July 26, 2018

Projects selected for PSRC funding

PSRC’s 2018 Project Selection process will award about $533 million in federal transportation funds. PSRC is responsible for project selection for federal funds flowing to the region using a merit-based process. The details and procedures are established in the 2018 Policy Framework for PSRC’s Federal Funds. The funding is divided into two main categories: highway and transit funding. The $157.27 million in highway funding is subdivided into two pools with $105.2 million going to the countywide process and $52.07 to the regional competition. The $366.43 million in transit funding has a similar distribution with nearly $24 million in a regional competition and over $342 million going to the earned share of each transit agency in the region. The projects selected for funding will now be combined with the other projects in the Regional Transportation Improvement Program before being released for public comment in September. View the presentation.

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

Regional Aviation Baseline Study

PSRC’s Executive Board will lead a baseline study to provide a clear picture of the aviation activities and needs in the region and set the stage for future planning efforts. Amazing Place, the Regional Economic Strategy, recognizes commercial aviation as a cornerstone of the local economy. One of the strategy’s action items is to conduct a Regional Aviation Baseline Study to understand the long-term aviation needs and capacity of the region. Continued coordinated planning is needed to ensure the airport system can accommodate growth in aviation. The work will build on master planning processes underway at many of the region’s airports. The study will consolidate an assessment of specific capacity needs, issues, challenges, and community impacts. A grant from the Federal Aviation Administration to fund the study is anticipated later this summer, with the work to be completed at the end of 2019.

For more information, contact Ben Bakkenta at 206-971-3286 or bbakkenta@psrc.org.

FTA adjustment and potential contingency list funding

The Executive Board approved an additional $38.8 million and an adjustment of PSRC’s Federal Transit Administration funding. The funding is the net total to the region, reflecting both increases and decreases in amounts earned by each transit agency, as well as an increase to the regional portion of funds in the Seattle-Tacoma-Everett urbanized area. Additionally, one previously funded project returned $1.5 million to the regional pot, resulting in an approximate total of $4.4
Regional Open Space Conservation Plan

Staff briefed the board on the newly published Regional Open Space Conservation Plan, which maps the open space network in King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties and identifies priority actions needed to sustain open spaces for the long term. The plan identifies approximately 463,000 acres of the regional open space network that are most at risk. The plan provides a platform for working together on efforts to meet the region's most pressing conservation priorities. Board members and others are encouraged to share the plan with colleagues and other partners in open space roles, including planning, parks and recreation, transportation, hazard mitigation, and natural resources. View the presentation.

For more information, contact Erika Harris at 206-464-6360 or eharris@psrc.org.

In other business, the board:

- Adopted a Routine Amendment to the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).
- Fully certified the Comprehensive Plan for Eatonville.
- Certified the University Place Regional Growth Center.
- Enjoyed a presentation on data trends.