

Freight Advisory Committee

April 11, 2024



Puget Sound Regional Council

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30)

Roll call and introductions.

2. Approve Meeting Summary for December 13, 2023* (9:35)

3. Discussion: PSRC Transportation Committee Assessment (9:40)*

PSRC has been assessing its eight current transportation committees for efficiencies and to maximize regionwide engagement opportunities. Staff will share the results of this assessment as it relates to the FAC and discuss next steps.

4. Discussion: Update on Regional Transportation Plan (10:10)

PSRC staff will provide an update on the 2026 Regional Transportation Plan, including inventory updates, board engagement, and other preliminary work completed to date. The committee will discuss potential areas of FAC focus for the freight element of the plan update.

5. Discussion: Other Business and Announcements (10:45)

6. Next Meeting: June 12, 2024

7. Adjourn (11:00)



PSRC Committee Assessment

PSRC's Transportation Planning Division currently administers and supports eight standing committees. The administration and support for this number of committees, along with their individual committee work programs, represents a substantial workload for staff and time commitment for committee members.

Goals

- Ensure that transportation planning committees advance key PSRC work program goals and objectives
- Ensure that membership and meeting cadence of committees are appropriate to meeting those goals and objectives.
- Make most efficient use of members' time



PSRC Committee Assessment

Key Findings Overall

- Average of 47 meetings per year over 2019–2023 between eight committees
- Almost 300 committee member seats include a cohort of people who represent their agency on multiple seats
- High turnover and low attendance for some committees
- Survey of MPOs and how other planning divisions at PSRC engage committees showed that there are multiple ways and formats to engage stakeholders on important planning topics



PSRC Committee Assessment

Key FAC Findings

- Membership structure is large with 33 voting seats and 5 non-voting
 - Structure based on outdated subarea definitions from the previous Industrial Land Analysis
- Small number of core members regularly participate, but many seats are either vacant or have low participation
 - Average 12 members (31%) at meetings from mid-2022 thru 2023
 - Average of 13 non-members at meetings during same period
- High overlap between FAC and RPEC membership



PSRC Committee Assessment

Committee Updates

| Committees with PSRC Mandate | Committees with Priority Focus Topic | Committees with Ad Hoc Focus Topic |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Regional Project Evaluation Committee</p> <p>Transportation Operators Committee</p> | <p>Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee</p> <p>Freight Advisory Committee</p> <p>Special Needs Transportation Committee</p> | <p>Regional FTA Caucus</p> <p>Regional Traffic Operations Committee</p> <p>Transportation Demand Management Committee</p> |
| <p>Have mandates to advance specific PSRC work program elements</p> <p>Chairs on Transportation Policy Board</p> | <p>Provide expertise on priority topic area that would otherwise be a gap in PSRC's work program</p> | <p>Work programs in these areas are more time specific and ad hoc in nature</p> |
| <p>Planning minor review of committee operating procedures and membership, but no substantial changes</p> | <p>Continue as a committee, but reevaluate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership structure and size • Committee purpose statement and operating procedures • Meeting frequency/cadence | <p>Replace standalone committee with other methods of engaging stakeholders, as needed, e.g., broader outreach through webinars or other means</p> |

Freight Advisory Committee

- Purpose
 - Provide technical guidance and subject matter expertise to PSRC's freight planning work program.
 - Support maintaining and improving the multimodal freight transportation system to increase reliability, efficiency, and mobility, as called for in the VISION 2050.



Freight Advisory Committee

- Work Program
 - Provide support for the development of the freight-related elements of the RTP.
 - Share technical guidance on data and other planning products in support of freight in the Regional Transportation Plan.
 - Analyze data to identify priority freight network needs.
 - Support the implementation of Regional Transportation Plan's freight actions.
 - Help incorporate the perspectives of the freight community into PSRC's planning products and guidance.



Discussion: FAC Update

- Membership
 - Smaller, but maintain balanced representation of MICs and industrial areas, as well as geographic balance
- Meeting Cadence
 - Maintain bi-monthly schedule, but cancel if no freight work program related agenda needs
 - For some topics that need broader input, webinars may appropriate
- Committee Purpose & Operating Procedures
 - Evaluate and refine to maintain focus on PSRC freight work program

