

Federal and State Updates

Transportation Policy Board

January 9, 2025



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.

psrc.org/equity

Federal Updates

- Republican House Majority is very close
 - will be 220–215 (217–215 until special elections)
- Continuing Resolution keeping federal government operating until March 14, 2025
- Tax cut extension focus for Congress
- DOT Secretary nominee – Sean Duffy
- Surface Transportation Reauthorization
- Sam Graves waiver for Transportation and Infrastructure Committee



2025 State Legislature



- Democratic majority in the Senate will be 30-19. The Democratic majority in the House will be 59-39
- Legislative session starts on January 13, runs 105-days, ends on Sunday, April 27, 2025

2025 Legislative Session Budget Outlook

- Operating budget deficit of \$12 billion
- Transportation budget deficit of \$8 billion
- Governor Inslee directed state agencies to propose budget reductions
- Governor Inslee's budget released December 11
- New revenue being considered by legislature



Unmet Transportation Budget Needs

- Backfill for State Patrol, ferries & operating programs
- Existing projects – known cost increase of \$1 billion
- Culvert replacement additional \$5 billion+
- Maintenance and preservation programs: additional \$1.5 billion+ per year to reach state of good repair
- Toll Accounts: (SR 520, Gateway, I-405)
- Currently planned projects continue to increase in cost estimates/bids
- Ferry fleet – 1 new vessel per year



Governor Ferguson Transition



- 53-member transition team
- 12 subcommittees
 - Transportation – Senator Liias
 - Housing – Lt. Governor Heck
 - Budget Savings and Efficiencies – Senator Mullet and Rachel Smith, Greater Seattle Metro Chamber
- Subcommittee white papers due January 9



WSDOT Secretary



Julie Meredith

Ferguson taps Washington transportation department insider to lead agency (WA State Standard)



Bills to Watch

- Road Usage Charge
- Transit Oriented Development
- Impaired Driving [SB 5067](#)
- Rent stability
- Lot splitting – [HB 1096](#)





Thank You!

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