



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES

Transportation Policy Board

April 10, 2025

1201 3rd 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 9:32 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 provided.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Mayor Ralph welcomed Vice Chair Mayor Rob Putaansuu, joining in person.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, reminded the board of the briefings provided over the last three months on the current transportation system and how this information will feed into discussions of the future transportation system and the financial strategy for the draft Regional Transportation Plan. Between May and July, the board will discuss available revenues and proposed expenditures for the draft plan, culminating in direction to staff in July on one or more scenarios to move ahead into modeling and analysis. Ms. McGourty also reminded the board that the TPB Transit Caucus meetings are now being held the Monday before the TPB meeting, for board members who also serve on transit boards.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held March 13, 2025
- b. Routine Amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- c. Recommend Certification of Comprehensive Plans for Arlington, Carbonado, Kent, Marysville, Mill Creek, Monroe, North Bend, Orting, SeaTac, South Prairie, Sultan, University Place and Woodway
- d. Recommend Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for the City of Bellevue's 150th Avenue SE Mobility Improvements Project

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

DISCUSSION ITEM: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Robin Koskey, PSRC, reported on federal updates and activity, including discussions surrounding reauthorization of the federal transportation act. She also reported that the fiscal year 2025 notice of funding opportunity under the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program has been released. Ms. Koskey then provided information on the state legislative session, noting key bills and upcoming cutoff dates. She described the draft operating and transportation budget proposals from the House and Senate. Ms. Koskey shared that the PSRC Executive Board adopted a resolution at their March meeting in support of sustainable transportation revenue. She then briefly discussed various bills related to a variety of transportation-related topics.

ACTION ITEM: 2025 PROJECT TRACKING: EXTENSION REQUESTS AND CONTINGENCY FUNDING

Kalon Thomas, PSRC, reminded the board of the purpose of PSRC's adopted project tracking policies, to ensure efficient and timely project delivery which minimizes the cost of delays and preserves federal funds coming to the region. These policies address the need to meet annual delivery targets for PSRC's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds by setting firm obligation deadlines but allow sponsors to request up to a one-year extension under certain parameters. These extensions create a gap in each fiscal year's delivery and require approval by PSRC's boards. Mr. Thomas confirmed that the 2025 project extension requests have been reviewed by PSRC staff in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the chairs of the Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) and the four countywide transportation forums for consistency with the adopted project tracking policies prior to being presented to the board. Seventeen extensions are recommended for approval. One extension requested by the City of Seattle was determined to not meet the adopted policies. The city subsequently withdrew the request and will return the funds and is eligible to recompile in future grant competitions.

Councilmember Saka requested reconsideration of the Seattle project and to postpone action on the extension request until the May board meeting. The motion was made and seconded. (Saka/Kettle)

ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Daughtry/Walker) to recommend the Executive Board approve the remaining 2025 project extension requests. The motion passed.

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, reminded the board that federal funds which are voluntarily returned or de-obligated prior to the annual delivery rebalancing period may be awarded to projects on the current contingency list. Ms. Barnes noted that the returned funds are only awarded to contingency projects within the same project category as the original award and are offered in ranked priority order. When accepted, the funds must be obligated within the same fiscal year. She reported that three contingency projects are able to accept \$2.2 million of the \$13.2 million in available 2025 returned funds. Ms. Barnes noted that the remaining \$11 million of returned funds was included in the supplemental funding action approved during the March meeting to fill the gap in achieving the 2025 annual delivery target.

ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Putansuu/Barón) to recommend the Executive Board award \$2.2 million of returned funds to the contingency list projects. The motion passed.

ACTION ITEM: REGIONAL SAFETY ACTION PLAN RECOMMENDATION

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC, summarized the public comments received on the draft Regional Safety Action Plan that were reviewed with the board in March. Comments were delineated and categorized by topic and noted as being either general plan comments requiring no further action, technical corrections or clarifications, or comments requiring board review. PSRC staff provided the board with an updated document identifying the staff response to each comment and specific proposed edits to the draft plan. Mr. Bakkenta summarized the proposed technical corrections and then reviewed in more detail the proposed edits identified for board review.

Mr. Bakkenta reviewed the grouping of comments for board review and the PSRC staff proposed edits to the plan. These include: 1) calls for future PSRC work related to driver behavior and education, speeding and enforcement and ongoing monitoring, guidance and best practices; 2) recognizing local and state planning and high injury networks in the plan; 3) recognizing issues with impairment data and the potential for underreporting; 4) acknowledging the unique needs of freight corridors and areas when applying safety strategies; and 5) incorporating state, regional and local high injury networks and safety planning into PSRC's project selection process and the Regional Transportation Plan.

