



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES

**Puget Sound Regional Council Transportation Policy Board
May 9, 2024
1201 3rd Ave., Ste 500, Seattle, WA 98101**

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Councilmember Ryan Mello, Vice Chair. Vice Chair Mello stated that a video of the meeting would be streamed live as well as recorded. The video would be available for viewing on PSRC's website. A call-in number was provided on the meeting agenda for members of the public to call in by phone and listen to the meeting live.

Roll call determined attendance and that a quorum was present.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Brock Howell provided public comment to the board.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Vice Chair Mello and Mayor Ralph did not have remarks for report of the chair.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, noted that when the board discussed the *2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds* there were two items considered at length that did not advance. At that time, the board directed staff to continue work on these two topics. Staff asked for board feedback on what would be helpful for further analysis and evaluation. Feedback received was included as an information item in the agenda packet. Staff will share this feedback with the Regional Project Evaluation Committee to develop further options for board consideration in the fall.

Ms. McGourty shared that PSRC meets regularly with other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs)

from around the state. Additionally, MPOs and RTPOs have a quarterly meeting with the Washington State Department of Transportation to align on major policy issues and coordinate with the state. The next meeting of this group is next week and will be focused on safety. Ms. McGourty reminded the board that PSRC is working on the development of the Regional Safety Action Plan, and a briefing will be provided next month.

Ms. McGourty shared that PSRC has submitted a comment letter on the Amtrak Cascades Service Development Plan. The letter is posted on PSRC's website. Additionally, PSRC has submitted a letter signed by 38 local elected leaders to the House and Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development subcommittees strongly recommending that funding for ferry programs be set at the highest level possible in 2025. The letter is also posted on PSRC's website.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held April 11, 2024
- b. Recommend Approval of FTA Project Extensions

ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Barón/Pauly) to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN MODELING AND ANALYSIS TOOLS

Craig Helmann, PSRC, discussed PSRC's analysis tools used to support the development of the RTP. The tools address the components of population and employment, travel behavior, emissions and other metrics.

Mr. Helmann shared that the regional forecast provides estimates of how many people and jobs there are in the region. It is the basis for VISION 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy. He also provided an overview of PSRC's land use modeling products, which is at the parcel level and addresses individual persons and jobs. Mr. Helmann reminded the board that PSRC provides metrics at a variety of geographies and addresses PSRC's six Equity Focus Areas (EFAs): youth, older adults, people with disabilities, people of color, people with lower incomes, and people with limited English proficiency.

Mr. Helmann then gave an overview of PSRC's activity-based model, Soundcast. Soundcast predicts individual activity and choices, including how and where people travel. Travel behavior in Soundcast is informed by the latest Regional Household Travel Survey. The recently released 2023 survey will be helpful in learning about behaviors post-pandemic.

Mr. Helmann described the transportation network that is modeled, including roadways, transit, freight, etc. He provided examples of various metrics the model produces to analyze the performance of the system, such as speed, travel time, delay, transit boardings, etc. The analysis of air pollutants and greenhouse gases was also described. Mr. Helman went on to share that PSRC collects a vast amount of data for use in the RTP and provided examples that will be further described in the next presentation.

Members asked about the model's capabilities to analyze various topics such as displacement, aviation emissions, emerging and alternative technologies and qualitative issues such as the transit rider experience. Staff provided information on other related efforts such as PSRC's displacement risk mapping, regional partnership efforts on greenhouse gas emission inventories and planned sensitivity testing for the next RTP.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN DATA COLLECTION AND INVENTORIES

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, shared that her presentation would discuss data and associated analysis conducted outside of the PSRC models.

Ms. Barnes gave an overview of the data collected to support the 2022 RTP. It was an extensive data collection effort where staff worked with local jurisdictions and other entities to gather data. Ms. Barnes also noted concurrent data collection efforts supporting the Regional Safety Action Plan and the RTP financial strategy.

Ms. Barnes highlighted the Transportation Visualization Tool which includes all mappable data collected. The tool is available for use by local jurisdictions to review and analyze their transportation systems.

Ms. Barnes shared details of current inventory updates underway. PSRC is gathering data on pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and programs, specialized transportation services, mobility on demand services, transportation demand management (TDM) programs, intelligent transportation systems (ITS) and freight assets and goods movement. This data collection will support the development of the next RTP.

Ms. Barnes shared the types of analysis that will be conducted on this data, including identifying gaps in the transportation network, connectivity, reach of transit services, freight movement patterns and needs and trends over time. She shared examples of analysis conducted for the 2022 RTP. PSRC expects most data collection efforts to be completed this year. Efforts in 2025 will focus on analysis of the updated data.

