

PSRC's Project Tracking Program

Transportation Policy Board
November 9, 2023



Today's Presentation



- Overview of project delivery history and trends
- Briefing on 2023 delivery
- Overview of project delivery policy topics under discussion by RPEC



Overview and Background

Project Tracking Program and Policies:

- In place since 2003
- Goal = efficient and timely project delivery, minimize cost of delays, preserve federal funds coming to the region

Policies updated over time

- Current policies address annual delivery target for FHWA funds
 - *Must be met or loss of unused funds*
- Policies set firm obligation deadlines but allow opportunity for one extension



Overview and Background

Extensive monitoring and communication process

- Twice yearly monitoring of all PSRC-funded projects until completion
- Enhanced communication on project delivery status
 - *PSRC staff maintain and regularly update a project tracking summary throughout the year*
 - *Delivery status for each project shared monthly with the Regional Project Evaluation Committee and countywide forums*



Overview and Background

5-Step Process for rebalancing and supplemental funding actions, if necessary to fill a delivery gap each year:

1. *Advance projects from later years of the TIP*
2. *Exchange federal funds for local or state funds between phases of a single project, or between projects within the same agency*
3. *Fund immediately ready-to-go projects from the current adopted contingency lists*
4. *Increase the federal share of awarded projects*
5. *Award new funds to new projects, outside of the standard PSRC project selection process*



