



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### **MINUTES**

#### **Transportation Policy Board**

**July 11, 2024**

**1201 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Ste 500, Seattle, WA 98101**

To watch a video of the meeting and hear the discussion, go to

<https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair. Chair Ralph 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**

There was no public comment.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Mayor Ralph noted that the board will not be meeting in August and asked the members to review the work plan tracker.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, congratulated Doug McCormick, Snohomish County, for his 2024 County Engineer of the Year award from the Washington State County Road Administration Board. It was also announced that Alexa Leach, PSRC, will be taking over the administrative tasks for the TPB. Ms. McGourty noted that at the end of June, the federal RAISE grants were announced and \$53 million was awarded to five projects in the PSRC region. Ms. McGourty also noted that the work to conduct the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan under EPA's CPRG program is due to be complete by July 2025. Ms. McGourty welcomed the students from the University of Washington

in the Data Science for Social Good program who were in the PSRC board room for the meeting.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held June 13, 2024
- b. Recommend Approval of FTA Project Extensions

**ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Mello/Daughtry) to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.**

### **ACTION ITEM: 2024 RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE 2024 ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF PSRC'S FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA) FUNDS**

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that the FTA adjustments process is an annual process to align the final amounts received from each year's federal allocation to amounts awarded to projects based on estimates during PSRC's project selection process. Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law there was an increase in 2024 funding of an additional \$80.6 million to distribute across the three urbanized areas in the PSRC region. Ms. McGourty reviewed the adjustments to transit projects for both the earned share distribution and via the equity formula distribution.

It was noted that the Transit Operators Committee reviewed and unanimously recommended the full suite of projects.

Members asked about changes in data since the pandemic, and staff noted that transit data reported to the National Transit Database lags behind a few years but, that new transit line openings have also occurred.

**ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Mello/Walker) that the Transportation Policy Board should recommend Executive Board approval of the 2024 annual adjustments of PSRC's FTA funds as identified in Attachment B. The motion passed.**

### **ACTION ITEM: RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF PROJECTS FOR PSRC'S 2027-2028 FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION AND FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FUNDS**

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, provided an overview of the 2024 project selection process and reminded the board of the adoption of the Policy Framework in January 2024, which guided the process, including the significant strengthening of safety and equity considerations. Ms. Barnes described the competitive regional and countywide processes for the distribution of PSRC's FHWA funds and the earned share and equity

formula distribution processes for PSRC's FTA funds. She noted that 136 projects are recommended for approximately \$760 million.

Ms. Barnes described the projects recommended for PSRC's FTA funding, and Doug Cox, PSRC, reviewed the outcomes and features of the FHWA recommended projects. In particular, Mr. Cox described outcomes related to transit, freight, bicycle and pedestrian investments, climate and safety. Given the increased focus on safety, Mr. Cox described the numerous safety countermeasures included in the recommended projects.

Dr. Charles Patton, PSRC, reminded the board of the strengthened equity criteria used in the 2024 process. Dr. Patton then described responses received from higher scoring projects and missed opportunities for lower scoring projects. The key takeaways noted include that low scores do not mean there was something fundamentally wrong with the project but it was noticed that if the sponsor did not participate in the Equity Pilot, they may have missed out on opportunities to fully understand and engage in the updated equity criteria.

Dr. Patton outlined next steps, including encouraging project sponsors to use all PSRC resources and attend trainings; staff debriefing with sponsors to identify points of clarification for future training opportunities; and a recommendation to the board to allow the changes to fully take hold before any additional revisions.

Ms. Barnes reviewed the upcoming schedule for the development of the Draft 2025-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) which includes the public comment release in September and Executive Board adoption in October 2024. The Federal approval of the TIP will take place in January 2025.

Members asked clarifying questions related to relevant safety countermeasures, debriefing with project sponsors and the contingency list process.

**ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Pauly/Kwon) that The Transportation Policy Board should recommend Executive Board approval of the projects recommended for PSRC's FHWA and FTA funds as identified in Attachments A through D, including the prioritized contingency lists of projects should additional funds become available prior to the next project selection process. The motion passed.**

## **DISCUSSION ITEM: COORDINATED MOBILITY PLANNING**

Jean Kim, PSRC, provided an overview of the Coordinated Mobility Plan and the key elements to meet the Federal and State requirements as well as the plan for upcoming engagement.

