



Puget Sound Regional Council

Transportation Policy Board

Thursday, October 8, 2026 • 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Note Revised Time*

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

Watch or listen

- Watch the meeting live at <https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>
- Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 885 0829 0750, Passcode: 165415

Attend

- The public can attend meetings at [PSRC's offices](#).
- PSRC staff will be in the lobby near the elevators 10 minutes before the meeting's start time and up to 15 minutes after the meeting's start time.
- 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:** [Register here](#)
To allow staff time to process requests, 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 aleach@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](#).

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (9:30) - Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Vice Chair

2. Communications and Public Comment

Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda.

3. Report of the Chair

4. Director's Report

5. Consent Agenda - Action Items (9:50)

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held September 10, 2026

- b. Routine Amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- c. Recommend Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for City of Tacoma's Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements Project

6. Discussion Item (9:55)

- a. 2027 Recommendations to the State Legislature – *Robin Koskey, PSRC*

7. Discussion Item (10:25)

- a. 2027 Project Selection Process – *Kelly McGourty and Jennifer Barnes, PSRC*

8. Information Items

- a. 2026 Transportation Work Program Tracker
- b. Flyer: TOD on a Roll - Making the Most of New Transit Connections

9. Next Meeting: November 12, 2026, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Major Topics for November:

- Regional Transportation Plan Amendment

10. Adjourn (11:00)

Board members please submit proposed amendments and materials prior to the meeting for distribution. Organizations/individuals may submit information for distribution. Send to Alexa Leach, e-mail aleach@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

Transportation Policy Board

September 10, 2026

1201 3rd Ave., Ste 500, Seattle, WA 98101

To watch a video of the meeting and hear the discussion, go to
<https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Chair Mayor Dana Ralph. Mayor Ralph stated that a video of the meeting would be streamed live as well as recorded. The video would be 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 to the meeting live.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The board received one written comment and three online comments.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Ralph deferred her report due to a full agenda.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that she and colleagues attended the Governor's Highway Safety Association meeting in Minneapolis and discussed insights for PSRC's work program. Ms. McGourty also announced that PSRC received its required four-year federal planning certification. She then introduced Robin Koskey, PSRC, who provided a report on federal and state legislative activities.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held July 9, 2026
- b. Routine Amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- c. Project Tracking / Contingency Funding Awards

ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Paine/Walker) to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM: CASCADIA HIGH SPEED RAIL AND I-5 PROGRAM

Ben Tripousis, WSDOT, provided an overview of the Cascadia High-Speed Rail and I-5 Program. Mr. Tripousis reviewed current system constraints and the need for a systemwide approach. He described the coordinated planning efforts across I-5, high-speed rail, Amtrak and air travel. Mr. Tripousis then provided additional details on the I-5 Master Plan, including the goals, needs and gaps analysis, and the prioritization approach. He provided background on the Cascadia High-Speed Rail Service Development Plan process and the analysis of route options. Jason Beloso, WSDOT, provided an update on the Amtrak Cascades service development plan and recent milestones including delivery of new Airo trainsets. Information was then provided on upcoming engagement opportunities.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSIT ACCESS ASSESSMENT TOOL

Gil Cerise, PSRC, provided a report on the work to update PSRC's transit access tools and resources. He described the new Regional Transit Access Assessment, including an interactive online tool and updated strategies and guidance. Mr. Cerise reviewed high-level findings of regional transit access conditions and needs and gave a preview of the new tool and story map that will be available on PSRC's website. He described outreach with member agencies and PSRC advisory committees leading to release of the final tool and materials later this year.

DISCUSSION ITEM: PREPARATION FOR THE 2027 PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, provided an overview of PSRC's project selection process for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds. She described development of the *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds* prior to each funding cycle, and noted key details and elements included in the process. Ms. Barnes then provided highlights from the 2024 project selection process.

