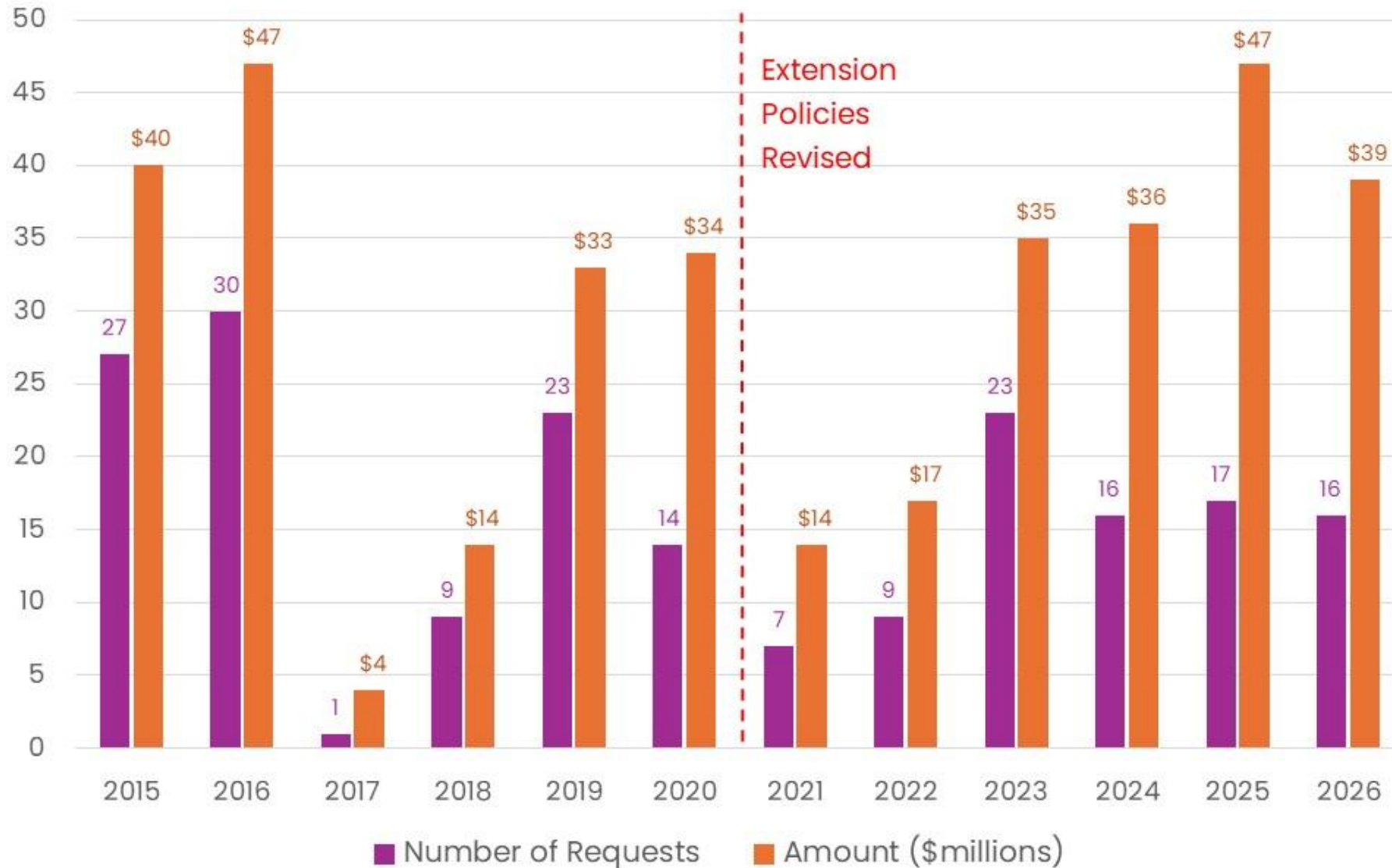
45-Day Extensions



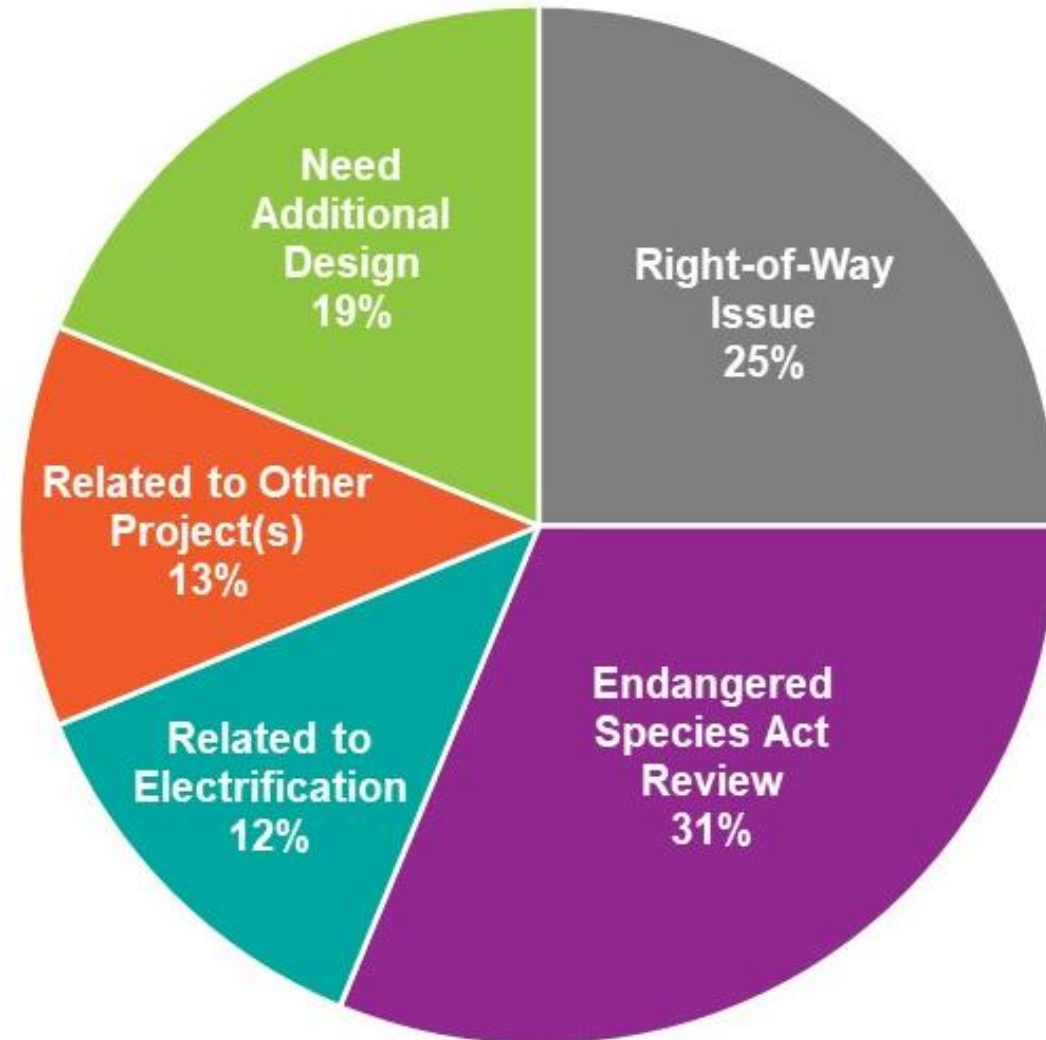
- Project Tracking Policies grant authority to staff to approve administratively, in consultation with the Chairs Group.
- Seven requests for 45-day extensions were approved – summarized as an informational item in Attachment A