Ms. Kim reviewed terminology used for coordinated mobility such as specialized transportation services which includes ADA paratransit, accessible shuttles/Vans, and

volunteer transportation. She noted that the Coordinated Mobility Plan is included in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) which is updated every four years. The plan includes regional trends of priority populations, identifies transportation needs and priorities strategies moving forward.

PSRC has been conducting a specialized transportation program inventory which is a requirement for the Coordinated Mobility Plan. Ms. Jean described information provided by the 44 programs and tribes who have completed the inventory. Ms. Kim described the inclusive engagement process that will be conducted to inform development of the plan.

Next steps include the kickoff of engagement by the fall of 2024 and continuing through the summer of 2025. The draft plan will be released for public comment in winter 2025 – early 2026 with the final plan being adopted in spring of 2026.

Members commented on the reality of services requiring transfers versus provision of direct service connections, as well as the importance of these services in areas with limited transit.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2024.

#### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

#### **ATTACHMENT**

- A. Attendance Roster – July 11, 2024.

Transportation Policy Board - July 11, 2024				05.a - Att. A	
Voting Members			✓	Non-voting Members	✓
<b>King County</b>	2	CM Jorge Barón	1	<b>Associate Members</b>	
		Vacant		Island County	1
		Vacant Alt		COMM Melanie Bacon	
				COMM Jill Johnson Alt	
Seattle	2	CM Rob Saka	1	Thurston Regional Planning Council	1
		CM Robert Kettle		MYR Andy Ryder, Lacey	
		CM Tanya Woo, Alt		Marc Daily	1
				<b>Public Agency Members</b>	
Bellevue	1	CM Dave Hamilton	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1
		CM Jared Nieuwenhuis Alt		Vacant	
				Vacant Alt	
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, <b>Chair</b>	1	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah	1	CM Megan Dunn	1
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac	1	Christine Cooley Alt	1
		CM Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt		Public Health	1
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt	1	Jessica Jeavons, Seattle-King County	1
		CM Matt Mahoney, Des Moines Alt	1	Dennis Worsham, Snohomish Co. Alt	
				WA Tran. Improvement Board	1
				Vacant	
				CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt	
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski	1	<b>PSRC Committees</b>	
		Vacant Alt		Equity Advisory Cmte.	1
				Annie Tran	1
				Julius Moss Alt	1
<b>Kitsap County</b>	1	COM Christine Rolfes	1	Regional Staff Cmte.	1
		COM Charlotte Garrido Alt		Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake	
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1	Kelly Snyder, Snohomish Co. Alt	
		CP Jennifer Chamberlin Alt		Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1
				Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.	1
Cities/Towns	1	CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl	1	Shane Weber, Bremerton Alt	
		CM Doug Newell, Poulsbo Alt		Transit Operators Cmte.	1
				Peter Heffernan, King County	1
Local Transit	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard	1	Melinda Adams, Everett Transit Alt	1
		CM Anna Mockler, Bremerton		<b>Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor</b>	
<b>Pierce County</b>	1	CM Ryan Mello, <b>Vice Chair</b>	1	WA Trucking Associations	1
		CM Dave Morell Alt		exp. 12/31/26	
				Sheri Call	1
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce	1
		CM Olgy Diaz Alt		exp. 12/31/26	
				Jeff DeVere Alt	
				Lorelei Williams, WSP USA	1
				Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt	
Cities & Towns	1	CM Tim Ceder, Milton	1	<b>Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment</b>	
		MYR Pro Tem Edward Wood, University Place Alt		TBD	
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County		Non-voting	12
		DEP MYR John Hines, Tacoma		Non-voting members present	11
<b>Snohomish County</b>	1	CM Jared Mead	1		
		CM Strom Peterson Alt			
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo	1		
		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			
<b>Regional Transit</b>	1	CM Ed Prince, Renton	1		
		MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife Alt			
<b>Federally Recognized Tribes</b>					
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			
<b>Statutory Members</b>					
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle			
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt	1		
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jim Restucci			
		COM Nicole Grant Alt			
WSDOT	1	Robin Mayhew	1	Abbreviations	
		Todd Lamphere Alt	1	CHRMN Chairman	
<b>Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)</b>				CM Councilmember	
House Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant		CP Council President	
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt		COM Commissioner	
		REP Dan Griffey, R		DEP MYR Deputy Mayor	
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt		MYR Mayor	
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	SEN Marko Lias, D		MYR Pro Tem	
		SEN Emily Randall, D Alt		REP Representative	
		Vacant, R		SEN Senator	
		Vacant, R Alt			
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	21		
		Total Voting members present	24		