The Transportation Policy Board was asked to recommend adoption of the Regional Safety Action Plan to the Executive Board, with final adoption scheduled at the General Assembly on May 22.

ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Walker/Mayhew) to recommend adoption of the Regional Safety Action Plan to the Executive Board, including the proposed technical corrections and revisions. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT: CURRENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

Miles Stepleton, PSRC, described the regionwide data collection process PSRC conducted to quantify the maintenance, preservation and operations needs for the RTP. The data has shown that costs are rising and needs are increasing. Mr. Stepleton then described the available data and key trends for various categories of assets, including city and county roads, state highways, bridges, culverts, transit and ferries. He also referenced other assets with increased maintenance and preservation costs such as stormwater facilities, bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure and traffic control technology. Mr. Stepleton concluded by noting that costs associated with maintenance and preservation continue to increase throughout the region and that expenditures do not match the increasing needs. He reminded the board that the RTP financial strategy has historically assumed that the backlog of the region's maintenance and preservation needs are met, and the system is maintained and operated in a state of good repair through the life of the plan.

Members had questions related to available revenue sources for maintenance and preservation and impacts to the system if needs are not fully met.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2025.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Attendance Roster – April 10, 2025.

Transportation Policy Board - April 10, 2025				5.a - Att. A			
Voting Members			✓	Non-voting Members			✓
King County	2	CM Jorge Barón	1	Associate Members			
		Vacant		Island County	1	COMM Melanie Bacon	
		Vacant Alt				COMM Jill Johnson, Alt	
Seattle	2	CM Rob Saka	1	Thurston Regional Planning Council	1	MYR Andy Ryder, Lacey	
		CM Robert Kettle	1			Marc Daily	1
		CM Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Alt		Public Agency Members			
Bellevue	1	CM Dave Hamilton	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1	Vacant	
		CM Jared Nieuwenhuis, Alt				Brandy DeLange, Alt	
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair	1	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1	CM Joe Bushnell	
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah				Christine Cooley, Alt	1
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac	1	Public Health	1	Jessica Jeavons, Seattle-King County	1
		CM Susan Honda, Federal Way Alt	1			Dennis Worsham, Snohomish Co. Alt	
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt	1	WA Tran. Improvement Board	1	Vacant	
		CM Matt Mahoney, Des Moines Alt	1			CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt	
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski		PSRC Committees			
		Vacant Alt		Equity Advisory Cmte.	1	Shannon Turner	1
Kitsap County	1	COM Oran Root	1			Julius Moss, Alt	
		COM Christine Rolfes, Alt		Regional Staff Cmte.	1	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake	
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1			Kelly Snyder, Snohomish Co. Alt	1
		CM Eric Younger, 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, Vice-Chair	1				
		CM Anna Mockler, Bremerton		Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor		Alex Krieg, Sound Transit Alt	
Pierce County	1	CM Rosie Ayala	1	WA Trucking Associations	1	Sheri Call	
		CM Bryan Yambe, Alt		exp. 12/31/26		Jeff DeVere, Alt	
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce	1	Lorelei Williams, WSP USA	1
		CM Olgy Diaz, Alt		exp. 12/31/26		Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt	
Cities & Towns	1	CM Tim Ceder, Milton		Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment			
		MYR Pro Tem Edward Wood, University Place Alt		Puget Sound Partnership	1	Bebhinn Dechery	
				exp. 12/31/26		Larry Epstein, Alt	
Local Transit	1	CM Doug Fagundes, Fife		Non-voting	13	Non-voting members present	8
		DEP MYR John Hines, Tacoma					
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead					
		CM Strom Peterson, Alt					
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo	1				
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt					
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1				
		CM Jacob Walker, Monroe, Alt	1				
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	Vacant					
		Robert Barandon, Alt					
Suquamish Tribe	1	CM Luther (Jay) Mills					
		CHRMN Leonard Forsman, Alt					
Statutory Members							
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle	1				
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt					
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jim Restucci	1				
		COM Nicole Grant, Alt					
WSDOT	1	Robin Mayhew	1				
		Todd Lamphere, Alt	1			Abbreviations	
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)						CHRMN Chairman	
House	2	Vacant				CM Councilmember	
Transportation Cmte.		REP Jake Fey, D Alt				CP Council President	
		REP Dan Griffey, R				COM Commissioner	
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt				DEP MYR Deputy Mayor	
Senate	2	SEN Marko Liias, D				MYR Mayor	
Transportation Cmte.		Vacant Alt				MYR Pro Tem	
		Vacant, R				REP Representative	
		Vacant, R Alt				SEN Senator	
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	19				
		Total Voting members present	23				