Regional FTA Caucus Meeting Summary

Date: April 8, 2020
Location: Online Meeting Only: BlueJeans Remote Meeting

Welcome and Introductions
Sarah Gutschow, PSRC, welcomed everyone at 10:30 a.m. Representatives from the transit agencies were confirmed as present.

Approval of Meeting Summary
The summary for the January 8, 2020 Regional FTA Caucus meeting was approved.

Discussion: Impacts of Coronavirus Emergency on Regional Transit
Kelly McGourty, PSRC, provided an overview of the FTA funding that the PSRC region received from the recently passed CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act. PSRC proposed to allocate the CARES Act funds to transit agencies in the region based on the earned share formula distribution from PSRC’s FFY2020 FTA apportionments.

The transit agencies then provided feedback on this proposal, as well as their intended use of the funds and timeline for submitting the funds for obligation. There was unanimous support for the earned share approach. Every agency also indicated their intent was to use the funds primarily for operating expenses, with action requested as quickly as possible.

Kelly said that PSRC would next communicate this feedback to the Transportation Operators Committee and Executive Board. The Executive Board would be holding an emergency remote meeting in April to take action to recommend the CARES Act funding distributions.

For more information, contact Kelly McGourty at (206) 971-3601 or Sarah Gutschow at (206) 587-4822
Discussion: PSRC’s FTA Annual Adjustments Process

Sarah provided a general overview of the FFY2020 Annual Adjustments process, including a walk-through of the disaggregation tool and a review of the draft FTA annual adjustments technical addendum.

Sarah informed the Caucus the FFY2020 Annual Adjustments packet would be sent out to transit agencies after the meeting. The Caucus would then take action on the 2020 project recommendations via vote by email. She also introduced a potential update to the disaggregation tool for the 5337 High Intensity Fixed Guideway (HIFG) distribution formula to bring it more in line with the formula used by the FTA. The Caucus discussed whether to incorporate the potential update for FFY2020 or to wait until the FFY2021 Annual Adjustments process.

The presentation is available on the PSRC website here

For more information, contact Sarah Gutschow at (206) 587-4822

Discussion: 2020 FTA Project Selection Process

Sarah provided a brief update on the 2020 Project Selection process and noted that the currently posted timeline for the process had not changed. Detailed information is available here:

https://www.psrc.org/our-work/funding/project-selection/fhwa-and-fta-regional-funding

For more information, contact Sarah Gutschow at (206) 587-4822

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

*Members and Alternates Present

Melissa Cauley, Community Transit and Chair; Clint Ritter, Pierce County Ferries and Vice Chair; Melinda Adams, Everett Transit; Krishan Aggarwal, WA State Ferries; John Bernhard, WA State Ferries; Steffani Lillie, Kitsap Transit; Dawn Erickson, Everett Transit; Peter Heffernan, King County Metro; Barb Hunter, Pierce Transit; Benjamin Smith, City of Seattle; Lisa Wolterink, Sound Transit

*PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Kelly McGourty, PSRC; Monica Adkins, PSRC; Gil Cerise, PSRC; Sarah Gutschow, PSRC; Kirste Johnson, Sound Transit; Jim Storment, City of Seattle; Kenneth Wilson, Sound Transit

*All attendees were present via remote participation