Puget Sound Regional Council

Executive Board

Thursday, December 3, 2026 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

Watch or listen

- Watch the meeting live at https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings
- Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 879 5847 6750 Passcode: 889619

Attend

- The public can attend meetings at PSRC's offices.
- PSRC staff will be available to provide floor access from 10 minutes before the meeting starts until 15 minutes after it begins.
- If you arrive outside of these times, please call 206-464-7090 for assistance.

Provide public comment

- **Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda. Each member of the public will have 2 minutes to speak.**
- **In-person**
  Public comment may be made in person at PSRC's offices.
- **Comment during the meeting by Zoom or phone:**
  Registration is required and closes at 8:00 a.m., the day of the meeting. Late registrations will not be accepted.
- **Written comments**
  Comments may be submitted via email to srogers@psrc.org by 8:00 a.m., the day of the meeting. Comments will be shared with board members.

Public comments are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter 42.56.

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1. **Call to Order (10:00)** – *Executive Dave Somers, President*
2. **Communications and Public Comment**
   Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda.
3. **President's Remarks**
4. **Executive Director's Report**
5. **State Legislative Update (10:15)** – *Robin Koskey, PSRC*
6. **Committee Report**
   a. Operations Committee – *Executive Ryan Mello, Vice President*

7. **Consent Agenda - Action Items (10:25)**
    a. Approve Minutes of Meeting Held October 22, 2026
    b. Approve Vouchers Dated October 12, 2026, Through November 13, 2026, in the Amount of $1,457,086.62
    c. Approve Contract Authority for Internet Service
    d. Approve Certification of ReDiscover Downtown Kent Subarea Plan
    e. Approve Certification of Comprehensive Plans for Carnation, Mercer Island, Ruston, and Kitsap County
8. **Action Item (10:30)**
    a. Approve Revised Memorandum of Agreement Between Puget Sound Regional Council and Central Puget Sound Economic Development District – *Josh Brown, PSRC*
9. **Action Item (10:40)**
    a. Approve Recommendations to the 2027 State Legislature – *Robin Koskey and Alyssa Quinn, PSRC*
10. **Action Item (11:00)**
    a. Approve Regional Transportation Plan Amendment for the ST3 System Plan Update – *Craig Helmann and Kelly McGourty, PSRC*
11. **Discussion Item (11:10)**
    a. 2027 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds – *Kelly McGourty and Jennifer Barnes, PSRC*
12. **Executive Session (11:30)**
    a. Executive Session to Review the Performance of the Executive Director Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g)
13. **Information Item**
    a. 2027 Meeting Schedule
    b. New Employee Status Report
14. **Other Business**
15. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 28, 2027, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
16. **Adjourn (12:00)**

Board members please submit proposed amendments and materials prior to the meeting for distribution. Organizations/individuals may submit information for distribution. Send to Sheila Rogers, e-mail srogers@psrc.org, or mail.

For language or ADA assistance at PSRC board meetings, please contact us at 206-464-7090 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. For TTY-based telecommunications relay service dial 711.

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Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES

Executive Board
Thursday, October 22, 2026
Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Executive Board was called to order at 10:01 AM by Executive Ryan Mello, PSRC Vice President. A video of the meeting was streamed live as well as recorded and is 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 live. Roll call determined attendance and that a quorum was present.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments received.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Vice President Ryan Mello announced that President Dave Somers was attending a conference and that he would be filling in as chair for the meeting.

He reported that PSRC was hosting its second series of joint board sessions focused on racial equity on October 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The session would focus on innovative community outreach practices and feature examples from the City of Bainbridge Island, Community Transit, and the City of Kent, highlighting strategies for engaging hard-to-reach populations. The session was open to board members and their staff, and all PSRC board members were strongly encouraged to attend.

He reminded the board that there would be no meeting in November and that the December meeting was scheduled for December 3.

He noted that the board would conduct Executive Director Josh Brown's annual performance review at the December 3 meeting. Board members received a survey through SurveyMonkey from PSRC's HR consultant, Amy Efroymson, on September 28. Those who had not yet completed the survey were asked to do so by October 23. He emphasized that the board's input was appreciated.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Josh Brown Updates and Announcements:

- Reported that the Puget Sound Regional Council and Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board were working together to revise the Memorandum of Agreement between the two organizations and update the Economic Development District bylaws.
- He provided an update on the "TOD on a Roll—Making the Most of New Transit Connections" event series, which included a webinar and a Shoreline TOD walking tour on October 16, with an upcoming walking tour of Marymoor Village and Downtown Redmond scheduled for October 23.
- Reported on his recent outreach and engagement activities, which included visits to the cities of Sumner and Edgewood; serving as a panelist at the Seattle/King County Realtors' 32nd Annual Housing Issues Briefing; participating in the Bellevue Downtown Association's study mission to Boston; and attending the National Association of Regional Councils' Executive Directors' Conference.
- He then called on Robin Koskey to provide an update on efforts to promote PSRC's "Build Here, Puget Sound" tool.

STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, provided the board with a federal update.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Vice President Ryan Mello reported that the Operations Committee recommended Executive Board approval of vouchers dated September 14 through October 5, 2026, totaling $1,376,545.64.

The committee also recommended approval of contract authority for copier leases. Vice President Mello reported that the committee was continuing its work on the draft Biennial Budget and Work Program. He stated that at the meeting, Andrew Werfelman, Budget Manager, provided an overview of the budget assumptions, including projected revenues and expenditures. The current assumptions indicated a balanced budget. The committee anticipated reviewing the full draft budget at its December meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION: It was moved and seconded to:

a. Approve Minutes of Meeting Held September 24, 2026
b. Approve Vouchers Dated September 14, 2026, Through October 5, 2026, in the Amount of $1,376,545.64
c. Approve Contract Authority for Copier Lease
d. Adopt Routine Amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program

e. **Approve Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for City of Tacoma's Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements Project**

The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM: STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

PSRC State Legislative Consultant Jennifer Ziegler provided an update on legislative changes, recent state budget and policy developments in preparation for the 2027 legislative session.

DISCUSSION ITEM: PSRC 2027 RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE

Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, and Alyssa Quinn, Senior Government Relations Specialist, briefed the board on the process for developing PSRC's 2027 legislative priorities and invited feedback on potential policy areas for the upcoming season.

Key emerging issues for the 2027 legislative session will follow a similar framework to the recommendations adopted last year based on adopted regional plans and policies and focus on four areas:

- Transportation - Keep the Region Moving Safely
- Housing - Increase Housing Choices and Affordability
- Climate - Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Economic Development – Sustain a Strong Economy

Input will be collected from the Economic Development District Board, the Equity Advisory Committee, the Growth Management Policy Board, and the Transportation Policy Board. Final recommendations will then be submitted to the Executive Board for adoption in December.