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, described the three topic areas directed to inform the next project selection process related to safety, active transportation and alignment with current federal guidance. She described the collaboration with PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee to develop an updated Opportunity Index to address the needs of underserved communities. Ms. McGourty then described the work over the next several months leading to adoption of the *Policy Framework* in January.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2026.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Attendance Roster – September 10, 2026

Transportation Policy Board - September 10, 2026					5.a - Att. A		
Voting Members		✓	Non-voting Members				✓
King County	2	CM Teresa Mosqueda	1	Associate Members			
		CM Steffanie Fain		Island County	1	COMM Melanie Bacon	
		Vacant Alt				COMM Jill Johnson Alt	
Seattle	2	CM Rob Saka	1	Thurston Regional Planning Council	1	MYR Andy Ryder, Lacey	
		CM Alexis Mercedes Rinck				Vacant Alt	
		CM Dionne Foster Alt		Public Agency Members			
Bellevue	1	CM Jared Nieuwenhuis	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1	Vacant	
		DEP MYR Dave Hamilton Alt				Brandy DeLange Alt	1
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair	1	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1	CM Joe Bushnell	
		CM Jay Arnold, Kirkland	1			Christine Cooley Alt	1
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac		Public Health	1	Jessica Jeavons, Seattle-King County	1
		CM Susan Honda, Federal Way Alt	1			Kim VanPelt, Snohomish County Alt	
		CP Ruth Pérez, Renton Alt		WA Tran. Improvement Board	1	Vacant	
		CM Erika Boyd, Issaquah Alt	1			CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt	
Local Transit	1	CM Claudia Balducci		PSRC Committees			
		Vacant Alt		Equity Advisory Cmte.	1	Autrina Martindale	1
Kitsap County	1	COM Oran Root	1			Jewel Shepherd-Sampson Alt	1
		COM Christine Rolfes Alt		Regional Staff Cmte.	1	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake	
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1			Kelly Snyder, Snohomish Co. Alt	
		CM Jane Rebelowski Alt		Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1	Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.	1
Cities/Towns	1	CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl				Shane Weber, Bremerton Alt	1
		CM Gary McVey, Poulsbo Alt		Transit Operators Cmte.	1	Peter Heffernan, King County	1
Local Transit	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard, Vice-Chair				Alex Krieg, Sound Transit Alt	
		MYR Clarence Moriwaki, Bainbridge, Alt	1	Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor			
Pierce County	1	CM Rosie Ayala		WA Trucking Associations	1	Sheri Call	
		CM Bryan Yambe, Alt		exp. 12/31/26		Jeff DeVere Alt	
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce	1	Lorelei Williams, WSP USA	
		CM Olgy Diaz Alt		exp. 12/31/26		Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt	
Cities & Towns	1	CM Shannon Reynolds, Fircrest		Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment			
		CM Edward Wood, University Place Alt		Puget Sound Partnership	1	Jenn Grimm	1
				exp. 10/31/27		Paris McClusky Alt	
Local Transit	1	CM Olgy Diaz, Tacoma		Individual exp. 5/31/28	1	Kim Becklund	
		DEP MYR John Hines, Tacoma, Alt					
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead		Non-voting	14	Non-voting members present	9
		CM Strom Peterson Alt					
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo	1				
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt					
Cities/Towns	1	MYR Stephanie Vignal, Mill Creek					
		CM Yvonne Gallardo, Arlington, Alt	1				
Local Transit	1	CM Susan Paine, Edmonds					
		CM David Parshall, Lynnwood, Alt					
Regional Transit	1	CM Ed Prince, Renton	1				
		MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife Alt					
Federally Recognized Tribes							
Muckleshoot	1	CM John Daniels, Jr.					
Indian Tribe		Vacant Alt					
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Vacant					
		Robert Barandon Alt					
Suquamish Tribe	1	CM Luther (Jay) Mills					
		CHRMN Leonard Forsman Alt					
Statutory Members							
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle					
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt	1				
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Gael Tarleton	1				
		COM Nicole Grant Alt					
WSDOT	1	Robin Mayhew					
		JoAnn Schueler Alt					
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)							
House	2	Vacant				Abbreviations	
Transportation Cmte.		REP Jake Fey, D Alt				CHRMN Chairman	
		REP Dan Griffey, R				CM Councilmember	
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt				CP Council President	
Senate	2	SEN Marko Liias, D				COM Commissioner	
Transportation Cmte.		Vacant Alt				DEP MYR Deputy Mayor	
		SEN Keith Goehner, R				MYR Mayor	
		Vacant, R Alt				MYR Pro Tem	
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	15			REP Representative	
		Total Voting members present	16			SEN Senator	



Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning

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

IN BRIEF

Eight agencies submitted eleven 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.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Transportation Policy Board should recommend Executive Board adoption of 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 summarizes the actions 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 from Community Transit and Pierce Transit for modifications to PSRC's FTA funds.

Community Transit is requesting the following two redistributions: (1) \$8,636,698 in 2022 FTA Earned Share funds from *Swift BRT Green Line Expansion Bothell Terminus* to *Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance*, and (2) \$7,663,407 in 2024 FTA Earned Share funds from *Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance* to *Swift BRT Green Line Expansion Bothell Terminus*.

Due to delays related to environmental approvals for the *Swift BRT Green Line Expansion Bothell Terminus* project, the earlier FTA funds are being exchanged with later year funds from the *Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance* project. In addition, due to cost increases the scope of the *Swift BRT Green Line Expansion Bothell Terminus* project will be reduced to remove the route improvements and reflect only the new Bothell terminus station (to be named *North Creek Transit Center*). The

scope of the *Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance* project will be expanded to include the Community Transit terminals at Everett Station.

Pierce Transit is requesting a redistribution of \$485,886 in 2023 FTA Earned Share funds from *Shuttle Revenue Vehicles 23-24* to *2025-2026 Preventative Maintenance*. The scope of *Shuttle Revenue Vehicles 23-24* will be reduced by 2 buses to reflect the actual number of 15 buses needed. The portion of federal funds of the overall *2025-2026 Preventative Maintenance* will remain at 3%.

These redistributions 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 September 23.

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
BR	Federal Bridge program
FTA Discretionary	FTA Discretionary awards
Federal Discretionary	Other Federal Discretionary awards
MAW	State Move Ahead account
MVA	State Motor Vehicle Account
NHPP	Federal National Highway Performance Program
NHFP	Federal National Highway Freight Program

For additional information, please contact Jennifer Barnes, Program Manager, at jbarnes@psrc.org or 206-389-2876.

ATTACHMENT

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

Month: October

Year: 2026

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

Exhibit A

Sponsor	Project Title and Work Description	Funding	PSRC Action Needed			
			Project Tracking	New Project/ Phase	UPWP Other	Amend
1. Arlington	180th St Connector Existing project programming a new right-of-way phase for construction of a new two-lane road that extends to Smokey Point Boulevard with a stop-controlled intersection and to Airport Boulevard with a roundabout. Project includes a north-side multi-use trail and a south-side sidewalk connecting to the Airport Trail and Arlington Trail systems; lighting; amenities and landscaping; and utility work.	\$10,000 Local	☐	☒	☐	☐
		\$10,000 Total				
2. Community Transit	Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance Existing project receiving redistributed funds from CT-81: Swift BRT Green Line Expansion Bothell Terminus for rehabilitation, renovation and maintenance of transit facilities including base buildings, park & rides, transit stations and bus stops.	\$8,636,698 Federal 5307(Urban)	☒	☐	☐	☐
		\$8,636,698 Total				
3. Community Transit	Swift BRT Green Line Expansion Bothell Terminus Existing project receiving redistributed funds from CT-77: Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance for a new bus terminal facility east of downtown Bothell called the North Creek Transit Center. The facility will provide supportive operational infrastructure including layover bays, an operator comfort station, and passenger amenities. Also includes work to accommodate future bus charging infrastructure.	\$7,663,407 Federal 5307(Urban)	☒	☐	☐	☐
		\$2,000,000 Federal FTA Discretionary				
		\$9,000,000 Local				
		\$18,663,407 Total				
4 King County Department of Transportation (Road Services)	North Fork Bridge Existing project programming a right-of-way phase for construction of a 3-span bridge and associated road and channel improvements.	\$500,000 Federal BR	☐	☒	☐	☐
		\$78,035 Local				
		\$578,035 Total				

