



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

September 10, 2020
Virtual Meeting

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mayor Becky Erickson, Chair. Chair Erickson shared that in accordance with the Governor's Proclamations 20-25.7 and 20-28.8, today's Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting would be held entirely remotely. The meeting was live streamed, and a call-in number provided for members of the public to listen.

Chair Erickson made membership announcements. The changes were effective March 2020 but not included in the July membership announcement.

- Councilmember Mike Todd, Mill Creek, representing Snohomish County Local Transit (alternate to member)
- Councilmember Kim Daughtry, representing Snohomish County Local Transit (alternate)

A roll call was carried out and a quorum was established.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

TPB received one public comment via email. The correspondence was shared via email with all TPB members and alternates before the meeting.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Mayor Erickson shared that this is a rotation year for several non-voting members representing Business & Labor and Community & Environment. A total of 10 seats will be expiring on the Transportation and Growth Management Policy Boards. These seats have 3-year terms with staggered rotation.

Four seats on TPB have terms expiring at the end of this year. One seat for

Business/Labor and three seats for Community/Environment. Those seats are currently held by:

- University of Washington
- Cascade Bicycle Club
- Public Health Seattle/King County
- Transportation Choices Coalition

An announcement will be sent out this month inviting organizations to nominate individuals for the rotating seats. The current members have already been notified and their organizations are welcome to reapply.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, PSRC, informed the board of that the General Assembly will hold a virtual meeting October 29 to adopt VISION 2050. PSRC will switch virtual meeting platforms starting in October. The next TPB meeting will be held in Zoom.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held July 9, 2020**
- Routine Amendment to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)**
- Recommend Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for the Canyon Rd E Southerly Extension, 200th St E to 208th St E Project**
- Recommend Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for the East Lake Sammamish Trail - South Sammamish Segment B Project**

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Paul Roberts and seconded by Councilmember Kate Kruller to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PUBLIC COMMENT RELEASE

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that the board is in the next stage of the culmination of the 2020 project selection process. In July 2020, the Executive Board approved project recommendations, which led to the development of a new four-year Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Ms. McGourty provided an overview of the Draft 2021-2024 Regional TIP, providing information on overall funding and types of projects included, as well as the schedule for approval of the new TIP. With board approval, the Draft 2021-2024 Regional TIP will be released for public comment between September 10 and October 22, 2020. The board is scheduled to recommend approval of the 2021-2024 Regional TIP in October.

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Kate Kruller and seconded by Councilmember Jennifer Robertson that the Transportation Policy Board should authorize the release and distribution of the Draft 2021-2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for public review and comment from September 10 through October 22, 2020.

PUGET SOUND PASSENGER-ONLY FERRY STUDY STATUS UPDATE

Gil Cerise, PSRC, provided an overview of the Puget Sound Passenger-Only Ferry Study scope and schedule. The project is a high-level feasibility study of passenger-only ferries throughout the 12 counties bordering Puget Sound as well as Lake Washington and Lake Union. Work completed to date includes engaging with stakeholders to assist with developing the study, reviewing other completed and ongoing studies, and conducting an online survey in May.

Forty-five potential routes were reviewed through a three-tiered criteria analysis. From this analysis a short list of the most feasible routes based on the criteria will be further analyzed with more detailed route profiles. Mr. Cerise reviewed the structure for this further analysis and indicated the next phase will be to work with those communities to gather additional information. A public webinar is planned for late October. The study will be submitted to the Legislature in January 2021.

TRANSIT FUNDING

Ms. McGourty, PSRC, informed the board that this presentation was developed as follow-up to discussions at the Executive Board in April 2020 during the distribution of the CARES Act funding to transit agencies in the region. Two areas of focus were the overall portfolio of funds available to transit agencies and PSRC's methodology for distributing Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds. PSRC staff have worked with the TPB Transit Caucus, representing those members also serving on transit boards, to develop this information for the board.

Mr. Cerise provided an overview of transit agencies and service throughout the region, as well as key transit service characteristics. Mr. Cerise presented information on overall revenue sources for transit agencies within our region and noted that there is a heavy reliance on sales tax. He also shared a comparison of revenue sources with other transit agencies around the country.

Ms. McGourty discussed the FTA funds managed and programmed by PSRC and the distribution process. She provided an overview of how FTA funds come into the region, which is primarily due to transit agency operating and service data. PSRC board policy has been that those funds are distributed back to the transit agencies based on data the transit agencies provide to FTA. She reviewed the details of the FTA formula funds and their eligible uses.

