

Project Selection Future Work

Transportation Policy Board | February 8, 2024



Puget Sound Regional Council



We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

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Today's Agenda

- Review of two items flagged for future work from the discussion on the *2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*
 - Addressing general purpose capacity projects on limited access highways
 - Setting scoring thresholds for funding
- Board direction on scope and schedule for this work



Concept: Limit to Eligible Projects for PSRC Funds

The Transportation Policy Board considered prohibiting projects on limited access highways that add general purpose vehicle capacity to compete for PSRC's federal funds

- Would only limit projects on these specific state highways that add general purpose lanes
- Projects addressing safety, preservation, HOV on these facilities would still be eligible
- Projects adding capacity on other facilities would still be eligible

Recommendation did not pass, but staff was directed to continue to research and evaluate this concept



Concept: Limit to Eligible Projects for PSRC Funds

Board direction on scope and schedule:

- What questions need to be answered?
 - E.g., specific examples of projects that would be allowed and projects that would be prohibited
 - Identification of previous projects that would have been impacted
 - Other?
- When would you like staff to come back with more information?
 - Given project selection schedule, staff would propose no earlier than this fall



Concept: Scoring Threshold

The Transportation Policy Board considered setting a scoring threshold, below which projects would not be considered for funding

- Would set a priority to fund only projects that best meet criteria and regional policy
- Concerns specifically raised with funding low-scoring “immediately ready to go” projects on the contingency list – after competition – to meet the annual delivery target
 - *Mitigated with approved project tracking revisions*



Concept: Scoring Threshold

- Given evenly split board opinion and logistical details to be determined (across regional and countywide competitions):
 - Recommendation that staff be directed to work with RPEC on this concept and return to the board later in 2024 with a more defined proposal and administrative details
 - *Can be amended into PSRC's Project Tracking Policies and Procedures*
 - *Would not affect 2024 project selection process, but could affect 2024 and future contingency distributions and 2026 project selection process*



Concept: Scoring Threshold

Board direction on scope and schedule:

- Given the 2024 project selection process schedule, staff proposes to begin this work with RPEC and return with options in the Fall
 - Data, potential implications will be shared
 - Options for implementation
 - Are there other specific parameters the board would like considered?

