

Regional Transportation Plan

Regional Capacity Project Workshop

March 25, 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

Why do we need the Regional Capacity Projects list?

Regional Capacity Projects...

- affect the capacity of the regional transportation network, and must be reflected in RTP travel demand forecast modeling of future conditions;
- are included in RTP's regional emissions analysis to meet federal requirements for air quality conformity;
- are explicitly included in the RTP financial strategy, which must identify sufficient revenue to funds all planned transportation investments in the region;
- are subject to board approval before implementation.



Prerequisites for Regional Capacity Projects list

- Project must have been developed through a **public planning process** (e.g., comprehensive plan)
- Project meets **Regional Capacity Project** threshold
- Project is planned to be **implemented between 2026 and 2050**
- **Some concept of scope/vision has been determined**
 - ✓ An estimated scope is provided in order for the project to be included in regional travel demand forecasting model, and
 - ✓ A reasonable planning-level cost estimate has been developed



Prerequisites for Regional Capacity Projects list

What about projects that have less commitment or planning behind them?

- The RTP is a long-range plan with a financial strategy consisting of current law revenues and *reasonable* new revenues through 2050
 - *Projects do not need to be fully funded to be submitted to the RTP*
- However, projects more speculative in nature and requiring significant future planning – such as a corridor study or master plan – should not be submitted to the Regional Capacity Projects list
 - *Reach out to PSRC staff to determine if the project concept should be included in the “Future Planning” section of the RTP*



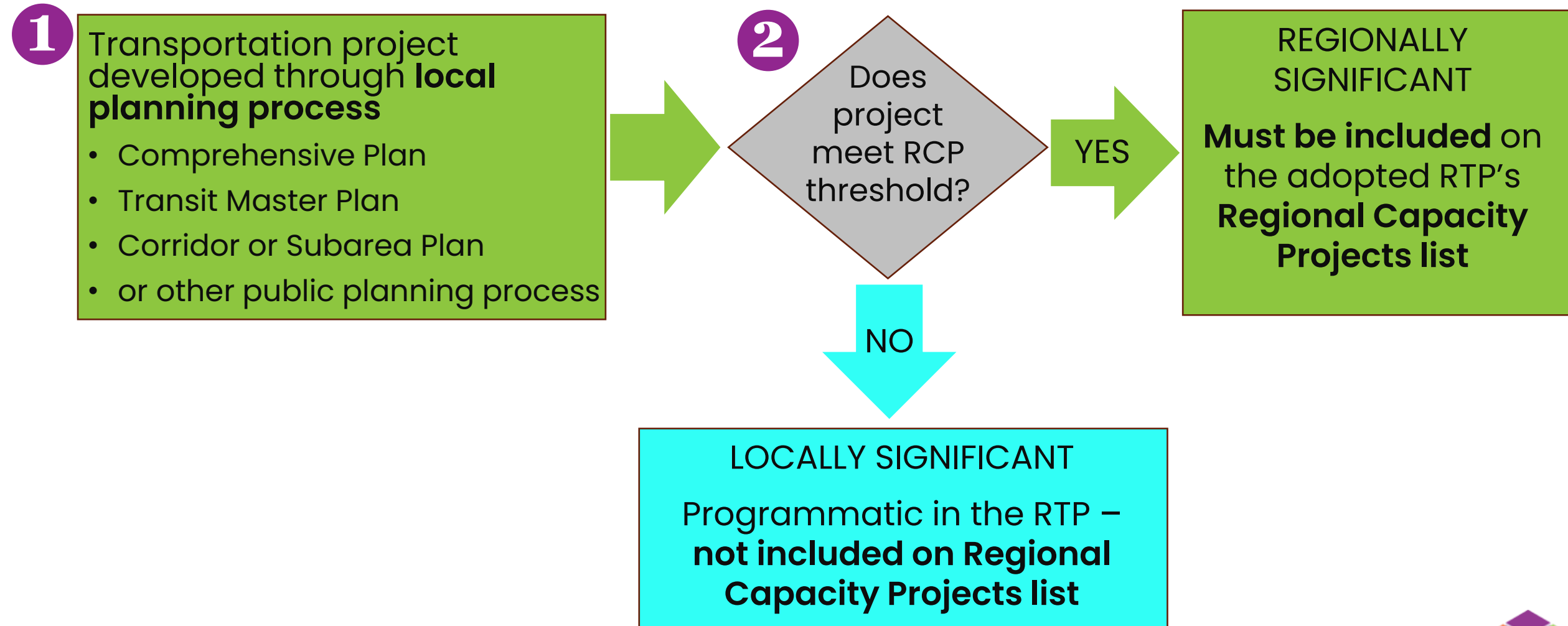
What if my project is on the current RCP list?

An application must still be submitted for project to be included in the 2026 RTP!

- Be sure to reflect any updates to the scope, extents, or cost that have occurred since the last submittal, or confirm no changes
- Also need to reconfirm the “constant dollar” year that the cost estimate reflects
- For projects with change in cost estimate greater than 20% from previous submittal, sponsor is asked to provide a brief explanation of the reason
- Plan Consistency questions have been updated from previous plan, and will need to be completed for each project submitted



How do planning/programming processes fit together?



