



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

July 14, 2022

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair. Chair Ralph announced that today's Transportation Policy Board meeting would be hybrid, allowing for remote and in-person attendance. Chair Ralph shared that the meeting was live streamed, and a call-in number provided for members of the public to listen.

Chair Ralph shared TPB membership updates:

- Mike Cotten, WSDOT, retired. Bryan Nielsen has been appointed as an additional alternate
- Jon Morrison Winders, alternate for Seattle Aging & Disability has accepted a new position and has departed the board

A quorum was established by roll call.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The board heard public comment from the following individuals:

- Laura Svancarek, Downtown On The Go
- Larry Leveen, ForeverGreen Trails
- Will Knedlik, Washington State Good Roads & Transportation Association

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Ralph shared that the board would continue discussing the transportation work program. She also shared that an Executive Steering Committee has been formed to discuss this work, comprised of PSRC's Executive Committee. TPB's feedback will be provided to that group in July and more information will be shared with the board in September.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, provided background information on item c. of the consent agenda. It fulfills a federal requirement to designate the number of miles on the Critical Urban Freight Corridor and Critical Rural Freight Corridor in the region.

Ms. McGourty also shared that Dave Ramsay, representing the Transportation Improvement Board recently retired. His membership and participation was greatly appreciated.

PSRC is currently going through its federal certification process. This is completed every four years. There is an opportunity to obtain feedback via a survey. This has been shared via email.

PSRC will host a webinar on July 29th regarding the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The link to attend is available on PSRC's website.

At its June meeting, the board discussed creating a working group to discuss PSRC's Federal Transit Administration funds. A solicitation will be sent in the next few weeks to start the working group.

The board discussed the freight consent agenda item. Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, shared further background on the coordination for the recommendation.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held June 9, 2022
- b. Routine Amendment to the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- c. Recommend Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) and Critical Rural Freight Corridor (CRFC) Designations for the PSRC Region

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Kate Kruller and seconded by Mayor Rob Putaansuu to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

2022 ANNUAL FTA ADJUSTMENTS

Sarah Gutschow provided an overview of PSRC's FTA funding process, including background information on the FTA funding formulas. Ms. Gutschow provided an overview of how PSRC's 2022 FTA funds were originally programmed to projects as part of the 2018 project selection process.

In April of 2022, PSRC was notified of the final allocation of funding which was higher than the estimates originally used. Ms. Gutschow noted that the final allocation is made under the new Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, while the original estimate was based on the previous federal transportation act. The final allocation provides an increase of approximately \$93.7 million to the region.

Ms. Gutschow informed the board of the recommended distribution of funds which follows existing adopted methodology, including 2022 project adjustments by agency, and a recommended distribution of freed up future funding to the projects on the regional contingency list.

Councilmember Mello introduced an amendment to approve the 2022 distribution of funding but hold a decision on future years' funding to the four projects on the contingency list. Board members discussed the purpose and consequences of the amendment. Some members felt the adopted policies and procedures should be followed, and other members noted that the amendment would only impact future years' funding. It was also acknowledged that an FTA Working Group is being created to evaluate PSRC's future FTA funding processes.

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Ryan Mello and seconded by Councilmember Kristina Walker to recommend the Executive Board approve the distribution of the distribution of \$93.7 million in additional FFY 2022 FTA funds to the project adjustments identified in Attachment B, but put on hold the distribution of \$12.9 million of freed up 2023-2024 funds to projects on the approved contingency list identified in Attachment C. The motion failed with a vote of 19 to 4.

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Ryan Mello and seconded by Councilmember Kim Daughtry that the Transportation Policy Board should recommend the Executive Board approve the distribution of \$93.7 million in additional FFY 2022 FTA funds to the project adjustments identified in Attachment B and the regional contingency distribution as identified in Attachment C. The motion passed unanimously.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR PSRC'S 2025-2026 FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION FUNDS

Ms. McGourty provided background on the 2022 project selection process. She shared the process conducted to develop the Policy Framework adopted in January and noted that it provides board direction for conducting the project selection process. Ms. McGourty reviewed the project evaluation criteria and noted that criteria for safety and equity were strengthened during this cycle. She also noted the creation of a set-aside for a future Equity Pilot Program. Ms. McGourty briefed the board on the process for both the regional competition and the four countywide competitions.

Ms. McGourty described the project outcomes and highlights of the 83 recommended projects, including information on outcomes related to safety and active transportation.

Dr. Charles Patton briefed the board on how the equity criterion was strengthened and point values increased. Dr. Patton provided highlights of how the projects were evaluated under the new criterion and noted both improvements and challenges. He then provided further information on the future Equity Pilot Program.

Following TPB's recommendation to the Executive Board, the Draft 2023-2026 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) will be released for public comment in September, with board adoption scheduled for October 2022. Federal approval of the TIP is scheduled for January 2023.

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Kim Daughtry and seconded by Councilmember Ben Zarlingo to recommend Executive Board approval of the projects recommended for PSRC's FHWA funds as identified in Attachments A and B, including the prioritized contingency lists of projects should additional funds become available prior to the next project selection process. The motion passed unanimously.

PSRC TRANSPORTATION WORK PROGRAM

Ms. McGourty, PSRC, noted that the board was continuing its discussions related to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) Work Program from the June meeting. Ms. McGourty reminded the board of the categorization of the various work program elements and the previous feedback provided. The board was to continue discussions on the remaining items not yet covered, including the RTP Prioritization Framework and developing the road map and timeline for the next RTP.

Ms. McGourty provided background information on the RTP Prioritization Framework and reviewed the nine measures included. She reviewed some of the challenges of the existing process and key questions for the board in consideration of updating the framework. Board member comments included the challenge and lack of consensus related to the weighting of measures, but there was consensus in pursuing an update.