DISCUSSION ITEM: HOUSING PRODUCTION – ARE WE ON TRACK?

Eric Clute, Associate Planner, presented preliminary findings from the 2026 Regional Housing Strategy monitoring update, highlighting housing production trends across the region and individual jurisdictions.

The region is approximately 27% through its growth period to 2044 and is slightly ahead of its overall housing production targets.

Among regional geographies, Seattle is leading production among Metropolitan Cities, while the other four cities are behind pace. Most Core Cities are also behind, with stronger growth concentrated in East King County. Fewer than half of High-Capacity Transit Communities are on pace, while approximately two-thirds of Cities and Towns are meeting production targets. In urban unincorporated areas, King County is on pace, Pierce County is ahead, and Kitsap and Snohomish counties are behind. Housing growth continues in rural areas and will remain under monitoring.

Overall, the region appears on track to meet its 2044 housing targets, but production remains uneven. Core Cities face the greatest challenges, while jurisdictions with stronger production may provide examples for others seeking to accelerate housing development.

DISCUSSION ITEM: OVERVIEW OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PROCESS

Marc Daily, Director of Administrative Services, outlined the annual performance evaluation process in preparation for the December 3 Executive Board meeting, when the board will review Executive Director Josh Brown's performance and consider corresponding compensation adjustments.

The Executive Director develops annual performance goals and completes a self-evaluation. The 2026 self-evaluation was distributed to board members on September 28, along with an evaluation survey administered by Etairos HR. Board members were asked to submit feedback by October 23. Etairos HR will compile the results into a summary report for board review.

In November, the Director of Administrative Services will meet with the Executive Board President and Vice President to discuss the evaluation results. At its December meeting, the board will convene in Executive Session to review the evaluation and consider compensation adjustments, including a salary increase and/or additional agency contribution to the Executive Director's 401(a) account.

The presentation also clarified that PSRC does not provide general cost-of-living or step increases. Employee compensation is merit-based, supported by annually reviewed salary ranges and market adjustments. The annual merit pool supports performance, promotional, equity, and market adjustments.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Included in the agenda packet:

- New Employee Status Report
- Joint Board Session on Community Outreach, October 29, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business brought before the board.

NEXT MEETING

The board will not meet in November. The next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned with no further business.

Adopted this 3rd day of December 2026.

_____
Executive Dave Somers, President
Puget Sound Regional Council

ATTEST:

_____
Josh Brown, Executive Director

ATTACHMENT:

A. Executive Board Attendance, October 22, 2026

Executive Board - October 22, 2026 Meeting		7.a - Att. A
Members and Alternates that participated for all or part of the meeting included:		Present
King County	Executive Girmay Zahilay	
	CM Sarah Perry	
	Vacant Alt	
	Vacant Alt	
Seattle	Vacant	
	CM Rob Saka	1
	CM Eddie Lin	
	CM Alexis Mercedes Rinck	
	CM Robert Kettle Alt	
	CM Dan Strauss Alt	
	Vacant Alt	
Bellevue	MYR Mo Malakoutian	1
	DP MYR Dave Hamilton Alt	
Federal Way	MYR Jim Ferrell	1
	Vacant Alt	
Kent	MYR Dana Ralph	1
	CM Toni Troutner Alt	1
Kirkland	MYR Kelli Curtis	
	DP MYR Neal Black Alt	1
Renton	MYR Armondo Pavone	1
	CM James Alberson, Jr. Alt	1
Redmond	MYR Angela Birney	1
	CM Melissa Stuart Alt	1
Auburn	MYR Nancy Backus	
	DR MYR Tracey Taylor-Turner Alt	
Other Cities/Towns in King County	CM Jeff Wagner, Covington	
	MYR Thomas McLeod, Tukwila	
	CM Amy Lam, Sammamish	1
	MYR Chris Roberts, Shoreline Alt	1
	MYR Katy Kinney Harris, Yarrow Point Alt	1
	CM Mark Joselyn, North Bend Alt	
Kitsap County	COMM Katie Walters	1
	COMM Christine Rolfes Alt	
Bremerton	MYR Greg Wheeler	1
	CM Jane Rebelowski Alt	
Port Orchard	MYR Rob Putaansuu	
	CM Jay Rosapepe Alt	
Other Cities/Towns in Kitsap County	MYR Ed Stern, Poulsbo	1
	CM Ashley Mathews, Bainbridge Island Alt	1
Pierce County	EXEC Ryan Mello VICE PRESIDENT	1
	CM Rosie Ayala	1
	CM Robyn Denson Alt	
Tacoma	MYR Anders Ibsen	
	CM Kristina Walker Alt	
Lakewood	CM Ryan Pearson	
	DP MYR Patti Belle Alt	
Other Cities/Towns in Pierce County	CM Stan Flemming, University Place	1
	CM Jeff Sproul, Orting Alt	1
Snohomish County	EXC Dave Somers PRESIDENT	
	CM Sam Low	1
	CM Jared Mead Alt	
Everett	MYR Cassie Franklin	1
	CM Scott Bader Alt	
Other Cities/Towns in Snohomish County	MYR Pro Tem Bryan Wahl, Mountlake Terrace	1
	Mayor Pro Tem Jacob Walker, Monroe	
	CM Susan Paine, Edmonds Alt	1
	MYR Mike Rosen, Edmonds Alt	
Port of Bremerton	COMM Axel Strakeljahn	1
	COMM Gary Anderson Alt	
Port of Everett	COMM David Simpson	1
	COMM Glen Bachman Alt	
Port of Seattle	COMM Ryan Calkins	1
	COMM Toshiko Hasegawa Alt	
Port of Tacoma	COMM John McCarthy	1
	COMM Kristin Ang Alt	
Washington State Department of Transportation	Secretary Julie Meredith	
	Assistant Secretary John White	1
Washington State Transportation Commission	COMM Gael Tarleton	1
	Vacant Alt	

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Executive Board

From: Executive Ryan Mello, Chair, Operations Committee

Subject: **Approve Vouchers Dated October 12, 2026, Through November 13, 2026, in the Amount of $1,457,086.62**

IN BRIEF

Two representatives of the Operations Committee review and sign off on the vouchers. In accordance with RCW 42.24.080, following the Operations Committee's review, the Executive Board approves the vouchers.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend the Executive Board approve the following vouchers:

REQUESTED WARRANT DATE	**VOUCHER NUMBER**	**TOTALS**
10/12/26 - 10/30/26	AP Vouchers	$ 224,512.22
10/15/26 - 11/13/26	Payroll	$ 1,232,574.40
		$ 1,457,086.62

For additional information, please contact Andrew Werfelmann, Budget Manager, at 206-971-3292 or awerfelmann@psrc.org.

