

PSRC's Project Tracking Program

Transportation Policy Board
December 14, 2023



Today's Presentation



- Overview of project delivery history and trends
- Briefing on 2023 delivery and historical trends
- Review of RPEC project delivery policy recommendations



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
- Policies set firm obligation deadlines but allow opportunity for one extension
- Revised extension request policies for FHWA in 2021



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

Extensive monitoring and communication process

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



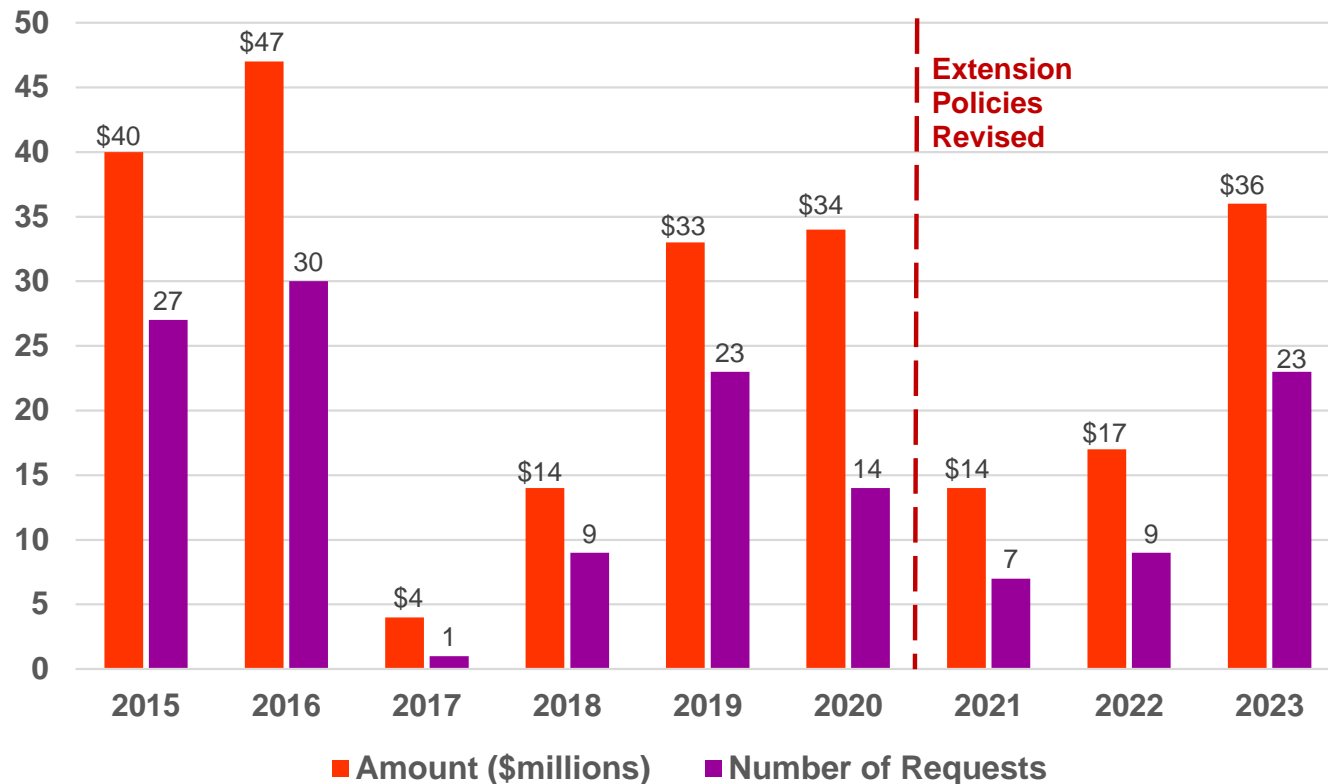
2023 Project Delivery

PSRC Region:

- Delivered 85 projects
 - with total of ~\$116.5 million in FHWA funds
- Received ~\$4.5 million in additional allocation due to delivery achievement