Members provided feedback on maintenance and preservation needs and the need for clear data, as well as on freight movement. Members also suggested sensitivity tests be conducted on the potential impacts to the system if the network is not maintained.

DISCUSSION ITEM: 2024 OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Noah Boggess, PSRC, shared information on PSRC's Equitable Engagement Guidance document for both internal and external audiences. The guidance provides best practices for encouraging more meaningful and impactful community engagement.

Mr. Boggess described the planned framework and stakeholders to be included in the outreach for development of the Regional Safety Action Plan. He described the overall schedule and asked the board for feedback on any additional stakeholders to consider.

Mr. Boggess then described the outreach activities conducted for the current RTP. This included surveys, an online open house focus groups and other activities. Mr. Boggess noted in particular the outreach conducted for the Coordinated Mobility Plan, which is a component of the RTP.

Mr. Boggess provided an overview of the outreach to be conducted for the next RTP. Engagement efforts will build from the previous efforts, but new and additional efforts are also planned. These efforts will leverage recent and upcoming work such as that to be conducted for the Regional Safety Action Plan. Outreach, in particular, will prioritize equity focus areas, continue to build relationships with community-based organizations and tribal partners and expand outreach to youth and people with accessibility and mobility needs.

Mr. Boggess noted that PSRC's Summer Planning Academy is now accepting applications. Members shared that they were excited about outreach, but noted concern with burnout on public engagement. Members asked if PSRC's outreach list could be shared so that members could make suggestions.

Vice Chair Mello noted that information items on the Summer Planning Academy and the General Assembly were included in the packet.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for June 13, 2024.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

ATTACHMENT

- A. Attendance Roster – May 9, 2024.

Transportation Policy Board - May 9, 2024				05.a - Att. A	
Voting Members			✓	Non-voting Members	✓
King County	2	CM Jorge Barón	1	Associate Members	
		Vacant		Island County	1
		Vacant Alt			1
Seattle	2	CM Rob Saka	1	Thurston Regional Planning Council	1
		CM Robert Kettle	1		1
		CM Tanya Woo, Alt		Public Agency Members	
Bellevue	1	CM Dave Hamilton	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1
		CM Jared Nieuwenhuis Alt			1
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair	1	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah	1		1
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac	1	Public Health	1
		CM Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt			1
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt	1	WA Tran. Improvement Board	1
		CM Matt Mahoney, Des Moines Alt			1
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski	1	PSRC Committees	
		Vacant Alt		Equity Advisory Cmte.	1
Kitsap County	1	COM Christine Rolfes	1		1
		COM Charlotte Garrido Alt		Regional Staff Cmte.	1
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1		1
		CP Jennifer Chamberlin Alt		Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1
Cities/Towns	1	CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl	1		1
		CM Doug Newell, Poulsbo Alt	1	Transportation Operators Cmte.	1
Local Transit	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard	1		1
		CM Anna Mockler, Bremerton Alt		Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor	
Pierce County	1	CM Ryan Mello, Vice Chair	1	WA Trucking Associations exp. 12/31/26	1
		CM Dave Morell Alt			1
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce exp. 12/31/26	1
		CM Olgy Diaz Alt			1
Cities & Towns	1	CM Tim Ceder, Milton	1	Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment	
		MYR Pro Tem Edward Wood, University Place Alt		TBD	
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County		Non-voting	10
		DEP MYR John Hines, Tacoma			Non-voting members present 11
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead	1		
		CM Strom Peterson Alt			
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo			
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt			
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1		
		CM Michael Dixon, Mukilteo Alt			
Local Transit	1	CM Kim Daughtry, Lake Stevens	1		
		CM Jan Schuette, Arlington Alt			
Regional Transit	1	CM Ed Prince, Renton			
		MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife Alt			
Federally Recognized Tribes					
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	1	CM John Daniels, Jr.			
		Vacant Alt			
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Andrew Strobel			
		Robert Barandon Alt			
Suquamish Tribe	1	CM Luther (Jay) Mills			
		CHRMN Leonard Forsman Alt			
Statutory Members					
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle			
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt	1		
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jim Restucci	1		
		COM Nicole Grant Alt	1		
WSDOT	1	Robin Mayhew			Abbreviations
		Todd Lamphere Alt	1		CHRMN Chairman
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)					
House Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant			CM Councilmember
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt			CP Council President
		REP Dan Griffey, R			COM Commissioner
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt			DEP MYR Mayor
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	SEN Marko Lias, D			MYR Mayor
		SEN Emily Randall, D Alt			MYR Pro Tem
		Vacant, R			REP Representative
		Vacant, R Alt			SEN Senator
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	21		
		Total Voting members present	24		