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Executive Board

From: Executive Ryan Mello, Chair, Operations Committee

Subject: **Approve Contract Authority for Internet Service**

IN BRIEF

Executive Board authorization is required for the Executive Director to enter into a contract in excess of $10,000. This request is to authorize a new contract in an amount not to exceed $30,000 for a 3-year internet service agreement. PSRC Staff worked with our broker, NetStar, to obtain competitive quotes.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Recommend the Executive Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for a 3-year internet service agreement with a total contract amount not to exceed $30,000.

BUDGET IMPACT

The approved Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program for Fiscal Years 2026-2027 and the budget being prepared for the 2028-2029 biennium includes sufficient funding for the internet service agreement.

For additional information, please contact Marc Daily, Director of Administrative Services, at (206) 464-7528 or by email at mdaily@psrc.org.

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Executive Board

From: Councilmember Ed Prince, Chair, Growth Management Policy Board

Subject: **Approve Certification of ReDiscover Downtown Kent Subarea Plan**

IN BRIEF

The Growth Management Policy Board recommends certification of the downtown subarea plan for the City of Kent's Regional Growth Center. This would fulfill the condition of the center's redesignation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Growth Management Policy Board recommends the following action to the Executive Board:

Certify the ReDiscover Downtown Kent Subarea Plan is consistent with the multicounty planning policies.

The draft certification report and adopted plan are available at the links provided for the board's review.

- Kent Downtown Subarea Plan Certification Report (PDF)
- ReDiscover Downtown Kent Subarea Plan (PDF)

DISCUSSION

VISION 2050 and the Regional Centers Framework (PDF) call for jurisdictions to adopt subarea plans for regional centers. PSRC reviews and certifies these plans in accordance with the Plan Review Manual. The City of Kent's Regional Growth Center (PDF) was redesignated March 26, 2026, with a condition to finalize and adopt the center's subarea plan. Consistent with PSRC's plan review process, PSRC staff

provided comments on the draft plan and now recommends certification of the subarea plan that was adopted August 18, 2026.

Subarea Plan Review and Certification

A subarea plan establishes a shared vision for a compact, livable community, shaped by public engagement and local priorities. Plans address land use, housing, economic development, transportation, infrastructure, and other strategies needed to support the center's growth. For regional growth centers, a subarea plan is required to demonstrate a commitment to local planning and the strategies and policies needed to meet the Framework's planning criteria.

The ReDiscover Downtown Kent Subarea Plan was reviewed in accordance with the adopted plan review process using PSRC's Regional Centers Framework and the VISION 2050 consistency tool for Regional Grow Center Plans (PDF). The plan was found to be substantially consistent with subarea planning requirements. PSRC staff coordinated with jurisdictional staff in the review of the plan and the development of the certification report.

The adopted plan review process calls for the Executive Board to take certification action on subarea plans on recommendation from the Growth Management Policy Board. Certification of the plan will fulfill the planning condition associated with Kent's conditional redesignation by the Executive Board to redesignate the center.

For additional information, please contact Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, at pinghram@psrc.org, or Nancy Ferber, Senior Planner, at nferber@psrc.org.

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Executive Board

From: Councilmember Ed Prince, Chair, Growth Management Policy Board
Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair, Transportation Policy Board

Subject: **Approve Certification of Comprehensive Plans for Carnation, Mercer Island, Ruston, and Kitsap County**

IN BRIEF

The Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board recommend that the Executive Board certify the 2024 comprehensive plan updates for Carnation, Mercer Island, Ruston, and Kitsap County. The certification reports describe how the comprehensive plans meet applicable requirements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Executive Board should certify that the transportation-related provisions in the following conform to the Growth Management Act and are consistent with the multicounty planning policies and the Regional Transportation Plan:

- **City of Carnation 2024 Comprehensive Plan (PDF)**
- **City of Mercer Island 2024 Comprehensive Plan (PDF)**
- **City of Ruston 2024 Comprehensive Plan (PDF)**
- **Kitsap County 2024 Comprehensive Plan (PDF)**

The draft certification reports are available at the links provided for the board's review.

DISCUSSION

A major emphasis of the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) is the need to coordinate local, regional and state planning efforts. Within the central Puget Sound region, local governments and the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) have worked

together to develop an overall process for reviewing local, countywide, regional and transit agency policies and plans for compatibility and consistency.

Consistent with PSRC's plan review process, PSRC staff provided comments on the draft plans and recommended certification of the following adopted comprehensive plans:

- Carnation adopted its 2024 comprehensive plan update on January 20, 2025. The Carnation plan was selected by the state Department of Commerce for review under the Housing Accountability Act and the city adopted an amended Housing Element on August 18, 2026. PSRC provided comments on the draft plan on June 5, 2024, and August 19, 2025, to inform the final plan adopted by the city.

- Mercer Island adopted its 2024 comprehensive plan update on November 19, 2024. The plan was appealed to the Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB) in February 2025 and the GMHB made a final decision and order in August 2025, providing the city with a full year to address the identified compliance issues. The city completed significant work addressing housing capacity and affordability as well as station area planning and adopted an update to its comprehensive plan to comply with the board's order on July 21, 2026. In September 2026, the GMHB issued an order on compliance and dismissed the case.

- Ruston adopted its 2024 comprehensive plan update on March 3, 2026. PSRC staff provided comments on the draft plan in August 2025.

- PSRC conditionally certified the Kitsap County 2024 periodic update of the comprehensive plan on September 25, 2025. On June 22, 2026, the county adopted amendments to the plan that address the conditions of certification and resubmitted the plan for review and full certification.

The comprehensive plans were reviewed in accordance with the adopted plan review process using PSRC's Plan Review Manual and VISION 2050 consistency tool. The plans were found to be substantially consistent with VISION 2050 (the multicounty planning policies) and the Regional Transportation Plan and to conform to transportation planning requirements in the Growth Management Act. PSRC staff coordinated with jurisdictional staff in the review of the plans and the development of the certification reports.

The adopted plan review process calls for the Executive Board to take certification action on comprehensive plans on recommendation from the Growth Management and Transportation Policy Boards. Options for Executive Board action are to:

- Certify that the plan is consistent with multicounty planning policies and the Regional Transportation Plan and conforms to Growth Management Act requirements for transportation planning, or

- Conditionally certify that the plan addresses most provisions of regional plans and policies and the Growth Management Act, with a requirement that a limited set of outstanding issues be addressed prior to full certification, or
- Do not certify.