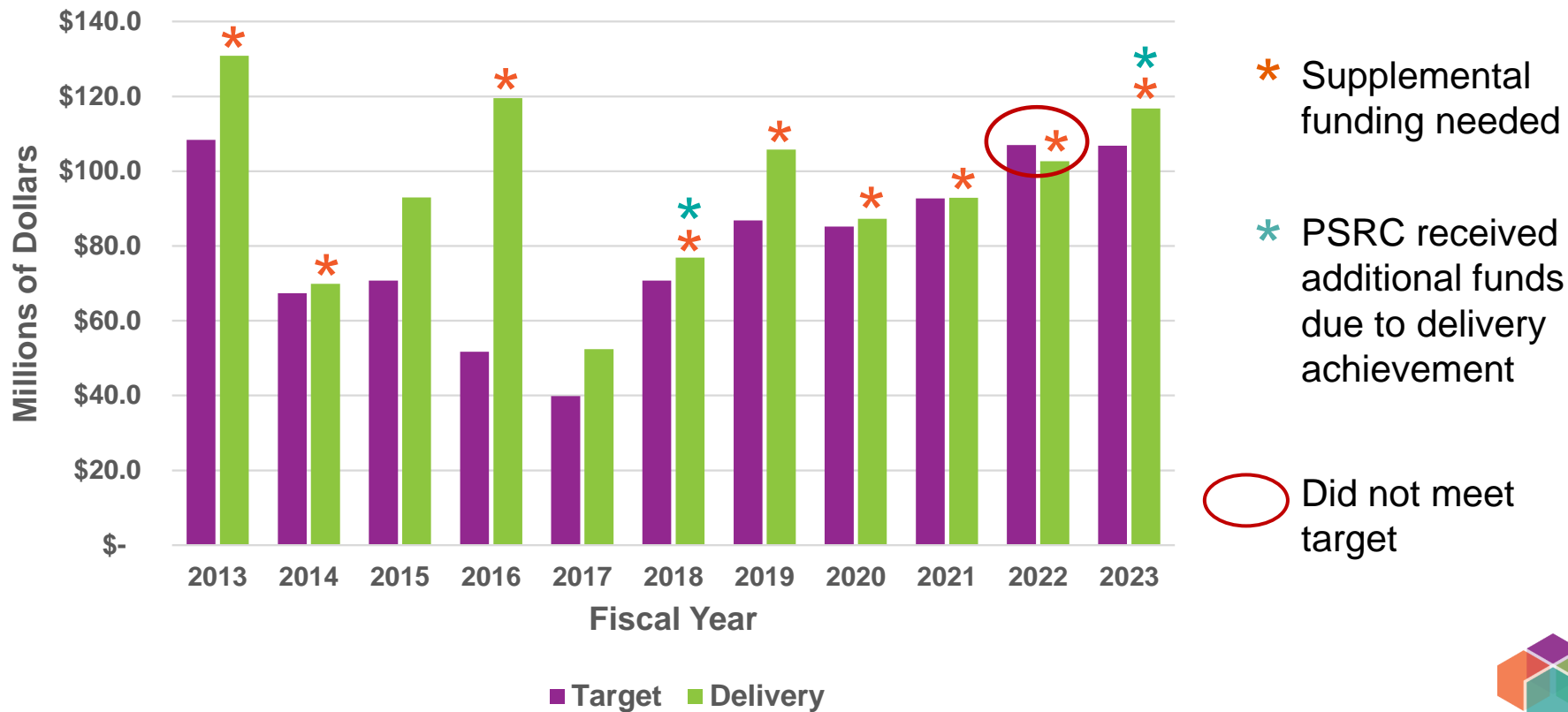


One-Year Extension Requests



PSRC Project Delivery Trends

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



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 Recommendations

In funding competitions:

1. Change project readiness/financial plan from a scored criterion to an eligibility criterion
2. Award only one phase per competition (no PE+1)

In annual rebalancing process, for supplemental funding:

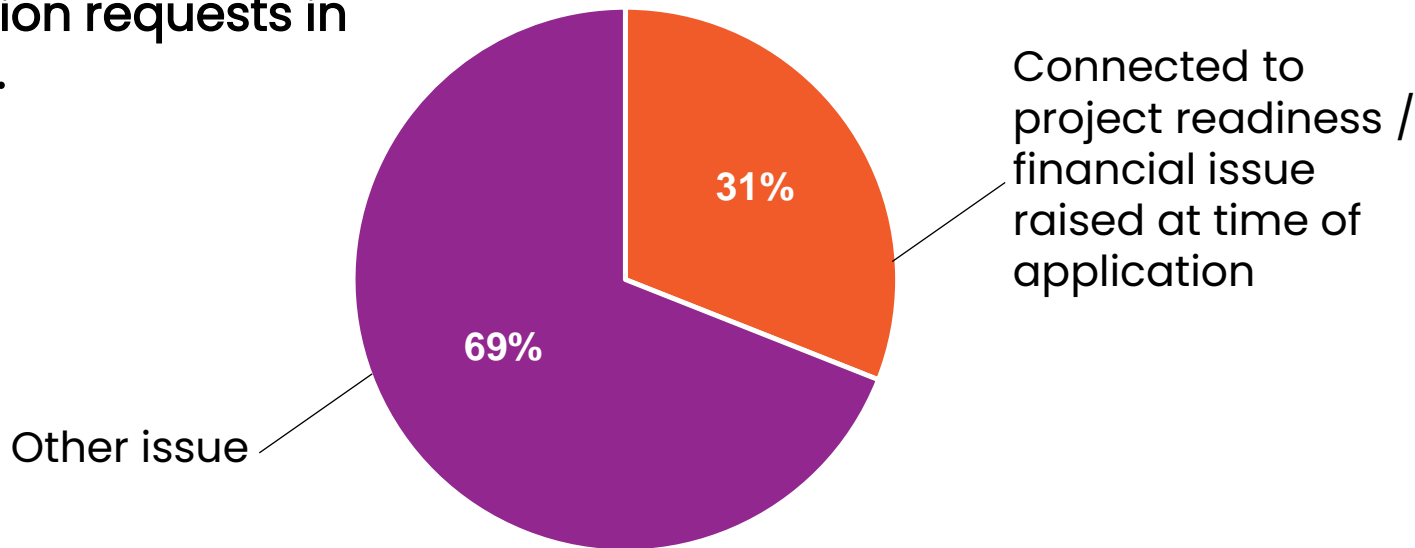
3. Award increased federal shares before contingency projects
4. Adjust process timeline to accommodate more June 1 deadlines