The Project Selection Task Force will begin early 2021. Board members proposed this topic be included on the list of items to be discussed by the Task Force, as well as provided to the Executive Board at future meetings.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN: SAFETY

Pavithra Parthasarathi, PSRC, shared that the TPB had been previously briefed on the federal target setting process for safety, as well as statewide trends. She shared how safety is integrated into PSRC's planning work. Ms. Parthasarathi provided details on a Peer Networking Session on Safety and Transportation held July 24. PSRC staff will continue to explore options for refinement to performance metrics and additional data related to safety.

Ms. McGourty guided board members through an online engagement tool to allow for feedback on safety. Questions for the board were included in the agenda packet, but also prompted during the meeting. Board responses were shared live as part of the presentation. Following the meeting, responses will be shared with board members and they will have further opportunity to comment.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
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TPB MEMBERS & ALTERNATES PRESENT

Mayor Don Anderson, Local Transit – Pierce County
Councilmember Bek Ashby, Other Cities & Towns in Kitsap County
Rob Berman, Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Russ Blount, Regional Project Evaluation Committee (Alt.)
Don Cairns, Regional Project Evaluation Committee
Commissioner Ryan Calkins, Ports
Vicky Clarke, Cascade Bicycle Club
Councilmember John Clauson, Local Transit – Kitsap County
Doug DeForest, Thurston Regional Planning Council
Councilmember Rod Dembowski, King County
Mayor Becky Erickson, Local Transit – Kitsap County, Chair
Anne Eskridge, University of Washington
Commissioner Rob Gelder, Kitsap County
Deputy Mayor Leo Gruba, DuPont, Other Cities & Towns in Pierce County (Alt.)
Jesse Hamashima, Regional Staff Committee
Councilmember Cyndy Jacobsen, Other Cities & Towns in Pierce County
Councilmember Debora Juarez, City of Seattle
Peter Heffernan, Transportation Operators Committee
Billy Hetherington, Laborers Local Union 242
Craig Kenworthy, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (Alt.)
Alex Krieg, Transportation Operations Committee (Alt.)
Councilmember Kate Kruller, Other Cities & Towns in King County
Deputy Mayor Peter Kwon, Other Cities & Towns in King County (Alt.)
Councilmember Kathy Lambert, King County
Councilmember Sam Low, Snohomish County
Robin Mayhew, WSDOT (Alt.)
Kelsey Mesher, Transportation Choices Coalition (Alt.)
Councilmember Dave Morell, Pierce County (Alt.)
Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Other Cities & Towns in King County
Mayor Dana Ralph, Other Cities & Towns in King County, Vice Chair
Dave Ramsay, WA State Transportation Improvement Board
Councilmember Doug Richardson, Pierce County
Councilmember Paul Roberts, Metropolitan Center–Everett/Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Metropolitan Center–Bellevue
Darrell Rodgers, Public Health Seattle/King County
Mayor Kim Roscoe, Regional Transit – Sound Transit
Councilmember Jan Schuette, Other Cities & Towns in Snohomish County
Andrew Strobel, Puyallup Tribe of Indians
Councilmember Mike Todd, Local Transit – Snohomish County
Councilmember Kristina Walker, Metropolitan Center–Tacoma

Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, Other Cities & Towns in King County (Alt.)
Mayor Greg Wheeler, Metropolitan Center–Bremerton
Councilmember John Wright, Lake Forest Park (Alt.)
Councilmember Girmay Zahilay, King County

TPB MEMBERS ABSENT (*alternate present)

Commissioner Shiv Batra, WA State Transportation Commission
Councilmember John Daniels, Jr., Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Dan Gatchet, Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board
Councilmember Lorena González, City of Seattle
Representative Mia Gregerson, House Transportation Committee
Senator Steve Hobbs, Senate Transportation Committee
*Alex Hudson, Transportation Choices Coalition
*Secretary Roger Millar, WSDOT
Councilmember Jay Mills, The Suquamish Tribe
Commissioner Helen Price Johnson, Island County
Cynthia Stewart, League of Women Voters
Neil Strege, Washington Roundtable

GUESTS and PSRC STAFF ATTENDING -
(As determined by staff)

Monica Adkins, PSRC
Ben Bakkenta, PSRC
Gil Cerise, PSRC
Carolyn Downs, PSRC
Richard Gelb, Public Health Seattle King County
Sarah Gutschow, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Piset Khuon, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Casey Moreau, PSRC