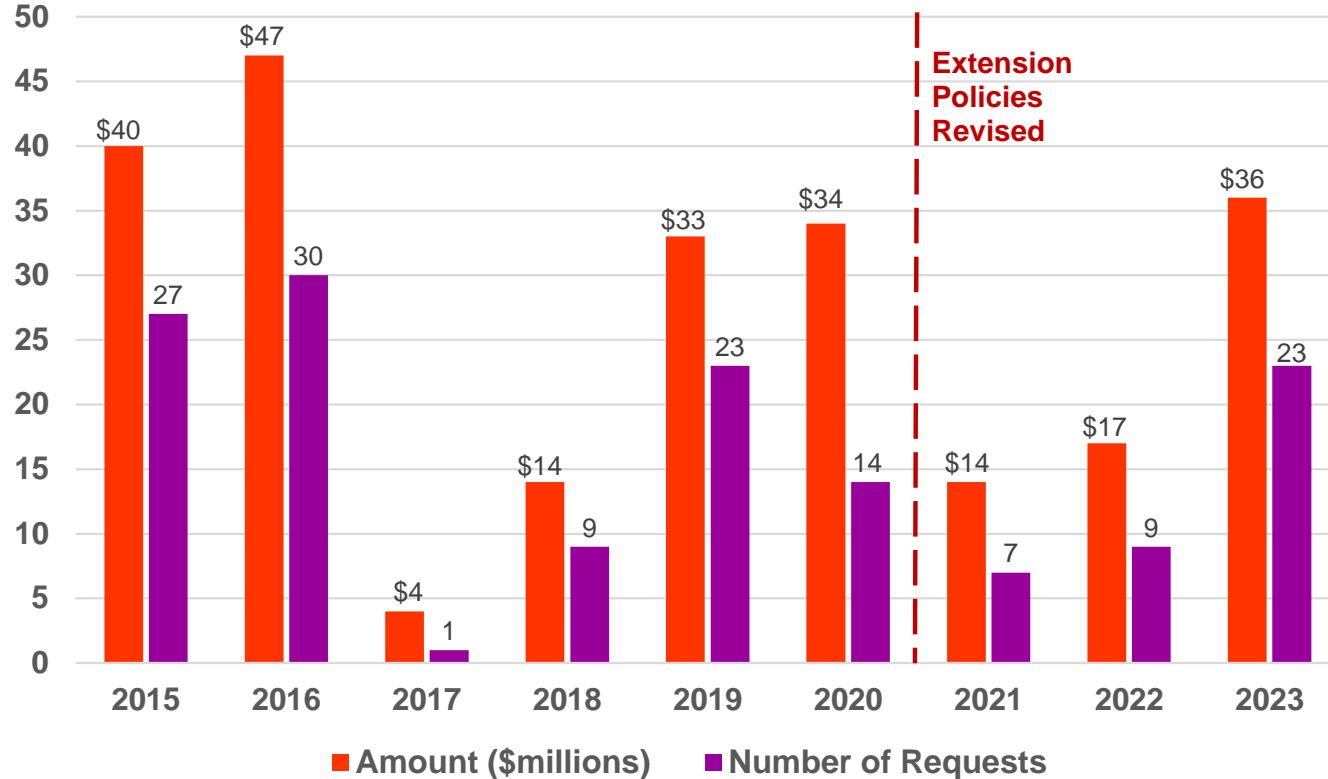
Overview and Background

The annual FHWA delivery target requirement has been in place since 2013

- 8 of the last 10 fiscal years has required a supplemental funding action to meet the delivery target
- For the first time, in 2022 the PSRC region did not meet the delivery target
 - Issues occurred in last several months of fiscal year
 - 1-year delivery grace period – have to deliver 2023 allocation *plus* unused portion from 2022, or lose federal funds
- Available information indicates region achieved 2023 target, but final confirmation from WSDOT is pending



One-Year Extension Requests (2015-2023)



Project Delivery – Looking Forward



Problem Statement

PSRC conducts a competitive process to select projects that best meet regional policies.

Our region has difficulty achieving required delivery each year, typically requiring supplemental funding outside of the normal competitive process.

This causes the region to push and sometimes miss obligation deadlines needed to ensure delivery within each fiscal year.



Project Delivery – Looking Forward

As a region, we want to:

- **achieve our delivery target** with initially-awarded projects each year;
- **mitigate large supplemental funding actions each year** and maintain the integrity of our competitive processes;
- **demonstrate that we can deliver federal funds** and be in position to receive additional federal funds above our allocation; and
- **return our contingency list process back to its original form** – utilize for new or returned funding before the next process, not a need for immediately ready-to-go projects to meet delivery.



RPEC/Countywide Working Group on Project Delivery

- Initial review by working group – made up of representatives from RPEC and the four countywide forums
- First half of year, focus was on “emergency tools” for current year delivery
 - *New policies adopted by Board in April 2023*
- Second half of year, focus has been on addressing overall project delivery challenges



Project Delivery Policy Review Focus

In funding competitions:

1. Approach to project readiness/financial plan assessment
2. Two phase (PE+1) award policy

In annual rebalancing process, for supplemental funding:

3. Order of 5-step process
4. Rebalancing process timelines



Project Delivery Policy Review Focus

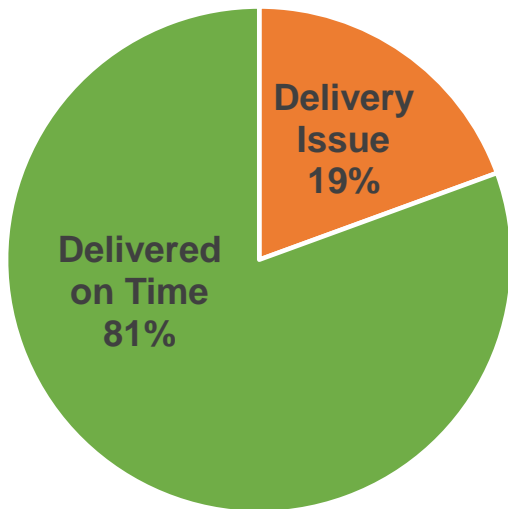
In funding competitions:

1. Approach to project readiness/financial plan assessment
 - *Consider moving from scored criterion to eligibility threshold*
2. Two phase (PE+1) award policy
 - *Evaluation of delivery challenges with awarding two phases in one competition*

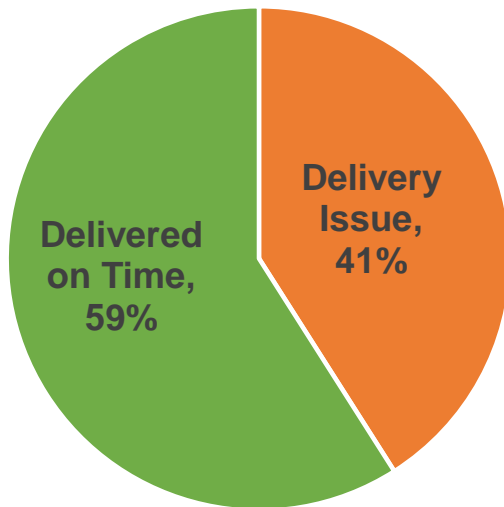


Delivery Trends – Two-Phase Awards

Since 2018...