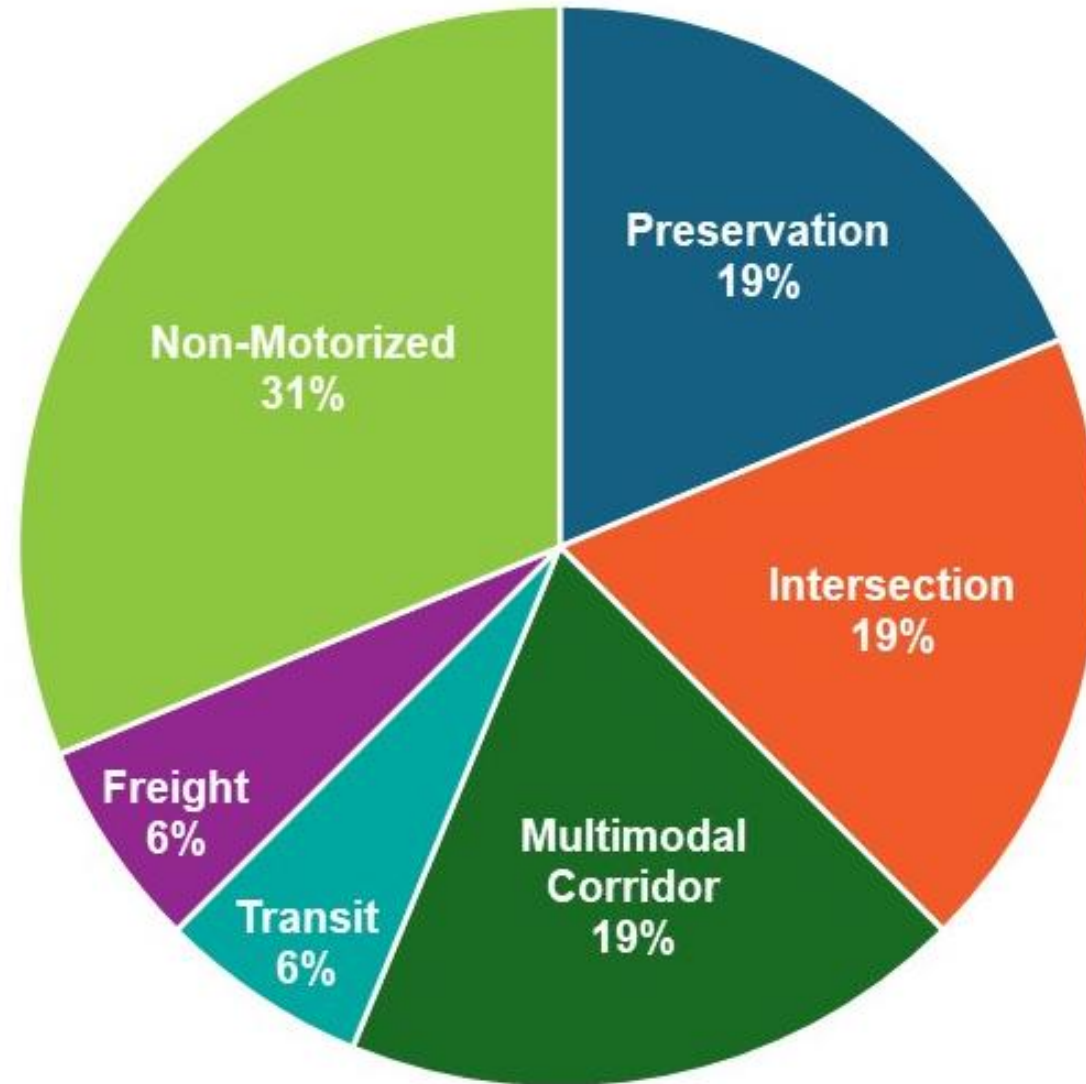
1-Year Project Extension History



2026 One-Year Extension Requests – Reasons for Delay



2026 One-Year Extension Requests– Project Types



Requested Action #1

Recommend the Executive Board approve the 2026 one-year project extension requests as identified in Attachment A



Exceptions to Project Tracking Policies

- Project Tracking Policies include limited provisions to request an exception to the adopted policies
- Evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the board, under certain conditions:
 - There is a compelling need for the exception
 - The project remains fully funded
 - The phase can be implemented within 6 months of board action



Three Requests for Exception to Project Tracking Policies

- Requests for exception from:
 - City of Edmonds – *Hwy 99 Revitalization Project – Stage 4 from 220th to 240th Street SW* – due to ESA consultation timeline
 - Northwest Seaport Alliance – *Zero-Emission Drayage Demonstration Program* – due to emerging administrative uncertainties
 - City of Tacoma – *On Track for the Future: Tacoma Rail Battery Electric Switcher Locomotive Replacement* – due to emerging administrative uncertainties
- All three projects received a 1-year extension in 2025, but are requesting an additional extension beyond June 1, 2026



Review of Exception Requests per Adopted Policies

For all three requests...

- Agencies proceeded in a timely manner and project work was advanced on schedule to meet the original deadline
- Agencies have demonstrated effort to keep the projects moving forward and meet all requirements
- Project phases remain fully funded, and will be able to proceed immediately upon federal approval
- Delay due to emergent issue outside the agencies' control



Recommended Timeline

- Under typical timelines all projects would be on track for implementation within six months of board action
- However, the current uncertainties in federal staffing and rule interpretations were not anticipated at the time that the six-month delivery timeline was established
- For this reason, 12 months of additional extension (to June 1, 2027) is requested
 - Projects would still deliver in FY2027



Requested Action #2

Recommend the Executive Board approve an exception to the adopted project tracking policies for projects identified in Attachment A to allow an additional 12 months beyond the previously granted 1-year extension of their delivery deadline, to June 1, 2027



Thank You!

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Puget Sound Regional Council