Project Tracking Policy Recommendation #1

Recommendation #1: In funding competitions, change project readiness/financial plan from a scored criterion to an eligibility criterion.

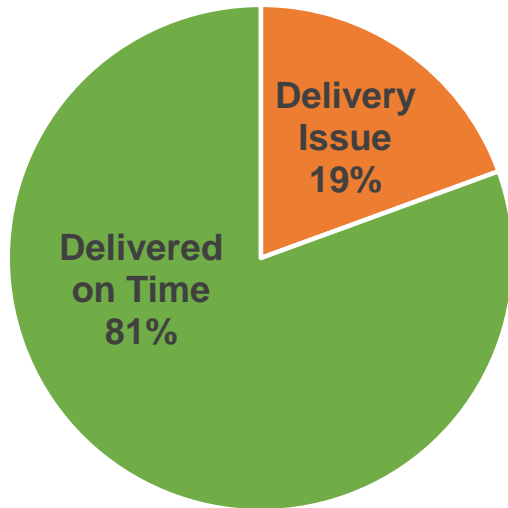
Of 35 extension requests in last 3 years...



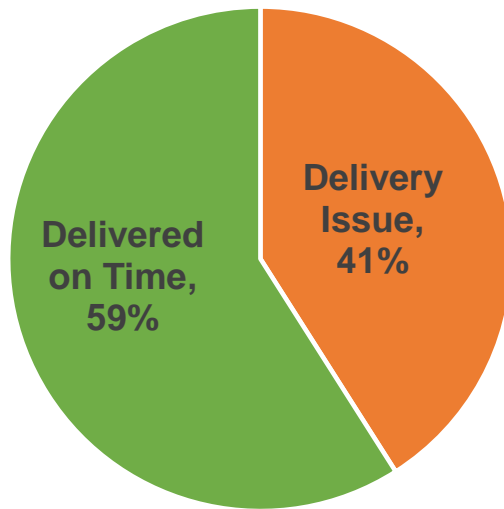
Project Tracking Policy Recommendation #2

Recommendation #2: Award only one phase per competition.

Since 2018...



Single Phase Awards
(255 total)



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

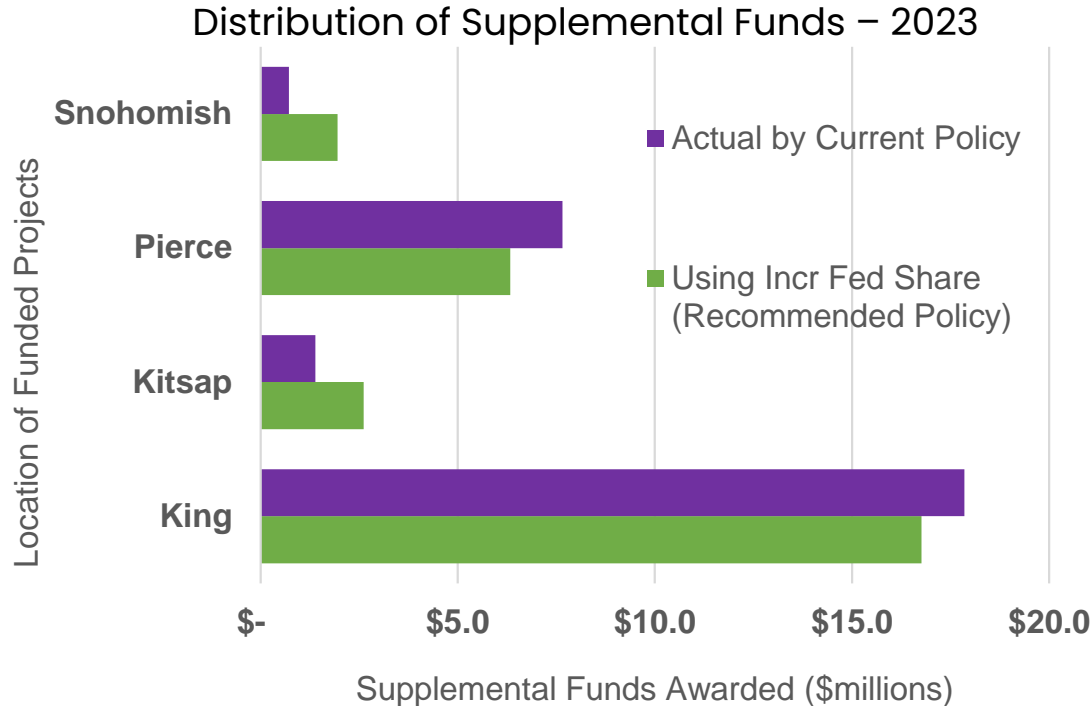
Issues have occurred across:

