Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Project Evaluation Committee

Friday, September 25, 2026, from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Online Meeting Only

Attend Zoom Connection

- Join the meeting at zoom.com
- Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 847 8126 8394 Passcode: 167856

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1. **Welcome and Introductions (9:30)**

2. **Transportation Policy Board Debrief (9:40)**
   Information from the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting is available on the PSRC website.

3. **Discussion Item: Project Tracking and Delivery (9:45)**
   PSRC staff will provide an update on FY26 project delivery including overview of issues that emerged in the latter half of the year that will be more thoroughly explored through agency debriefs and committee discussion at future meetings. Additional project tracking data and considerations will also be highlighted for future discussion of improvements to the overall program and policies.

4. **Discussion Item: 2027 Project Selection Process (10:00)***
   PSRC staff will continue discussions to prepare for the 2027 project selection process. The project evaluation criteria updates discussed at the June and August meetings will continue to be reviewed; examples and guidance are being developed and will be shared for discussion as they become available. Staff will also introduce options for the timing of future processes to resync to the standard 2-year cycle. Refer to the attached memo for additional background.

5. **Other Business (10:55)**

6. **Information Items:**
   a. RPEC At Work – August 28, 2026*

7. **Next Meeting: October 23, 2026, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

8. **Adjourn (11:00)**

***Supporting materials attached**

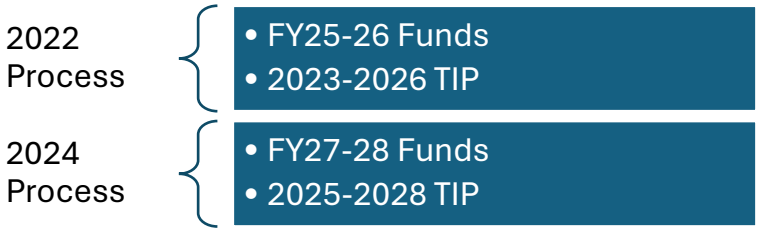
For more information, contact Jennifer Barnes at jbarnes@psrc.com.

Sign language, and communication material in alternative formats, can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling 206-464-7090, TTY Relay 711

العربية| Arabic, 中文 | Chinese, Deutsch | German, Français | French, 한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng việt | Vietnamese, visit https://www.psrc.org/contact/language-assistance.

PREPARING FOR THE 2027 PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Historically, PSRC conducts a competitive project selection process every two years for the distribution of PSRC's federal funds. Funds are programmed in advance and the cycles timed to ensure compliance with federal and state rules for a fully programmed 4-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). For example, the 2024 project selection process distributed FY27-28 funds and led to the development of the 2025-2028 Regional TIP (see illustrative graphic below).



The next project selection process was postponed until 2027, to allow staff time to conduct a review of the process for alignment with current federal and state direction. This work began in early 2026 and included collaboration with PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee (EAC). Staff worked with the EAC over a three-month period and co-created a new Opportunity Index tool. This tool will support the assessment of transportation projects in addressing the needs of underserved communities. In addition, the Regional Transportation Plan was adopted in May 2026 and calls for the Regional Safety Action Plan and the Active Transportation Plan to inform the next project selection process.

The topics identified above were discussed at the June and August RPEC meetings, and additional background information was provided. The draft approach for updates to the project evaluation criteria was reviewed, as described on the following page.

Based on questions received to date, a few **important reminders:**

- The overarching policy framework of support for centers and the corridors that serve them is still the anchor for the project selection process. All of the project evaluation criteria build from this anchor framework, consistent with all previous processes.
- Unless there is further board direction, the criteria and the process are structurally the same as previous processes – the criteria are being refined to address the three topic areas but are not being substantially altered.

The following is a high-level description of how the three areas will inform the project evaluation criteria.

- **Safety** – Among other factors, applicants will describe the safety issue being addressed by the project and identify if the project is located on a facility on the regional, state, or a local high injury network.
- **Active transportation criteria** – Pedestrian and bicycle components are addressed in several ways in the criteria, including mobility and safety. Among other factors, the type of improvement in relation to the speed and volume of the roadway facility per the Pedestrian / Bicycle Facility Typology will be considered, as will a facility's location on a pedestrian / bicycle high injury network.
- **Aligning with current federal guidance** – The Opportunity Index will be addressed within each criterion, evaluating how well projects address needs and improve the quality of life for residents living in areas of Low or Lowest Opportunity. The approach utilizes the existing criterion addressing benefits to underserved populations, using the Opportunity Index rather than demographic data. Within each criterion, points will be awarded if the project demonstrates support of an area of Low or Lowest Opportunity in an individual category Index, but higher points will be awarded for demonstrating support of an area of Low or Lowest Opportunity in the Combined Index.

  Background: As a reminder, a series of specific indicators was used to develop the Opportunity Index within four categories: Transportation, Amenities, Housing and Economy. Maps have been created illustrating areas of Opportunity from Low to High for each category, as well as for the aggregate across all four categories. Projects will not be evaluated against individual indicators. The indicators were used to determine the areas of Low / Lowest Opportunity (i.e., locations in the region where there is limited access to resources and needs are the greatest). As noted above, projects will be evaluated using the existing criteria and a demonstration of how the project benefits residents living within one of these areas.

Staff is working on specific guidance language and examples and will provide this information as it is developed. Further discussion and Q&A will occur over the next several RPEC meetings.

Future Cycles

RPEC will also be asked to provide feedback on the planning for future processes to realign back to a regular 2-year cycle while maintaining the requirement for a fully programmed 4-year TIP. This issue has been addressed in past cycles, with the key considerations being the number of funding years to include in each process as well as the timing of the upcoming cycles.

