

# 2025 Project Tracking Exception Requests

Transportation Policy Board  
May 8, 2025



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# Today's Presentation



- Overview of Project Tracking Program and Policies
- Overview of Exception Policies
  - Project Tracking Action Request: Recommend approval of two requests for an exception to PSRC project tracking policies



# Overview & Background

## Project Tracking Program and Policies:

- In place since 2003
- Goal = efficient and timely project delivery, minimize cost of delays, preserve federal funds coming to the region

## Policies updated over time

- Current policies address annual delivery target for FHWA funds
  - *Must be met or loss of unused funds*
- Policies set firm obligation deadlines but allow opportunity for one extension, exceptions



# Project Tracking Policies – Extensions

Policies allow for a **one-time** extension of PSRC's June 1 deadline for FHWA funds

- **Short-term extension of 45 days** – these projects will still deliver in the current federal fiscal year
- **Long-term extension of 1 year** – these projects are moved to the next fiscal year, adding to current year delivery gap

*Applies only to Right-of-Way and Construction phases*



# Project Tracking Policies – Extensions

Per adopted policies, extensions will not be granted due to:

- shifting priorities within the agency
- insufficient funding
- lack of certified grant administration status
- work was not begun in a reasonable time to meet the deadline

2025 extensions approved by board in April



# Exceptions to Project Tracking Policies

- Project Tracking Policies include limited provisions to request an exception to the adopted policies
- Evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the board, under certain conditions:
  - There is a compelling need for the exception
  - The project remains fully funded
  - The phase can be implemented within 6 months of board action



# Two Requests for Exception to Project Tracking Policies

- Request for exceptions from:
  - Kitsap County's Ridgetop–Mickelberry to Myhre, Phase 1
  - City of Bothell's Bothell Way NE Multimodal Improvements (phases 2 and 3)
- Both projects:
  - received a 1-year extension in 2024, but are **requesting an additional extension** beyond June 1, 2025
  - have experienced substantial delay in federal reviews related to policy concerning stormwater draining to Puget Sound
    - *Policy was not yet in place and unforeseen at the time PSRC funds were awarded*



# Review of Exception Requests per Adopted Policies

Review by PSRC staff, chairs of the Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) and the four countywide forums, and WSDOT found for both projects:

- Agencies submitted environmental documentation in a timely manner and project work was advanced on schedule to meet the original deadline
- Agencies have demonstrated effort to keep the projects moving forward and meet all requirements
- Project phases remain fully funded, and will be able to proceed immediately upon federal approval
- Delay due to emergent issue outside the agencies' control





# Recommended Timeline

- Under typical timelines both projects are on track for their applicable phase to be implemented within six months of board action (per exception policies).
- However, the current uncertainty in federal staffing levels was not anticipated at the time that the six-month delivery timeline was established in PSRC's exception policies.
- For this reason, the chairs group recommends that 12 months of additional extension (to June 1, 2026) be granted to these projects.
  - *Projects would still deliver in FY2026*



# Requested Action

The Transportation Policy Board should recommend the Executive Board approve an exception to the adopted project tracking policies for:

- Kitsap County's *Ridgetop–Mickelberry to Myhre, Phase 1*
- City of Bothell's *Bothell Way NE Multimodal Improvements* (phases 2 and 3)

to allow an additional 12 months beyond the previously granted 1-year extension, to June 1, 2026



# Next Steps



- Staff will continue to monitor project delivery and status of the federal target
- Any additional actions needed beyond June trigger “late-year emergency” action per Project Tracking Policies
  - Administrative distribution of increased federal share to projects with remaining capacity to receive





# Thank You!

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