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



Project Tracking Policy Recommendation #3

Recommendation #3: Award increased federal shares to existing projects before awarding to new contingency projects.



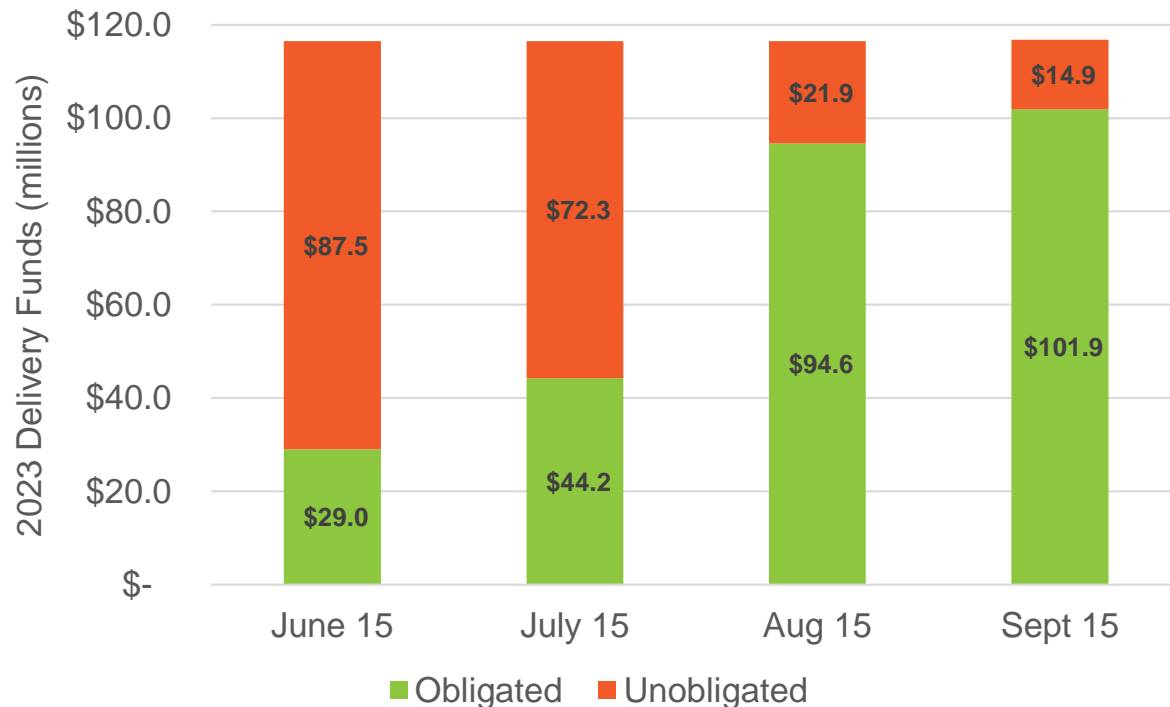
- In award to contingency projects, “immediately ready to go” status is the primary consideration.
- Geographic balance is more inherent in increased federal shares.



Project Tracking Policy Recommendation #4

Recommendation #4: Adjust process timeline to accommodate more June 1 deadlines.

In FY2023, over half of delivery funds were tied to rebalancing, with July 15 obligation deadline, pushing overall delivery late into the year.



Next Steps

- TPB recommendation / Executive Board action for project tracking policy updates will be requested at January meetings
- Policy updates adopted by the board will be incorporated into the *2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*



Thank You!

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