How do planning/programming processes fit together?

REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT
Must be included on the
adopted RTP's **Regional
Capacity Projects list**

- Must be in STIP to implement
- Must be on RCP list to program in TIP/STIP, regardless of funding source

LOCALLY SIGNIFICANT
Programmatic in the RTP –
**not included on Regional
Capacity Projects list**

- Must be in STIP only if federal nexus
- RCP list status is "Exempt"

TO IMPLEMENT

Program in
Regional/Statewide
Transportation
Improvement
Program (TIP/STIP)



Regional Capacity Project Thresholds

THRESHOLDS DEFINED PROVIDED FOR ALL MODES

TABLE 1: Projects Required to be on the Regional Transportation Plan Regional Capacity Project List and Subject to PSRC's Approval Process

Please note that there may be some overlap in the categories below.

Roadway Projects on principal arterials, State Routes or Interstates

- Capacity changes
 - Adding vehicle lanes
 - Removing vehicle lanes
 - Changing the configuration or usage of vehicle lanes
 - Other multimodal improvements that may affect vehicle usage or capacity such as Business Access Transit or High Occupancy Vehicle lanes
- Street realignment or relocation
- Continuous left turn lanes that extend between two principal arterials or state routes
- New interchanges
- Reconstruction of existing interchanges that add new fly-over ramps or new turning movements
- Grade separations
- Areawide multimodal improvements around transit stations

Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Projects

- Projects over \$100 Million

Bicycle and/or Pedestrian Projects

- Projects over \$25 Million on separated pathways on dedicated rights of way

Transit Projects

- Park & ride lots resulting in more than 250 stalls
- New or relocated transit centers and stations
- New dedicated transit right of way, such as new alignments or tracks/infrastructure
- Bus flyer stops in the Interstate right of way

Ferry Projects

- New routes
- New or relocated ferry terminals

Only update
from 2022



RCP Threshold – Roadway Project



- Located on interstate, state highway, or principal arterial, and
 - ✓ Adds OR removes OR changes configuration of vehicle lane(s)
 - ✓ Changes vehicle usage or capacity (e.g., convert to/from Business Access Transit or High Occupancy Vehicle/Toll lane)
 - ✓ Adds OR removes continuous left-turn lane that extends between two principal arterials or state highways



RCP Threshold – Roadway Project



- Located on interstate, state highway, or principal arterial, and
 - ✓ Realigns or relocates the roadway
 - ✓ Adds new interchange or reconstruction of existing interchanges that add new fly-over ramps or new turning movements
 - ✓ Adds areawide multimodal improvements around transit stations
 - ✓ Adds grade separation(s)