Staff will provide additional information and options for discussion at the upcoming RPEC meetings.

Puget Sound Regional Council

AT WORK

Regional Project Evaluation Committee
August 28, 2026
Remote Only

Transit Access Tool Demonstration

Gil Cerise, PSRC, provided an overview and demonstration of a newly developed regional transit access tool that PSRC is developing for use by member organizations to evaluate and support improvements to transit access by multiple modes.

View the Presentation on PSRC's Website

For more information, contact Gil Cerise at GCerise@psrc.org

Project Evaluation Criteria Update Process

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, and Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, continued discussion from the June meeting on preparation for the 2027 project selection process, including expected updates to the project evaluation criteria, the planned schedule, and next steps.

View the Presentation on PSRC's Website

For more information, contact Kelly McGourty at KMcGourty@psrc.org or Jennifer Barnes at JBarnes@psrc.org.

Information Items
RPEC At Work – June 26, 2026

Attachments
a. Member Attendance – August 28, 2026

RPEC Attendance Roster (Designated Members & Alternates)

Date: August 28, 2026 - 9:30-11:00 am

Remote/Online Only

NOTE: Members are invited vote. Alternates may vote when the member is absent. Please coordinate representation in advance of the meeting. All other Alternates and Guests are invited join the meeting. This roster is for attendance purposes only and should be marked by all members and alternates present at the table, regardless of voting status.

Jurisdiction	✓	Name
King County (3)		Mary Bourguignon
		Peter Heffernan
	☒	John Vander Sluis
		Andrew Kim (Alt.)
		Sarah Green (Alt.)
		Erin Auzins (Alt.)
Seattle (3)	☒	Sarah Strand
	☒	Jim Storment
		Joanna Valencia
		Bill LaBorde (Alt.)
		Emily Reardon (Alt.)
		Katie Lyle-Beshai (Alt.)
Bellevue (1)	☒	Eric Miller
	☒	*Mia Waters (Alt.)*
Other Cities/Towns (5)	☒	Chad Bieren, Kent
	☒	John Mortenson, Issaquah
	☒	Kimberly Scrivner, Kirkland
	☒	Ingrid Gaub, Auburn
		Dan Marcinko, North Bend
	☒	*Tricia Juhnke, Shoreline (Alt.)*
		Rob Stietzer, Burien (Alt.)
		Ellen Talbo, Renton (Alt.)
		Vacant (Alt.)
		Vacant (Alt.)
Kitsap County (1)	☒	David Forte
		Joe Rutan (Alt.)
Bremerton (1)	☒	Shane Weber, **Vice Chair**
	☒	*Gunnar Fridriksson (Alt. 1)*
		Vicki Grover (Alt. 2)
Other Cities/Towns (1)	☒	Josh Ranes, Poulsbo
		Vacant (Alt.)
Pierce County (2)	☒	Bekah Osterhaus
	☒	Peter Lewis-Miller
		Letticia Neal (Alt.)
		Clint Ritter (Alt.)
Tacoma (2)	☒	Jennifer Kammerzell
	☒	Brennan Kidd
		Darius Thompson (Alt.)
		Vacant (Alt.)
Other Cities/Towns (1)		Mark Burlingame, Steilacoom
		Hans Hunger, Puyallup (Alt.)
Snohomish County (2)	☒	Doug McCormick, **Chair**
	☒	Kelly Snyder
		Janice Fahning (Alt.)
		Glynda Steiner (Alt.)
	☒	*Matt Ojala (Alt.)*
Everett (1)		Tom Hood
	☒	*Angelique Thompson (Alt.)*
Other Cities/Towns (2)	☒	Steve Morikawa, Bothell
		Vacant
	☒	*Jim Kelly, Arlington (Alt.)*
		David Mach, Lynnwood (Alt.)

Jurisdiction	✓	Name
WSDOT-NW Region (1)		Cameron Kukes
		Mehrdad Moini (Alt.)
WSDOT-Oly Region (1)		JoAnn Schueler
	☒	*John Ho (Alt.)*
WSDOT-MoM (1)		Matthew Kenna
	☒	*April Delchamps (Alt.)*
WSDOT-WS Ferries (1)		Nicole Knudson
		Siri Olson (Alt.)
Kitsap Transit (1)	☒	Steffani Lillie
		Jeff Davidson (Alt.)
Pierce Transit (1)	☒	Tina Lee
		Erin Hoiland (Alt.)
Community Transit (1)		Clint Lambert
		Tarin Tesfaye (Alt.)
	☒	*Kathryn Rasmussen (Alt.)*
King County Metro (1)		Chester Knapp
		Lisa Shafer (Alt)
Sound Transit (1)	☒	Lisa Wolterink
	☒	*Tyler Benson (Alt.)*
	☒	*Kirste Johnson (Alt.)*
	☒	*Monica Overby (Alt.)*
Port of Seattle (1)	☒	Geri Poor
		Robert Giacopetti (Alt.)
Port of Tacoma (1)		Deirdre Wilson
	☒	*Ryan Medlen (Alt.)*
Port of Everett (1)	☒	Brandon Whitaker
		Laura Gurley (Alt.)
Port of Bremerton (1)	☒	Arne Bakker
		Cole Barnes (Alt.)
PSCAA (1)		Kathy Strange
		Jennifer Keene (Alt.)
Suquamish Tribe (1)		VACANT
		VACANT (Alt.)
Muckleshoot Tribal Cncl (1)		VACANT
		VACANT (Alt.)
Puyallup Tribe (1)		VACANT
		VACANT (Alt.)
NON-VOTING		VACANT - BPAC Member
		VACANT - BPAC (Alt)