Sponsor	Project Title and Work Description	Funding	PSRC Action Needed			
			Project Tracking	New Project/Phase	UPWP Other	Amend
5. Pierce Transit	2025-2026 Preventative Maintenance Existing project receiving redistributed funds from PT-180: Shuttle Revenue Vehicles 23 24 for ongoing preventive maintenance activities for vehicle fleet and facilities.	\$485,886 Federal 5307(Urban) \$485,886 Total	☒	☐	☐	☐
6. Snohomish County	Larson Road Bridge #101 Existing project programming additional right-of-way funds and a new construction phase for seismic retrofit of the bridge.	\$2,257,745 Federal BR \$348,896 Local \$2,606,641 Total	☐	☒	☐	☐
7. Tacoma	Portland Avenue Freight and Access Improvements Existing project programming a new right-of-way phase for replacement of asphalt pavement with concrete, bicycle facilities, a new traffic signal at the SR 509 off ramp, upgrades to three existing signals to add interconnects and other ITS upgrades, sidewalks, ADA curb ramps a new mid-block pedestrian crossing with push button activation, bridge deck repairs/resurfacing, and storm line utility work.	\$190,000 Local \$190,000 Total	☐	☒	☐	☐
8. Tacoma	Tacoma Tideflats-Port of Tacoma Strategic Emergency Response/ITS Improvements - Phase 1 Existing project programming new right-of-way and construction phases to deploy an integrated ITS network across the Tacoma Tideflats/Port of Tacoma area, including intersection upgrades, fiber communications, and signal optimization.	\$2,025,000 Federal NHFP \$315,000 Local \$2,340,000 Total	☐	☒	☐	☐
9. Tukwila	42nd Ave S Bridge Replacement Existing project programming a new right-of-way phase to replace the existing 42nd Ave S steel truss bridge.	\$193,000 Local \$193,000 Total	☐	☒	☐	☐

Sponsor	Project Title and Work Description	Funding	PSRC Action Needed			
			Project Tracking	New Project/ Phase	UPWP Other	Amend
10. WSDOT Olympic Region	SR 7/SR 507 to 99th Street S - Corridor Improvements New project programming preliminary engineering, right-of- way, and construction for installation of roundabouts, markings, signalization, pedestrian and bicycle accommodations, ADA curb ramp upgrades, commuter facilities, and roadside hardware to improve safety for all users. This is a multi-year project and the programming reflects the funds available in the current TIP.	\$11,241,143		☒	☐	☐
		\$11,241,143				
11. WSDOT Olympic Region	SR 161/SR 167 to 36th St E - Paving New project programming preliminary engineering, right-of- way, and construction phases for overlay of the roadway.	\$5,046,795		☒	☐	☐
		\$610,532				
		\$5,657,327				



Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning

Subject: **Recommend Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for City of Tacoma's Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements Project**

IN BRIEF

The City of Tacoma has submitted a request to change the status of the *Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements* project from "Candidate" to "Approved" in the Regional Transportation Plan. Per PSRC's adopted procedures, requests to change project status require board action.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Transportation Policy Board should recommend Executive Board authorization of a change to the Regional Transportation Plan project status for the City of Tacoma's *Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements* project from "Candidate" to "Approved."

DISCUSSION

The Regional Transportation Plan contains policies requiring PSRC's Executive Board to approve regionally significant transportation capacity projects before those projects begin implementation phases. Projects in the Regional Transportation Plan are designated as Candidate, Approved or Conditionally Approved. A Candidate designation means a project has gone through a comprehensive planning process, but that one or more of the following has not yet been completed: environmental documentation and approvals, financial plan, and/or other planning requirements. A project's status is changed to Approved once these requirements have been met. Conditional Approval may be granted if a project has fulfilled most of the approval criteria but lacks only certain details. For example, if a project awaits only final signatures on its environmental documentation but has completed all other

requirements, the Executive Board may grant Conditional Approval. Once the final details have been completed, staff has the authority to grant a project full Approval status administratively, thereby saving the project sponsor several weeks of delay.

