



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES

Transportation Policy Board

May 8, 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 9:31 a.m. by Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Vice Chair. Chair Putaansuu 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 Putaansuu noted he would be chairing the meeting in Mayor Ralph's absence.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, reminded board members of the upcoming General Assembly meeting on May 22 and referred them to the registration link. Ms. McGourty discussed the update of the PSRC supplemental survey of job locations within the region which will inform transportation and growth planning functions, and asked members to encourage their staff to participate in the survey. Ms. McGourty noted that the City of Seattle withdrew their project extension request that was held over from the April meeting and therefore no further board action is necessary.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held April 10, 2025
- b. Recommend Certification of Comprehensive Plans for Covington, Edgewood, Enumclaw, Fircrest, Granite Falls, Kenmore, Kirkland, Lake Stevens, Milton, Redmond, Sammamish, Shoreline, Skykomish, and Snohomish

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

DISCUSSION ITEM: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Robin Koskey, PSRC, reported on federal updates and activity, including an update on the transportation budget reconciliation process and the President's budget. She also reported that the fiscal year 2025 notice of funding opportunity for the federal Safe Streets and Roads for All grant program has been released. Ms. Koskey then provided information on the state legislative session, including highlights of revenue bills and the capital and transportation budgets. She then briefly discussed items specific to the Washington State Ferry system.

ACTION ITEM: PROJECT TRACKING EXCEPTION REQUESTS

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, provided an overview of the project tracking policies which have been in place since 2003 to ensure efficient and timely project delivery, minimize the cost of delays and preserve future federal funds for the region. The annual delivery targets for PSRC's Federal Highway Administration funds must be met or there will be a loss of unused funds. Ms. Barnes described project tracking policies specially related to the request for extensions. She noted that the policies allow agencies to request a one-time extension to the June 1 project deadline, but that the reasons for the project delay must be outside the control of the sponsor. Ms. Barnes then explained that the policies also allow for exceptions, which will only be granted if there is a compelling need, the project remains fully funded, and the phase can be implemented within 6 months of board action.

Ms. Barnes then reviewed the two exception requests: Kitsap County's Ridgetop–Mickelberry to Myhre, Phase 1 project and the city of Bothell's Bothell Way NE Multimodal Improvements, Phase 2 and 3 project. Both projects have already received a one-year extension but are requesting an additional extension due to substantial delay in federal reviews related to new stormwater policies and requirements. The requests have been reviewed by PSRC staff, the chairs of the Regional Project Evaluation Committee and the four countywide forums, and WSDOT staff. This group determined that the two agencies have demonstrated efforts to keep the projects moving forward and meet all requirements and that the delays are outside of their control. Given the current uncertainty in federal staffing levels, the recommendation is to allow a full year's extension under these circumstances.

ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Arnold/Kettle) to recommend the Executive Board approve the requests for an exception under PSRC's Project Tracking Policies. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM: PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS: SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC, discussed the public opinion survey conducted in March by EMC Research to hear from residents around the region about their thoughts on road safety and their priorities related to the transportation system. This survey was funded through the grant PSRC received from USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. Mr. Bakkenta discussed the key takeaways from the survey results, including that residents are concerned about road safety and that driver behavior is concerning. Additional concerns include traffic congestion, public transit, and road maintenance. Mr. Bakkenta noted that these results will help inform the Regional Transportation Plan and have reinforced major themes heard to date.

Mr. Bakkenta then reviewed the survey results related to perceptions of road safety and noted that 41% of the biggest concerns noted relate to driving behavior. He also reviewed survey results on transportation priorities, noting that traffic congestion, transit and road maintenance were the top categories. Mr. Bakkenta shared further details on the survey results, including distinctions by county, and noted the results will be made available on PSRC's website.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN DEVELOPMENT: PRELIMINARY REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, reminded the board of the work conducted through April 2025 towards development of the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), including: identification of key policy priorities; recommendation of the plan's scope of work; briefings on the current transportation system, including key trends and gaps in the system; and discussion of parameters for potential new revenue sources for the plan's long-range financial strategy. Ms. McGourty shared that over the next three months the board will review available revenues versus proposed expenditures for the next plan and discuss options to address the funding gap.

Craig Helmann, PSRC, described the four building blocks that create the RTP financial strategy: under expenditures, the categories of maintenance, preservation and operations, and system improvements including regional capacity projects; under revenues, both current law revenue and new revenue sources. Mr. Helmann then provided data on the draft revenues and expenditures for the next plan, with a preliminary gap of 23%. He described the various elements that are still under review, as well as key changes reflected since the last plan. Revised figures once these reviews are complete will be shared at the June meeting.

Ms. McGourty provided a brief summary of each category of the financial strategy noted above and reminded the board of the overall cost increases reflected across all investment categories. She provided an initial summary of the over 300 regional capacity projects submitted and noted that additional details will be provided in June. Ms. McGourty then described the levers available to the board to address the gap between available revenues and proposed expenditures, which include potential new revenue sources and/or reducing investment levels. She reminded the board of the schedule for upcoming work to move scenarios forward into modeling and analysis and ultimately develop the draft plan by the end of the year.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2025.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Attendance Roster – May 8, 2025.

Transportation Policy Board - May 8, 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	
		CM Alexis Mercedes Rinck Alt		Public Agency Members			
Bellevue	1	CM Dave Hamilton		Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1	Vacant	
		CM Jared Nieuwenhuis Alt				Brandy DeLange Alt	1
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair		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	1	PSRC Committees			
		Vacant Alt		Equity Advisory Cmte.	1	Shannon Turner	
Kitsap County	1	COM Oran Root				Julius Moss Alt	1
		COM Christine Rolfes Alt		Regional Staff Cmte.	1	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake	
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1			Kelly Snyder, Snohomish Co. Alt	
		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	1
		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			Alex Krieg, Sound Transit Alt	
		CM Anna Mockler, Bremerton		Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor			
Pierce County	1	CM Rosie Ayala	1	WA Trucking Associations	1	Sheri Call	
		CM Bryan Yambe, Alt	1	exp. 12/31/26		Jeff DeVere Alt	
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce	1	Lorelei Williams, WSP USA	
		CM Olgy Diaz Alt		exp. 12/31/26		Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt	
Cities & Towns	1	CM Tim Ceder, Milton	1	Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment			
		MYR Pro Tem Edward Wood, University Place Alt		Puget Sound Partnership exp. 10/31/27	1	Bebhinn Dechery	1
Local Transit	1	CM Doug Fagundes, Fife				Larry Epstein Alt	
		DEP MYR John Hines, Tacoma		Individual exp. 5/31/28	1	Kim Becklund	1
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead		Non-voting	14	Non-voting members present	8
		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	1				
		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					
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)						Abbreviations	
House Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant				CHRMN Chairman	
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt				CM Councilmember	
		REP Dan Griffey, R				CP Council President	
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt				COM Commissioner	
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	SEN Marko Liias, D				DEP MYR Deputy Mayor	
		Vacant Alt				MYR Mayor	
		Vacant, R				MYR Pro Tem	
		Vacant, R Alt				REP Representative	
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	20			SEN Senator	
		Total Voting members present	23				