Single Phase Awards
(255 total)



Two-Phase (PE+1) Awards
(60 total)

Issues have occurred across:

- *project types;*
- *agency types/sizes;*
- *phase types*



Project Delivery Policy Review Focus

In annual rebalancing process, for supplemental funding:

3. Order of 5-step process

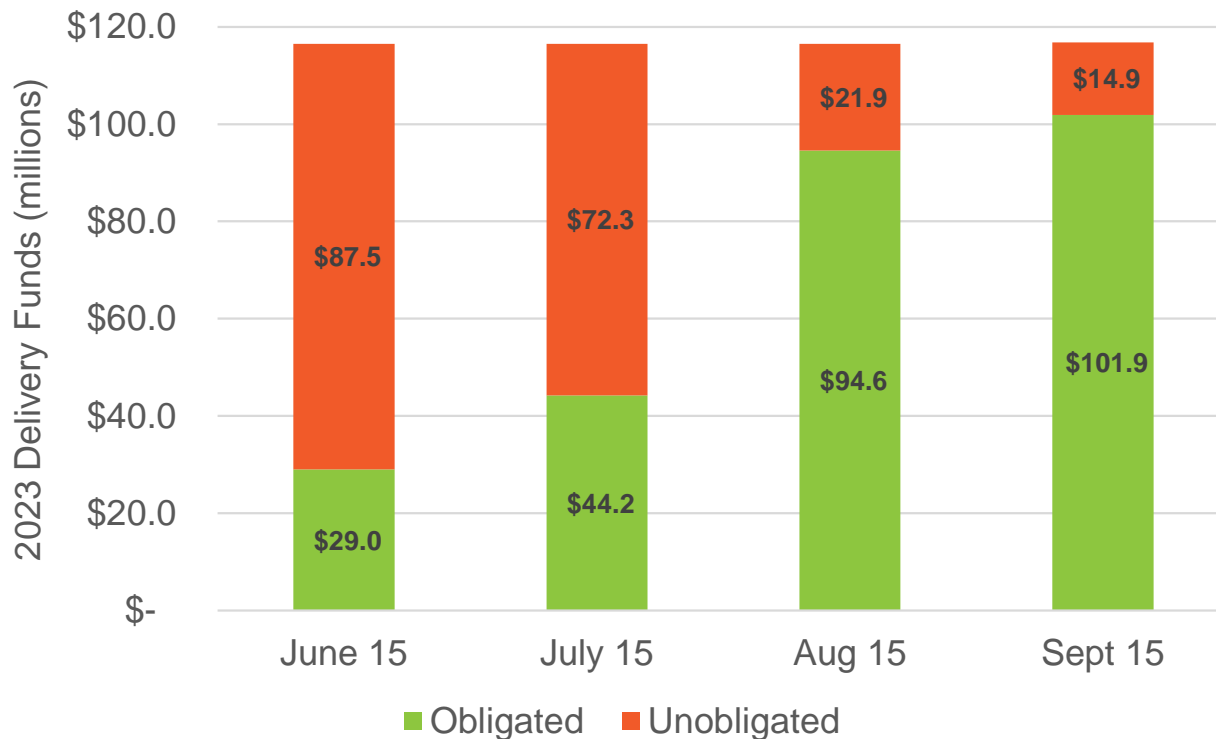
- *Mitigation of awarding funds based solely on “immediately ready to go” status*
- *Consider increasing federal share in existing projects first*

4. Rebalancing process timelines

- *Mitigation of overburden at end of fiscal year*



Delivery Timeline Challenges



Next Steps

- RPEC currently reviewing Project Delivery Working Group analysis/recommendations to address issues
- RPEC recommendations for updated to Project Tracking policies will be brought to TPB in December
- Policy updates adopted by the board will be incorporated into the *2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*



Thank You!

Kelly McGourty
kmcgourty@psrc.org
206-971-3601

Jennifer Barnes
jbarnes@psrc.org
206-389-2876