Based on previous board direction, jurisdictions with plans that are certified or conditionally certified are then eligible to apply for PSRC funding or proceed with any project submitted into the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan Amendments

PSRC conditionally certified the Kitsap County 2024 comprehensive plan. The conditional approval of the 2024 update required the county to resolve an appeal to the Growth Management Hearings Board to address deficiencies in housing and employment capacity documented in the comprehensive plan, and to include a policy on transportation-related air quality. The Growth Management Hearings Board identified several aspects of the plan that needed correction. The county adopted the amended plan on June 22, 2026, and the hearings board issued an order on compliance on August 8, 2025. The amended comprehensive plan includes:

- Updated housing capacity figures that demonstrate capacity for each household income range
- Updated employment capacity figures that demonstrate sufficient capacity
- Policies regarding multimodal evacuation procedures and planning for evacuations
- A goal and policies to address wildfire planning and protection
- A policy to address deficiencies in planned housing or employment growth
- A policy to establish periodic monitoring and reporting of residential and employment capacity
- Policies to protect the public health and to reduce air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector

Staff reviewed the adopted comprehensive plan and found the amended plan to be consistent with certification requirements.

The Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board acted to recommend certification at their October and November meetings.

NEXT STEPS

Additional local plans will be brought forward to recommend for certification at future meetings.

For additional information, please contact Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, at pinghram@psrc.org or Erika Harris, Principal Planner, at eharris@psrc.org.

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

ACTION ITEM

To: Executive Board

From: Josh Brown, Executive Director

Subject: **Approve Revised Memorandum of Agreement Between Puget Sound Regional Council and Central Puget Sound Economic Development District**

IN BRIEF

The EDD Bylaws & Memorandum of Agreement Review Committee recommends revisions to the EDD Bylaws and the Memorandum of Agreement between the EDD and PSRC. The proposed changes would strengthen coordination between the two organizations, better align EDD governance with PSRC's other policy boards, and establish a more formal role for PSRC in regional economic development decision-making.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve revised Memorandum of Agreement between PSRC and EDD as recommended by the EDD Bylaws & Memorandum of Agreement Review Committee.

DISCUSSION

Background

The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD) is a nonprofit corporation incorporated in the State of Washington to facilitate economic development in the region. The EDD Bylaws were last amended in December 2017 and contain a set of rules for the management of the board and the work of the organization. This includes rules on budgeting process, composition of the board, board member terms, meeting requirements, processes for elections, establishment of committees, and other areas. Any changes to the bylaws require a two-thirds vote of the EDD Board.

The work of the EDD is done by PSRC through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

between the two organizations that was last updated in August 2015. The MOA provides terms and conditions between the two agencies, including PSRC providing staffing, shared services, use of office space and boardroom space, and implementation of the EDD workplan. The U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) has requested that PSRC and the EDD review the MOA and make any necessary updates. Any changes to the MOA require review and approval by PSRC's Executive Board.

Timeline of Committee Work
At its June meeting, the EDD Board established the EDD Bylaws & Memorandum of Agreement Review Committee (Committee) to review the EDD Bylaws and the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and make recommendations for changes at its December meeting. The identified committee members included EDD President Dave Morell, Mayor Ed Stern, Commissioner Axel Strakeljahn, Michael Catsi, and Stacey Crnich.

The Committee held its first meeting in July, where members discussed high-level considerations for the EDD/PSRC relationship. In August, staff led a joint discussion with the Committee and the EDD Executive Committee. Staff led a discussion with the EDD Board at its September meeting to provide an update on the work and gather feedback from the board. In October and November, staff met with the Committee and the EDD Executive Committee to refine and finalize the proposed recommendations. During this time, staff met with regional representatives of the EDA to discuss considerations for updating the MOA and the bylaws.

Input from PSRC Leadership
Throughout the process, staff met with PSRC's Executive Board leadership to discuss the current MOA between PSRC and the EDD and discussed potential changes to the relationship between the two organizations. PSRC leadership expressed interest in elevating the work of the EDD and having better alignment of the economic development work with growth management and transportation planning work at the agency. PSRC leadership recognized that the $70,000 annual EDA Partnership Planning Grant provided to support the work of the EDD requires PSRC to provide most of the funding to support the program. PSRC leadership expressed a desire to have the EDD Board operate in a more consistent manner with the other policy boards at PSRC. In addition, PSRC leadership expressed a desire to have a voice in approval of the Regional Economic Strategy.

Summary of Recommended Changes
The proposed changes are intended to strengthen coordination and alignment between the EDD and PSRC while maintaining the EDD's role as the region's federally designated Economic Development District. The recommendations establish a more consistent governance relationship with PSRC's other policy boards, while preserving the EDD Board's responsibility for overseeing the region's economic development program and adopting the Regional Economic Strategy.

Future changes to composition of EDD Board

For the purposes of this discussion, “board composition” refers to the list of entities having seats on the board and their number of seats. The individuals representing each entity on the board are determined by each entity’s own processes. Currently, changes to EDD Board composition are made through a two-thirds affirmative vote by the EDD Board to change its bylaws. Composition of the Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) and the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) is managed by PSRC’s Executive Board.

Recommended changes to the EDD bylaws and the MOA would require that any changes to the EDD Board composition require an amendment to the EDD bylaws by the EDD Board of Directors as well as approval by PSRC’s Executive Board. This approach ensures collaboration between the EDD and PSRC on EDD Board composition, creating a threshold that would require agreement by both governing boards on any changes. Composition of the EDD Board will be included in its bylaws as Attachment A and will be considered part of the bylaws for the purpose of future amendments.

Changes to current EDD Board composition

The EDD Board has historically had seats designated as “Presidential Appointments”. Appointments to these seats have been recommended by the incoming PSRC president and ratified by the EDD Board and have served during the tenure of the president who appointed them. Presidential Appointments have full voting rights on the EDD Board. These Presidential Appointment seats and this process are not explicitly defined by the current EDD bylaws but are an interpretation of Article II, Section 10 “The Board President may fill any remaining positions to ensure adequate representation by appointment subject to ratification by the Board.” There are not a set number of Presidential Appointments per the current EDD Bylaws, but historically there have been up to four seats held by appointments per presidential term.

GMPB and TPB both have seats for non-voting members. Appointment to these seats is managed through an open application process run by PSRC staff, with recommended appointments provided by PSRC’s president to PSRC’s Executive Board for approval.