RCP Threshold – Transit Project

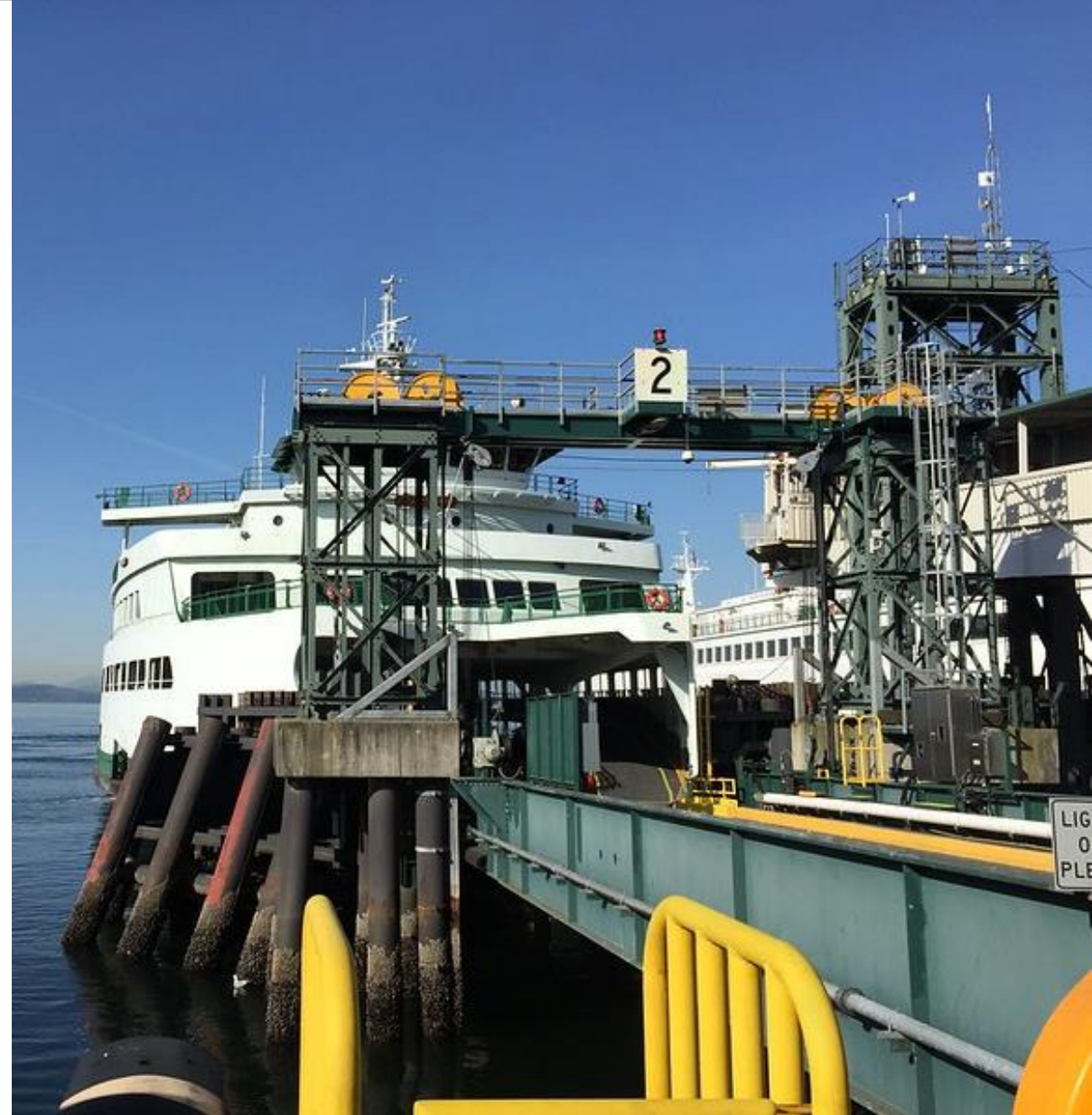


- Park & ride lot resulting in more than 250 stalls
- New or relocated transit center or station
- New dedicated transit right-of-way, such as new alignment or tracks/infrastructure
- Bus flyer stop in the interstate right-of-way



RCP Threshold – Ferry Project

- New route
- New or relocated ferry terminal



RCP Threshold – Bicycle / Pedestrian Project



- Over \$25 million total project cost, AND on separated, dedicated right-of-way



RCP Threshold – ITS Project

- Over \$100 million total project cost



Regional Capacity Projects – Project Status

- All new projects enter the RTP with “Candidate” status
- Sponsors seek “Approved” status from Board when the project can demonstrate it has met conditions for readiness to begin right-of-way and/or construction
 - *Under certain circumstances, project may also be “Conditionally Approved”*
- For projects on current Regional Capacity Projects List, new application still must be submitted but Project Status carries over into new RTP



Regional Capacity Project Application

- Online application accessed from PSRC website
 - Each agency use its assigned “web applications” login/password (same as for TIP application)
- Available resources include
 - **RCP Application Checklist & Instructions** – “quick guide” includes key tips and links to other resources
 - **Plan Consistency Framework Guidance** – detailed information assist in providing accurate responses to the Plan Consistency questions
 - **RTP Resource Map** – provides geographic context and various data layers that can be used to help respond to the questions



Regional Capacity Project Application

Basic Information

- Project Title
- RTP ID (if on existing RCP list)
- Sponsor information
- Contact information

Project Description

- Short narrative that describes the project scope
- Project location
- Federal functional classification (for roadway projects)
- Description of planning process from which project was developed
- Interjurisdiction coordination (when applicable)



Regional Capacity Project Application

Financial Details

- Total Project Cost
- Year for which cost was estimated
- Explanation of cost change from previous plan (when applicable)
- Amount and source(s) of any funds committed to date

Other Project Details

- Identify known scope elements
- Year that project is planned to begin
- Anticipated project completion year



Regional Capacity Project Application

Plan Consistency Framework Questions

- Nine policy categories
- Answer yes/no questions under each category as they apply to the project
- Responses scored, up to maximum of 10 points per category
- Total points scored for project = Plan Consistency Score



Regional Transportation Plan Consistency Framework

Policy Categories

Economic Vitality

- ✓ Supporting Freight Movement
- ✓ Supporting Employment

Mobility & Accessibility

- ✓ Transportation Alternatives
- ✓ Travel Reliability
- ✓ Support for Centers

Environment & Resilience

- ✓ Emissions
- ✓ Puget Sound Land & Water

Safety & Opportunity

- ✓ Safety & Security
- ✓ Community Benefits



Regional Capacity Projects – Process & Timeline

Timeline	Task
March 24 – April 18, 2025	Call for Regional Capacity Projects
April – May 2025	PSRC Review of Projects
May – June 2025	Board Review of Projects
July – September 2025	Modeling and Analysis
September – December 2025	Develop Draft RTP
January – May 2026	Develop Final RTP
May 2026	Adopt Final RTP



Regional Capacity Projects Call – Resources

www.psrc.org/2026-rtp-call-regional-capacity-projects

- Workshop Recording and Slides
- Online Application
- Application Checklist & Instructions
- Regional Capacity Project Definitions
- Plan Consistency Framework Guidance
- Regional Capacity Projects Resource Map





Thank You!

Questions? Please contact

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Puget Sound Regional Council