

Regional Transportation Plan Summary and Next Steps

Transportation Policy Board
October 14, 2021



Puget Sound Regional Council

Overview

- *October through December 2021 board briefings on the Regional Transportation Plan:*
 - Review of work conducted to date
 - Review of approach for each plan element and board briefings
 - Summary of key messages and recommendations
- Next steps



Data Collection and Visualization Tool

- 2019-2020: Expanded data collection of the regional transportation system
 - *Bicycle / pedestrian facilities, freight, signals, TDM, specialized transportation services, etc.*
- Combined with other regional data in a new visualization tool
 - *Transit routes and stops, congestion, demographic data, etc.*
- Leading to analysis of conditions to inform Regional Transportation Plan and local planning



Plan Elements

- 2020-2021: Board briefings on plan elements and key policy focus areas (some upcoming)
- Briefings included:
 - data findings
 - advisory committee input
 - Board discussion of key messages and potential recommendations



Additional RTP Work

- Update of Regional Capacity Projects list
- Refinement of financial strategy assumptions and extension to 2050
- Modeling and analysis
 - *Review of key findings September 2021*
- Building the forecast conditions visualization tool



Final Board Review of Draft Plan and Next Steps

- October – December 2021:
 - Review of previous discussions of each major plan element
 - Final review of key messages for inclusion in the draft plan



October: Transit, TDM, Bicycle / Pedestrian

Transit

- VISION 2050 includes a transit-focused growth strategy
- Significant expansion of the high-capacity transit network is underway and planned
 - With the RTP, there is a tripling of transit boardings by 2050 and increased access by households and jobs
- **Access to transit** is a key policy focus area of the plan



Transit Key Messages

Key messages =

- Location and context matters
- Equity is a primary lens, and the needs of transit-dependent communities should be a priority
- The system should be convenient, flexible, safe, and provide options throughout the day
- Highlight the importance of affordable housing and land use decisions around transit
- Identify roles and responsibilities across the region



October: Transit, TDM, Bicycle / Pedestrian

TDM

- TDM programs are accessible by every city in the region
- Programs include CTR, county or transit led programs
- Bicycling, walking and transit are the most promoted modes via TDM programs
- Education and marketing are the most prevalent strategies
- The number of TDM programs in the region has grown by almost 20% since 2015



TDM Key Messages

Key messages =

- Expand the state's Commute Trip Reduction Law to address more trip types and employers
- TDM should be addressed in, and coordinated with, local comprehensive plans and implementing programs
- Develop consistent metrics to measure effectiveness and efficiency of TDM programs
- Evaluate TDM programs with an equity lens



October: Transit, TDM, Bicycle / Pedestrian

Bicycle / Pedestrian

- Inventory of bicycle and sidewalk facilities on arterials and separated pathways completed
 - 56% of arterials have partial or complete sidewalks
 - 37% of arterials have partial or complete bicycle facilities
 - Full analysis of connectivity, gaps in progress
- 99% of jurisdictions have policies and plans in place for active transportation



Bicycle / Pedestrian Key Messages

Key messages =

- Emphasize safety improvements for bicyclists and pedestrians
- Improve network connectivity, particularly for accessibility to the transit system
- Include equity in the evaluation of needs
- Continue to refine active transportation performance metrics



Upcoming

- Remaining plan element summaries in November and December
- Briefing on the forecast visualization conditions tool
- Board breakout session on future needs
- Summary data posted to website
- Draft plan released for public comment in early January 2022