Recommended changes to the EDD bylaws and the MOA would replace the current EDD Presidential Appointment seats with four At-Large EDD Board seats. Appointment to these seats would be made through a process similar to appointments for non-voting seats on GMPB and TPB. Appointees to these At-Large EDD Board seats will be affirmed by the EDD Board, will have full voting rights on the EDD Board, and will no longer be tied to the tenure of the EDD Board president.

Recommended changes to the EDD bylaws include removal of the seat for a Chamber of Commerce from the region, which is currently unfilled. Participation by a Chamber of Commerce from the region in this seat has been sporadic, as there is not a clear path to determine which chamber from the region would be selected to hold this seat. In addition, the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce is currently represented on

the EDD Board as the designated Associate Development Organization (ADO) from King County.

EDD Board Leadership

Currently, the President and Vice President of the EDD Board are elected by the EDD Board. A Nominating Committee is formed to identify and recommend leadership to the EDD Board for approval. The elected President and Vice President serve for a two-year term.

Chairs of the GMPB and the TPB are recommended by PSRC's President to the Executive Board for approval. There are no set terms for the Chairs of these boards. The Vice Chair on each board is selected by the board Chair in consultation with PSRC board and board leadership including PSRC's President, Vice President, and the other policy Chairs. This consultation process helps ensure regional representation in leadership positions across the policy boards.

The proposed changes would establish a leadership selection process consistent with PSRC's other policy boards. The EDD Board Chair would be recommended by PSRC's President and approved by PSRC's Executive Board. The Vice Chair would be selected by the Chair in consultation with PSRC board leadership and affirmed by the EDD Board. The changes would also eliminate the current two-year terms for EDD Board leadership.

Approval of Regional Economic Strategy

PSRC works to develop VISION as the region's growth management plan, the Regional Transportation Plan, and facilitates the development of the Regional Economic Strategy. PSRC's Executive Board takes action to adopt VISION and the Regional Transportation Plan but currently takes no action on the Regional Economic Strategy. As the designated body that manages the region's Economic Development District, the EDD Board develops and adopts the Regional Economic Strategy, which is then submitted to the EDA for approval.

Recommended changes to the EDD bylaws and the MOA include that following adoption by the EDD Board and submission to the EDA, the Regional Economic Strategy would be forwarded to PSRC's Executive Board for concurrence. This would provide PSRC with a formal opportunity to affirm its support for the strategy and strengthen alignment with VISION and the Regional Transportation Plan, while maintaining the EDD Board's responsibility for adopting the strategy.

Bylaws and MOA Adoption

The EDD Bylaws & Memorandum of Agreement Review Committee is recommending changes to the EDD Bylaws and the Memorandum of Agreement between the EDD and PSRC. The EDD Board will be asked to approve these changes at its December 2nd meeting. PSRC will be asked to approve the revised MOA at the December 3rd Executive Board meeting.

For additional information, please contact Josh Brown, Executive Director, at jbrown@psrc.org or 206-464-7515.

ATTACHMENT

A. Memorandum of Agreement Between the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) and the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD)

REVISED AND RESTATED

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL
AND THE

CENTRAL PUGET SOUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

concerning coordination of Economic Planning Efforts between the two Parties

This Revised and Restated Memorandum of Agreement (hereinafter called "Agreement") is entered into this 3rd day of December 2026, by and between the Puget Sound Regional Council (hereinafter called the "Regional Council" or "PSRC") and the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District, a Washington nonprofit corporation organized under RCW 24.06 (hereinafter called the "Economic Development District" or the "EDD"), referred to individually as "Party" and collectively as "Parties".

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Parties entered into a Memorandum of Agreement on June 27th, 2002 to coordinate economic development efforts in the central Puget Sound Region, as amended by the First Amendment dated March 26, 2003, the Second Amendment dated June 9, 2004, and the Third Amendment dated August 31, 2015 (collectively, the “MOA”).

WHEREAS, this Revised and Restated Memorandum of Agreement replaces and supersedes the June 27th, 2002 Memorandum of Agreement and all previous amendments thereto.

WHEREAS, the Parties have made the most efficient use of their respective resources by cooperating to provide economic planning activities within the Region.

WHEREAS, both Parties wish to engage in cooperative action to support joint efforts which result in more efficient use of resources.

WHEREAS, the Parties agree that such coordination of resources through this Memorandum of Agreement would continue to result in a more efficient use of public resources and forward the concept of more efficient government.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the legal authority of the respective parties, and in consideration of the terms, conditions and performances made herein, it is agreed as follows:

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the terms and conditions for PSRC and the EDD to coordinate resources to deliver economic planning to the Region.

II. Agreements between Parties

1. The EDD shall develop and maintain a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) to be submitted to the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) for approval.

2. Upon adoption by the EDD, the CEDS shall be forwarded to PSRC for concurrence.

3. PSRC on behalf of the EDD shall make best efforts to secure an EDA Partnership Planning Program grant to support the development of CEDS and shall work to secure additional funding to advance regional economic development efforts as appropriate.

4. With funds from the EDA Partnership Planning Program grant and other sources, PSRC shall provide staff support and agency resources for the EDD's development and adoption of the CEDS and implementation of the EDA Partnership Planning Program grant scope of work. Both parties recognize that the EDA Partnership Planning Program grant does not fully fund PSRC's work on the EDD's behalf. The PSRC General Assembly shall have final authority to develop and adopt a budget and work program to advance regional economic development efforts.

5. The Chairperson, number of directors, composition of the Board of Directors, and voting structure of the Board of Directors shall be determined by the PSRC Executive Board following a recommendation from the PSRC President. Changes to the number of directors and composition of the Board of Directors require action by the EDD Board to update its Bylaws.

III. Termination

This Agreement shall terminate as follows:

1. Upon written notice from either party to this Agreement;

2. In the event of a materially significant change in circumstances that renders either party unable to meet its obligations under this Agreement, including but not limited to a material loss of funding, this Agreement shall terminate as soon as reasonably possible.

3. Absent a basis for termination under Paragraph 1 and 2 of this Section, this Agreement shall be automatically renewed and extended for additional, successive one-year terms, with each renewal term commencing on the effective anniversary date of this Agreement.

IV. Effective Date and Amendment

This Agreement will commence on December 3, 2026. The Agreement may be amended at any time by written agreement signed and executed by both Parties.

V. Jurisdiction

Nothing in this Agreement alters, or seeks to alter, the existing statutory authority or other legal authority of the Parties.