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC, discussed the action to convene a board working group to develop a road map and timeline for the next RTP. Board members suggested a focus on how the RTP is performing and how it is actualizing VISION 2050.

Ms. McGourty provided reminders on the work program topics discussed by the board, including the ongoing and mandated items, timelines already determined, and the need for feedback on priority and timelines for the remaining elements. Board members were asked to identify their top three priorities for these work program items via a Zoom poll. The results indicated safety as the top ranked priority; tied for second was continued refinement of data, analysis and performance metrics along with action items for the

RTP financial strategy; and the third ranked priority was a convening on the future of high-capacity transit.

Chair Ralph noted that the list of priorities from the poll as well as the board feedback from the previous two meetings would be shared with the Executive Steering Committee. All feedback will be incorporated into the development of the next biennial budget and work program which will begin in the fall.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

TPB MEMBERS & ALTERNATES PRESENT

See attached attendance roster.

GUESTS and PSRC STAFF ATTENDING

(As determined by staff)

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC
Gil Cerise, PSRC
Carolyn Downs, PSRC
Sarah Gutschow, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Piset Khuon, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Casey Moreau, PSRC
Dr. Charles Patton, PSRC

Attachments:

TPB July 14, 2022 Attendance Roster

Transportation Policy Board - July 2022				5.a.a	
Voting Members		✓	Non-voting Members		
King County	2	CM Girmay Zahilay	1 Associate Members		
		CM Dave Upthegrove	1 Island County	1	COMM Melanie Bacon
		Vacant Alt			COMM Jill Johnson Alt
		Vacant Alt	Thurston Regional Planning Council	1	CM Dani Madrone, Olympia
Seattle	2	CM Dan Strauss	1		COMM Carolina Mejia, Thurston Co Alt
		CM Alex Pedersen	1		
		CP Debora Juarez Alt	Public Agency Members		
Bellevue	1	CM Jennifer Robertson	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1	Cynthia Wang
		CM Janice Zahn Alt			Kathy Strange Alt
Cities/Towns	3	CM Kate Kruller, Tukwila	1 Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1	Dan Gatchet
		MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair	1 WA Transportation Improvement Board	1	Brian Ziegler Alt
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah			Vacant
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac Alt	1 PSRC Committees		CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt
		CM Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt	Regional Staff Cmte.	1	Jesse Hamashima, Pierce Co.
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt			Chip Vincent, Renton Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski	1 Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1	Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.
		Vacant Alt			Russ Blount, Fife Alt
Kitsap County	1	COM Robert Gelder	Transportation Operators Cmte.	1	Peter Heffernan, King County
		COM Charlotte Garrido Alt			Lindsey Sehmel Alt, Pierce Transit
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1 Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor		
		CP Michael Goodnow Alt	Laborers Local Union 242	1	Billy Hetherington
Cities/Towns	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard	exp. 12/31/22		Dale Bright Alt
		CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl Alt	WA Roundtable	1	Neil Strege
Local Transit	1	MYR Becky Erickson, Poulsbo	exp. 12/31/22		Vacant Alt
		CM John Clauson, Port Orchard Alt	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce exp. 12/31/22	1	Rob Berman, HDR Engineering
Pierce County	1	CM Ryan Mello, Vice Chair	1 Master Builders of Pierce County exp. 12/31/23	1	Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt
		CM Dave Morell Alt			Jessie Gamble
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker			Jeremiah Lafranica Alt
		CM Conor McCarthy Alt	Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment		
Cities & Towns	1	CM Bryan Yambe, Fife	Seattle Aging & Disability Services exp. 12/31/23	1	Dinah Stephens
		MYR Josh Penner, Orting Alt			Vacant Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County	League of Women Voters of WA exp. 12/31/22	1	Cynthia Stewart
		DEP MYR John Palmer, Puyallup Alt			Vacant Alt
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead	1 Public Health Seattle/ King County exp.12/31/23	1	Darrell Rodgers
		CM Sam Low Alt			Shawn Frederick, SNOHD Alt
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo	1 Transportation Choices Coalition exp. 12/31/23	1	Alex Hudson
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt			Matthew Sutherland Alt
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1 Non-voting	16	Non-voting members present
		CM Jeffrey Beeler, Sultan Alt 1	Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members		
		CM Michael Stevens, Marysville Alt 2	State Legislators	87	Districts within PSRC's boundary
Local Transit	1	CM Kim Daughtry, Lake Stevens			
		CM Jan Schuette, Arlington Alt			
Regional Transit	1	MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife			
		Vacant Alt			
Federally Recognized Tribes					
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	1	CM John Daniels, Jr.			
		Vacant Alt			
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Andrew Strobel			
		Robert Barandon Alt			
Suquamish Tribe	1	CM Luther (Jay) Mills			
		CHRMN Leonard Forsman Alt			
Statutory Members					
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle	1		
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt			
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jerry Litt	1		
		COM Hester Serebrin Alt			
WSDOT	1	SEC Roger Millar			
		ASST SEC Julie Meredith Alt 1	1		
		Brian Nielsen Alt 2			
		Steve Roark Alt 3			
		Robin Mayhew Alt 4			
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)					
House Transportation Cmte.	2	REP Emily Wicks, D			Abbreviations
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt			CHRMN Chairman
		REP Dan Griffey, R			CM Councilmember
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt			CP Council President
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant, D			COM Commissioner
		SEN Mark Mullet, D Alt			MYR Mayor
		Vacant, R			DEP MYR Mayor
		Vacant, R Alt			SEC Secretary
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	25		ASST SEC Assistant Secretary
		Total Voting members present	28		REP Representative
					SEN Senator