



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Project Evaluation Committee

August 2023 Information Item

The following information provides status reports on various PSRC Transportation work program items currently underway.

Current Grant Competitions:

The Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program and Transportation Alternatives Program competitions have been underway since late spring. The staff scoring processes are complete and the recommendation committees will be meeting the week of August 21-25. Project recommendations will be submitted to the Transportation Policy Board at their September meeting and released for public comment. Final board approval is scheduled for October.

Equity Pilot:

Staff has been working with PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) on development of the Equity Pilot since January. As a reminder, funds were set aside during the 2022 project selection process to conduct this pilot to identify and test improvements to how equity is evaluated in PSRC's grant competitions. The Call for Projects for the \$6 million of available funding is anticipated in mid-September, and advance notice was recently provided via email to all agencies. This process will have a short turn-around time, with project recommendations discussed with the EAC at their November meeting.

Safety:

The summary of proceedings from the June 29th Regional Safety Summit will be posted to PSRC's [website](#) soon. The draft scope of work to develop the Regional Safety Plan is anticipated to be discussed by PSRC's boards in September, and work to commence shortly thereafter in line with the awarded Safe Streets and Roads For All Grant.

Climate:

PSRC is convening an expert review panel to review our climate modeling and analyses, anticipated to run through September. Feedback from the panel will be shared with boards and committees later this year, including discussions of any potential improvements throughout PSRC's relevant work programs. In addition, the partnership project led by PSCAA to develop a regional climate action plan through the

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program continues to move forward. As milestones on this project are reached, more information will be provided.

Regional Transportation Plan:

The regular mid-cycle call for project updates for Regional Capacity Projects in the Regional Transportation Plan is anticipated to be held this fall. More information will be shared with agencies soon.

FHWA Project Delivery:

Projects are still in the process of being obligated, and as of the end of July PSRC's delivery was at 87%. Staff continues to closely monitor the progress of all remaining projects. Once final information is available – including any information on the awarding of redistributed OA to the region – all agencies will be notified.

2024 Project Selection Process:

It is anticipated that board discussions on the development of the 2024 project selection process will occur between September and December. The primary topic areas of interest are safety, climate and equity and potential improvements to the process based on the planning activities for each of these elements as described above. As this process unfolds information will be shared with RPEC and the four countywide forums. In addition, the project Delivery Working Group is developing recommendations for improvements to delivery and project tracking which will be discussed by the committees this fall.

Potential In-Person RPEC Meeting:

Similar to PSRC's boards and the Regional Staff Committee, RPEC members may opt to hold one of their upcoming meetings prior to December as an in-person meeting. While remote attendance will still be facilitated, in-person attendance would be strongly encouraged to provide an opportunity for more robust networking and engagement. Lunch would be provided after the committee meeting. PSRC will send a poll within the coming weeks to identify interest and a preferred date by committee members.

As a reminder, PSRC is moving offices in January 2024! More information will be shared in the coming months, but please refer to this February [presentation](#) for more details.