In witness whereof, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

Puget Sound Regional Council	**Central Puget Sound Economic Development District**
By:	By:
Title:	Title:
Date:	Date:

Puget Sound Regional Council

ACTION ITEM November 23, 2026

To: Executive Board

From: Josh Brown, Executive Director

Subject: **Approve Recommendations to the 2027 State Legislature**

IN BRIEF

Following the Executive Board's direction, PSRC staff have been working to prepare recommendations for the state legislature ahead of the 2027 legislative session. Staff will brief the Executive Board on the process for adopting legislative priorities and request approval of the 2027 Recommendations to the State Legislature.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt the proposed Recommendations to the 2027 State Legislature.

DISCUSSION

Last year, the Executive Board adopted recommendations to the 2026 Washington State Legislature based on the region's adopted plans and policies in the areas of transportation, housing choices and affordability, climate change, and economic development. While these core priorities remain consistent for 2027, PSRC staff are recommending updated language to reflect board feedback in various areas.

The recommendations have been edited to enhance readability and reduce redundancy. The recommendations are updated to reflect progress and changes at the legislature – including the removal of the Housing Futures Center, replacing the Road Usage Charge with the Highway Use Fee and the inclusion of investments in Amtrak Cascades. The recommendations include a longer Economy section, emphasizing economic competitiveness and building partnerships to reflect ongoing work with Challenge Seattle.

PSRC staff consulted with the Executive Board, Economic Development District Board, Growth Management Policy Board, and Transportation Policy Board on the 2027 recommendations in September, October, and November. Staff also briefed the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) and the Regional Staff Committee on the recommendations.

For more information, contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org or 206-798-4462.

ATTACHMENT

A. Draft 2027 PSRC Recommendations to the State Legislature



Draft Recommendations to the 2027 State Legislature

Puget Sound Regional Council

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) seeks to address regional growth by advocating for state policies that advance and invest in critical infrastructure, affordability, sustainability, economic competitiveness and opportunity for all residents.

We acknowledge the challenging economic conditions facing our state and region, compounded by federal-level uncertainty and declining state revenue. PSRC values the Legislature's continued partnership and commitment to working with local governments and elected officials to implement shared priorities.



Keep the Region Moving Safely

A reliable, efficient multimodal transportation system is critical infrastructure to build a thriving region, connecting people to homes and jobs. Every transportation investment should be planned and delivered with safety as the priority to reduce deaths and serious injuries on the region's roadways. Resources should be directed toward electrification of the transportation system and significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

- Sustain transportation investments to fully fund maintenance and preservation, including deferred maintenance of state bridges, ensure projects of regional significance are built, provide tools to address local funding needs, the largest revenue gap for the region.
- Offset revenue shortfalls due to declining state gas tax revenues through equitable and sustainable transportation funding mechanisms, including a Highway Use Fee. Ensure new revenue options provide for local revenue sharing and consider local options.
- Continue capital and workforce investment in the Washington State Ferries system to ensure reliable service.
- Invest in Amtrak Cascades to work toward expanded service and implementation of the Service Development Plan.

Increase Housing Choices and Affordability

Housing affordability continues to be a top concern of residents and local elected officials in communities in the region. We need to build 620,000 more homes by 2044 and 50% of these homes need to be affordable to people earning less than half of the Area Median Income.

- Invest in operating and capital subsidies to create affordable homes to meet local needs and create homeownership opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) households.
- Work in close coordination and partnership with local governments and the full housing sector when considering adopting new policies to increase housing supply to ensure practical and effective implementation.
- Track impacts of state housing policies through regular collection and analysis of data.

Sustain a Strong Economy

The Puget Sound region has a strong economic foundation but job losses, fewer business startups and survivals, and rising costs are creating uncertainty. We must adopt policies to maintain economic competitiveness and build partnerships including:

- Fund workforce development programs to support workers and meet the needs of employers and a growing economy, including electrification of the transportation system.
- Invest in and ensure access to critical infrastructure, including energy, water, wastewater, and broadband.
- Support clean energy industry technologies like Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), offshore wind, fusion, hydrogen, and other emerging technologies through investment and policy.

For more information, please contact:

Robin Koskey
Director of Government Relations & Communications
RKoskey@psrc.org
206-798-4462



Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) develops policies and coordinates decisions about regional growth, transportation and economic development planning within King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties. PSRC is composed of nearly 100 members, including the four counties, cities and towns, ports, state and local transportation agencies and Tribal governments within the region.

PSRC's recommendations to the Washington State Legislature support implementation of regionally adopted policies and plans, including:

- VISION 2050
- Regional Transportation Plan
- Regional Housing Strategy
- Comprehensive Climate Action Plan
- Regional Economic Strategy
- Regional Equity Strategy

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

ACTION ITEM

To: Executive Board

From: Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair, Transportation Policy Board

Subject: **Approve Regional Transportation Plan Amendment for the ST3 System Plan Update**

IN BRIEF

The current Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) was adopted by the General Assembly in May 2026. The RTP includes adopted procedures to allow for amendments that may be approved by the Executive Board on an ad hoc basis, in between the scheduled four-year plan development cycles. In these instances, the plan analysis is updated, and the amendments are evaluated for consistency with the plan's air quality conformity determination, environmental analysis under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and the adopted financial strategy.

On May 28, the Sound Transit Board adopted an updated ST3 System Plan to address a $34.5 billion gap in funding through 2046. Sound Transit has now requested an amendment to the RTP to reflect the updated ST3 System Plan and long-range financial plan. More information is provided below on the proposed RTP amendment and the evaluation process. At its meeting on November 12, the Transportation Policy Board recommended adoption of the amendment.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Executive Board should adopt an amendment to the Regional Transportation Plan to reflect the updated ST3 System Plan.

DISCUSSION

Sound Transit's Fall 2025 Long-Range Financial Plan estimated a shortfall of $34.5 billion to fully fund the ST3 program through 2046. In May 2025, Sound Transit launched the "Enterprise Initiative," a comprehensive effort aimed at delivering the maximum benefits of ST3 within available financial resources. Upon conclusion of this

work and outreach to the public, the Sound Transit Board adopted an updated ST3 System Plan on May 28, 2026. At their meeting on July 9, the Transportation Policy Board was briefed on the evaluation conducted under the Enterprise Initiative, changes in the updated ST3 System Plan and the work ahead. Additional information may be found on Sound Transit's website. Sound Transit has now requested an amendment to the RTP to reflect the updated ST3 System Plan.

The current RTP was adopted in May 2026 and contains all capital and operational investments of the current and future transportation system. While PSRC is required by federal law to develop a new plan at least every four years, it is recognized that changes may occur to projects or priorities that require a plan amendment prior to the next four-year plan cycle. A call for project updates is regularly offered at the 2-year midpoint that accommodates revisions that cannot wait for the next plan development process. In addition, specific amendment requests may be made on an ad hoc basis for board consideration.