This project will reconstruct Puyallup Avenue from South C Street to Portland Avenue E with complete street elements, including sidewalks, curb ramps, bulb-outs and crosswalks. The pedestrian amenities will connect to regional trail improvements near 20th Street E. One eastbound lane will be converted into a Business Access & Transit (BAT) lane, and one westbound vehicle lane will be converted to accommodate two-way protected bicycle lanes and enhance active transport amenities. The vehicle lanes along Puyallup Avenue will meet heavy haul pavement standards.

Table 1 provides additional details on the project, including the criteria used to review the project for the requested status change.

Review Criteria	Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements
Total Project Cost	\$42,782,785
Consistency with Regional Policies	This project has been determined to be consistent with regional policies.
Benefit-Cost Analysis	A cost-benefit analysis is not required because the total project cost is below \$100,000,000.
Environmental Documentation	NEPA Categorical Exclusion (CE) was issued July 2026.
Other Planning Requirements	The cities of Fife and Tacoma executed an agreement establishing roles and responsibilities related to their respective trail projects along Pacific Highway East that join at the Tacoma/Fife city limits.
Financial Feasibility	The project is fully funded with \$12,255,285 of local funds, \$22,900,000 of state funds, and \$7,627,500 of federal funds for a total project cost of \$42,782,785 in 2027 year of expenditure dollars.
Air Quality Conformity	The Regional Transportation Plan has been corrected to reflect updated information on the scope of the project and removal of travel lanes. Modeling and analysis has been conducted and the region's air quality conformity finding has been reconfirmed.

For additional information, please contact Mitch Koch, Associate Planner, at mkoch@psrc.org or 206-464-7537.



Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning

Subject: **2027 Recommendations to the State Legislature**

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will brief the Transportation Policy Board on the process to adopt recommendations to the 2027 Washington State Legislature. The board will be asked to provide input on the agency's legislative recommendations. A briefing on current state and federal activities will also be provided.

DISCUSSION

PSRC staff are beginning work to develop recommendations to the Washington State Legislature in advance of the 2027 legislative session. On an annual basis, the Executive Board adopts recommendations to the legislature to support progress on adopted regional plans and policies.

PSRC staff propose following a similar framework to the recommendations adopted last year (attached) based on adopted regional plans and policies in the following focus areas:

- Transportation - Keep the Region Moving
- Housing - Increase Housing Choices and Affordability
- Climate - Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Economic Development – Sustain a Strong Economy

The Transportation Policy Board will be asked for feedback on the legislative recommendations at the October 8 meeting. The Executive Board is anticipated to review and adopt the legislative agenda at its December meeting.

For more information, contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org or 206-798-4462.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. 2026 Recommendations to the State Legislature

Recommendations to the 2026 State Legislature



Puget Sound Regional Council

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) seeks to address regional growth through policies that advance affordable housing, connected transportation, sustainability and a strong economy.

We acknowledge the challenging economic conditions facing our state and region, compounded by federal-level uncertainty and declining state revenue. PSRC values the Legislature's continued partnership and commitment to working with local governments and elected officials to implement shared priorities.

Keep the Region Moving Safely

A reliable, efficient transportation system is critical infrastructure to build a thriving region where people are connected to homes and jobs. All transportation investments should be planned and implemented with emphasis on safety to reduce deaths and serious injuries on the region's roadways.

- Sustain transportation investments to fully fund maintenance and preservation, ensure projects of regional significance are built, and provide tools to address local funding needs, the largest revenue gap for the region.
- Develop an alternative to the state gas tax through an equitable road usage charge or highway use fee system.
- Continue capital and workforce investment in the Washington State Ferries system to ensure reliable service.

Increase Housing Choices and Affordability

Housing affordability continues to be a top concern of residents and local elected officials in communities in the region. We need to build 620,000 more homes by 2044 and 50% of these homes need to be affordable to people earning less than half of the Area Median Income.