All plan amendments must be evaluated and found consistent with the plan's air quality conformity determination,[1] SEPA review and financial strategy. Amendments that add new investments, remove investments, or change the scope, timing or location of existing investments require updated regional modeling and a new air quality conformity determination. In addition, amendments must not negatively impact the RTP financial strategy so that the RTP remains financially constrained.

The suite of changes identified in the updated ST3 System Plan are identified in the Sound Transit Board Resolution No. R2026-11. These include changes to the scopes and costs of existing projects, deferral of projects and operational service changes. All changes to investments currently identified in the RTP are identified and included in the requested amendment (see Attachment A). However, operational changes to Sound Transit services outside of this list, and impacts to the redeployment of local transit services, have not yet been fully determined. Once the agencies complete this next phase of planning and identify specific adjustments, a future RTP amendment may be requested.

PSRC staff have reviewed the changes included in the requested amendment. The regional model has been updated, and the region will maintain a positive air quality conformity finding. In addition, the amendment remains consistent with the analysis reflected in the RTP SEPA Addendum. The RTP financial strategy assumes Sound Transit has available current and future revenues to meet all anticipated expenditures, based on the adopted Sound Transit long-range financial plan in place at the time. The

[1] Air quality conformity must be addressed for areas designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as nonattainment or maintenance for specific pollutants. Within the Puget Sound region, there is currently a fine particulate matter (PM2.5) maintenance area. The region is in attainment of all other criteria pollutants. The State Implementation Plan for Air Quality (SIP) provides a blueprint of how these areas will meet and maintain the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Positive findings of conformity to the SIP are required for transportation plans and projects within these areas.

requested amendment will update the RTP financial strategy to reflect the updated ST3 System Plan and Sound Transit's newly balanced financial plan to retain the financial constraint of the RTP.

Additional details of the amendment and updated RTP analysis will be provided at the December 3 Executive Board meeting. Once the plan amendment is approved, all relevant RTP documents will be updated to reflect the changes.

For additional information, please contact Kelly McGourty at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-901-3601.

ATTACHMENT

A. RTP Amendment for the Updated ST3 System Plan

RTP Amendment for the Updated ST3 System Plan

The following changes will be made to investments in the adopted 2026-2050 Regional Transportation Plan to reflect the ST3 System Plan update.

Sound Transit Link Light Rail

1 Line (Tacoma to Ballard)

RTP ID: 5681 (Boeing Access Road Infill Station)

- The Boeing Access Road Infill Station will be reflected in the RTP as being funded only through Preliminary Engineering / Design

RTP ID: 5683 (Downtown Seattle to Ballard Extension)

- The portion of the Downtown Seattle to Ballard Extension project between Seattle Center and Ballard will be reflected in the RTP as being funded only through Preliminary Engineering / Design
- The completion year will be changed from 2039 to 2042

RTP ID: 5684 (Downtown Seattle Tunnel)

- The completion year will be changed from 2039 to 2042

RTP ID: 5685 (Federal Way to Tacoma Extension)

- Funding is no longer included for parking at Fife and South Federal Way

3 Line (West Seattle to Everett)

RTP ID: 5682 (Downtown Seattle to West Seattle Extension)

- Stations at Stadium and Avalon Station are no longer included
- The completion year will be changed from 2032 to 2035

RTP ID: 2519 (Lynnwood to Everett)

- Funding is no longer included for parking at Mariner and Everett Station

4 Line (Issaquah to S. Kirkland)

RTP ID: 2529 (Issaquah to S. Kirkland Extension)

- The completion year will be changed from 2044 to 2050

T Line (Tacoma Link)

RTP ID: 4075 (Tacoma Link Extension to Tacoma Community College)

- The completion year will be changed from 2041 to 2043

Sound Transit Sounder Commuter Rail

S Line (Tacoma to Seattle)

RTP ID: 2533 (Sounder Extension to DuPont)

- The Sounder Extension to DuPont will be reflected in the RTP as being funded only through Planning

N Line (Everett to Seattle)

- The N Line will be discontinued in 2033

Sound Transit STRIDE BRT

S1 Line (Burien to Bellevue)

RTP ID: 5836 (I-405 BRT Parking Facilities)

- Parking at N 44th Street and Kingsgate is removed
- The completion date will be changed from 2035 to 2034

S3 Line (Bothell to Shoreline)

RTP ID: 5835 (SR 522 BRT Parking Facilities)

- Parking in Lake Forest Park, Kenmore and Bothell is removed

King County Metro

- The RapidRide D line is continued in the 2050 network until such time as full funding of light rail to Ballard is identified.
- Route 1039 is continued in the 2050 network to serve Graham Street Light Rail station.

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Executive Board

From: Josh Brown, Executive Director

Subject: **2027 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds**

IN BRIEF

PSRC has project selection authority for several sources of funds from both the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Prior to each funding cycle, the policies and procedures for the project selection process are reviewed and updated as needed to reflect current regional priorities and requirements and are documented in the *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds.*

The next project selection process for PSRC's federal funds will occur in 2027. Over the last six months PSRC staff advisory committees and the Transportation Policy Board have discussed key elements of the process in preparation for adoption of the *Policy Framework* in January 2027. At the Executive Board meeting on December 3, staff will provide background on PSRC's project selection process, specific refinements for 2027, and the schedule of key activities.

DISCUSSION

A competitive project selection process is conducted every two to three years for the distribution of PSRC's federal funds. Prior to each process, a *Policy Framework* is adopted, outlining the policy guidance for the distribution of funds and other details on how the process will be conducted. The next process will be conducted in 2027.

In early 2026, staff began a review of the project selection process to ensure alignment with current federal and state direction. This included collaboration with PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee over a three-month period that resulted in the development of an updated Opportunity Index tool to support the assessment of transportation projects in addressing the needs of underserved communities. In addition, the Regional Transportation Plan, adopted in May 2026, identifies two key areas to inform the next

project selection process, in alignment with the Regional Safety Action Plan and the Active Transportation Plan. Staff have coordinated with PSRC's Regional Project Evaluation Committee and Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee on updates to the process to reflect this direction.

Attachment A summarizes the key elements and policy priorities to be included in the *Draft 2027 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*. At the meeting on December 3, staff will provide additional information and background on the upcoming process, including refinements for 2027 and the schedule of activities.

For additional information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.

ATTACHMENT

A. 2027 Project Selection Process Background

2027 Project Selection Process Background

The following information provides a high-level overview of the primary policy guidance and components of PSRC's project selection process. Further discussion on the *Draft 2027 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds* will be held in December, with adoption by the Executive Board scheduled for January.

PSRC's Federal Funds

PSRC has project selection authority over specific sources of funds from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). There are specific eligibilities tied to each funding source – for example, one of the FHWA funding sources is focused solely on reducing emissions of air pollutants, and two of the FTA funding sources are focused on state of good repair.

- Two sources of FHWA funds, ~$90 million per year on average over the last two federal transportation acts
- Four sources of FTA funds, ~$230 million per year on average over the last two federal transportation acts

Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds

Per federal regulation, PSRC is required to document the process used for prioritizing and programming these funds. The *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds* serves this purpose by providing policy direction and guidelines for the selection of projects to receive PSRC funds. Based on VISION 2050 policies and consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan, the *Policy Framework* is refined and updated by the board prior to each project selection process to address new or updated federal or state requirements, and new or updated regional policy direction.

Policy Focus

VISION 2050 identifies the policy focus for the distribution of PSRC's federal funds as *support for centers and the corridors that serve them.* The application of this policy focus is detailed later in this document.

Eligibilities

In addition to the specific eligibility for each federal funding source, all projects submitted to PSRC for funding must demonstrate the following:

- Consistency with VISION 2050 and the regional transportation plan;
- Consistency with local comprehensive plans;
- Required matching funds available or reasonably expected to be available;
- Consistency with the region's air quality conformity determination;

- Consistency with federal and state requirements such as functional classification; and
- Consistency with PSRC's project tracking policies.

FHWA Funding Process

Competitive processes are conducted for the distribution of PSRC's FHWA funds, split between a regional competition and competitions conducted through each of the four countywide forums. Key features to highlight for these competitions include specific set-asides that are distributed through the countywide competitions, the project evaluation criteria, and application of the policy focus of support for centers. Technical and administrative details include caps on the number of projects and funding amounts requested, to comply with adopted project tracking policies and to ensure annual delivery targets are met.

Set-Asides

Set-asides established by the board include:

- Preservation – 20% of the total estimated Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funding *(the larger and more flexible of the two FHWA funding sources)*
- Bicycle / Pedestrian – 10% of the total amount of FHWA funds *(both sources)*
- Kitsap County adjustment – an adjustment is applied to provide a modest increase in funding for the Kitsap Countywide competition, since it is eligible for funding from only one of the two sources of FHWA funds
- Rural Town Centers & Corridors Program – 10% of the regional portion of the funds, for a competition that is generally conducted in the subsequent year
- PSRC's work program - $1 million of STBG funds per year

Policy Focus

For the regional competition, centers are defined as regional growth centers and regional manufacturing/industrial centers as designated by PSRC's Executive Board. For the countywide competitions, centers are defined as regional growth and regional manufacturing/industrial centers, centers as designated through countywide processes, town centers, and other locally identified centers (including military facilities).

Project Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria used in both the regional and countywide competitions are based on regional policies and board guidance. Countywide competitions may also include additional criteria tailored to local priorities. Point distributions may vary somewhat depending on the competition, but the chart below provides an illustration of regional point values. In 2024, substantial improvements were made to strengthen the priorities of safety and supporting underserved communities in the criteria. Modest refinements

will be included in the 2027 process, based on board direction and implementation items identified in the recently adopted Regional Transportation Plan.

Criteria Category	Point Values	
	STBG	CMAQ[1]
Development of Centers	28	13
Mobility & Accessibility	24	12
Outreach & Displacement	12	10
Safety & Security	16	15
Air Quality / Climate Change	20	50
TOTAL	100	100

The three areas of refinement to the criteria for 2027 are summarized below. The refinements will be incorporated into the core criteria and structure illustrated in the table above, which remain unchanged.

- Prioritizing regional and local high injury networks per the Regional Safety Action Plan.
- Incorporating PSRC's Pedestrian and Bicycle Facility Typologies and Bicycle Level of Traffic Stress per the Active Transportation Plan.
- Aligning with current state and federal requirements by applying the updated Opportunity Index to address the needs of underserved communities. The Opportunity Index was developed collaboratively with the Equity Advisory Committee and refines the tool to focus on outcomes and needs around the region rather than demographic characteristics.

FTA Funding Process

There are nine transit operators in the PSRC region, operating within three designated urbanized areas. The allocation of FTA funds to each urbanized area is based on a national distribution formula based on federal census data and public transit system data.

The majority of PSRC's FTA funds are distributed via a process referred to as the Earned Share distribution. This distribution "unpacks" the federal formula to identify the portion of funds "earned" in the region from each transit agency's operations.

[1] Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ)

A smaller amount of PSRC's FTA funds - approximately 14% of the total funding within the largest of the three urbanized areas - is allocated based on regional attributes such as population density. The distribution methodology for these funds was updated in 2023 to focus on supporting underserved communities. This methodology is being updated to be in line with the discussion above related to alignment with current federal guidance and use of the Opportunity Index rather than demographic data.

Transit agencies propose projects to receive funding through the distribution processes described above, for board consideration and approval. In addition, a set-aside of $1.25 million per year is provided for PSRC's transit-related work program.

Puget Sound Regional Council

EXECUTIVE SESSION November 23, 2026

To: Executive Board

From: Executive Dave Somers, President

Subject: **Executive Session**

At its meeting on December 3, the Executive Board will hold an Executive Session to review the performance of the Executive Director.

RCW 42.30.110: Executive Session (1) (g) provides for the following:

> *To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.*

For additional information, please contact Marc Daily, Director of Administrative Services at mdaily@psrc.org.

Puget Sound Regional Council

INFORMATION ITEM November 23, 2026

To: Executive Board

From: Josh Brown, Executive Director

Subject: **2027 Executive Board and Operations Committee Meeting Schedule**

The Executive Board and Operations Committee meet on the **fourth Thursday of every month**. Unless noted, the Operations Committee meetings are held from 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. and the Executive Board from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Meeting dates and times are subject to change. Members will be notified if a meeting is changed or canceled.

January 28

February 25

March 25

April 22

May – Date to be determined

June 24

July 22

August – No meeting

September 23

October 28

November – No meeting

December 2 – Early meeting date

Questions can be directed to Sheila Rogers at (206) 464-5815 or srogers@psrc.org. For additional board information, visit PSRC's website at https://www.psrc.org/calendar.

Puget Sound Regional Council

November 23, 2026

INFORMATION ITEM

To: Executive Board

From: Josh Brown, Executive Director

Subject: **New Employee Status Report**

PSRC has two new employees:

Laura Benjamin-LaPitz – Program Manager, Growth Management Planning
Prasanna Humagain – Senior Modeler, Data

For additional information, please contact Thu Le, HR Manager, at tle@psrc.org or 206-464-6175.