- Invest in operating and capital subsidies to create affordable homes to meet local needs and create homeownership opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) households.
- Adopt policies to increase housing supply in coordination with local governments to ensure practical and effective implementation.
- Establish the Housing Futures Center at the University of Washington to provide timely analysis and data-driven research for policymakers to address urgent housing needs in our state.

Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Enact legislation to respond to the urgent environmental, health, economic and equity threats of climate change through:

- Transit-focused land use.
- Multimodal transportation choices.
- Pricing the transportation system.
- Decarbonization of the transportation system, including freight, transit, ferries, passenger vehicles and fuels.

Sustain a Strong Economy

- Invest in workforce development programs to support workers and meet the needs of employers and a growing economy, including electrification of the transportation system.
- Commit resources to critical infrastructure to support economic development, including broadband.
- Support clean energy industry technology like Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), offshore wind, fusion, hydrogen, and other emerging technologies.

For more information, please contact:

Robin Koskey

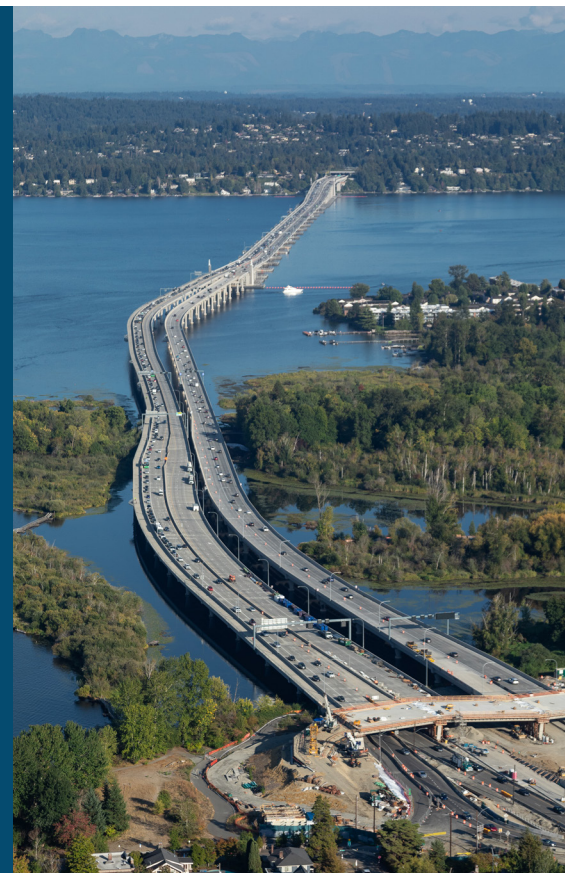
Director of Government Relations & Communications

RKoskey@psrc.org | 206-798-4462

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) develops policies and coordinates decisions about regional growth, transportation and economic development planning within King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties. PSRC is composed of nearly 100 members, including the four counties, cities and towns, ports, state and local transportation agencies and Tribal governments within the region.

PSRC recommendations to the Washington State Legislature support implementation of regionally adopted policies and plans, including:

- [VISION 2050](#)
- [Regional Transportation Plan](#)
- [Regional Housing Strategy](#)
- [Comprehensive Climate Action Plan](#)
- [Regional Economic Strategy](#)





Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning

Subject: **2027 Project Selection Process**

IN BRIEF

PSRC has project selection authority for several sources of funds from both the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Prior to each funding cycle, the policies and procedures for the project selection process are reviewed and updated as needed to reflect current regional priorities and requirements, and are documented in the *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*.

In September, staff provided background on PSRC's project selection process and identified specific refinements for the next process to be conducted in 2027. Further discussion will occur at the October 8 meeting, leading to adoption of the *Policy Framework* in January.

DISCUSSION

A competitive project selection process is conducted every two to three years for the distribution of PSRC's federal funds. Prior to each process, a *Policy Framework* is adopted, outlining the policy guidance for the distribution of funds and other details on how the process will be conducted. The next process will be conducted in 2027.

In early 2026, staff began a review of the project selection process to ensure alignment with current federal and state direction. This included collaboration with PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee over a three-month period that resulted in the development of an updated Opportunity Index tool to support the assessment of transportation projects in addressing the needs of underserved communities. In addition, the Regional Transportation Plan, adopted in May 2026, identifies two key areas to inform the next project selection process, in alignment with the Regional Safety Action Plan and the Active Transportation Plan. Staff have coordinated with PSRC's Regional Project

Evaluation Committee and Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee on updates to the process to reflect this direction.

At the meeting on September 10, staff briefed the board on these topics as well as the overall schedule for the upcoming project selection process. At the October 8 meeting, staff will provide additional information and background on the process, including policy updates applied in 2024, previously awarded projects and refinements for 2027.

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.

PSRC 2026 Transportation Work Program

Activity	Progress
2026 Regional Transportation Plan	
Public Comment Period	Concluded
Development of Final Plan	Concluded
ACTION ON FINAL PLAN	Adopted May 28, 2026
PSRC Funding	
Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program competition	Concluded
Transportation Alternatives Program competition	Concluded
Review of next process and new requirements	In process; est. Q1 - Q3 2026
Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds	Discussion Q4 2026, adoption January 2027
Annual FTA adjustments process	Concluded
Consolidated Grant Program regional rankings process	Overall process will run throughout 2026; board review of rankings December 2026 for action in January 2027
Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)	
Monthly TIP Amendments	Ongoing
Project Tracking and annual rebalancing process	Concluded for 2026
Safety	
Ongoing member agency support / partnerships / convenings	Rural safety workshops underway Fall 2026; future work program in development
Annual data collection	Q2 2026; report out July 2026
Climate	
Regional partnerships:	
Regional Electric Vehicle Collaboration / Regional EV Plan	Ongoing; REV Plan under development / PSCAA lead, anticipated Fall 2026 completion
Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan - Implementation	tbd
Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative	Ongoing / monthly
C2ES South-Central Puget Sound Climate Communities Accelerator Program	Year 2 activities begun - <i>Strengthening Regional Heat and Smoke Communication</i>
Transit Access	
Regional Transit Access Assessment	In progress; anticipated completion Q4 2026, member outreach Q3-4 2026
Performance Measures and Dashboard	
RTP Dashboard updates and data collection	Ongoing
Annual Board briefings	March 2026
Federal performance targets	Ongoing, regular update cycles
RTP Implementation	
Future work programs per action items in the RTP:	
Transportation finance	tbd, with some overlap to work program areas listed above
Maintenance and preservation	
Safety	
Climate	
Future system gaps	
Rural transportation	
Performance measurement and monitoring	
Transportation technologies	

Potential Future Board Briefings
Emerging technologies
Washington State Ferries
Revive I-5
FIFA World Cup (<i>June 2026</i>)
Transit planning updates (<i>Sound Transit July 2026</i>)
I-5 Master Plan / Cascadia High Speed Rail (<i>Sept. 2026</i>)
Other projects, emerging topics
Other / Ongoing Work
TIP database & web application system upgrade
Federal certification process (<i>July 2026</i>)
Transit plan reviews
PSRC transportation staff advisory committees:
Regional Project Evaluation Committee
Transit Operators Committee
Freight Advisory Committee
Coordinated Mobility and Accessibility Committee
Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee

TOD on a Roll: Making the Most of New Transit Connections



The region has been on a roll opening new transit stations, fulfilling a decades-long promise to connect communities with high-capacity transit. Join community leaders to hear highlights of recent TOD opportunities and discuss what's next. A webinar will highlight recent work to support transit-oriented development. In-person walking tours will feature work in Shoreline and Redmond to improve transit access, provide more housing, and connect neighborhoods.

Friday, October 16, 2026



10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Zoom – Virtual Event

[Register for the webinar](#)



1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Shoreline TOD Walking Tour

[Register for the tour](#)

Friday, October 23, 2026



1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Marymoor and Downtown Redmond Walking Tour

[Register for the tour](#)

Free to attend. Space limited for walking tours.

Learn more about the event at psrc.org.