



City of Tacoma

Mayor Victoria R. Woodards

January 16, 2018

Ms. Kelly McGourty
Puget Sound Regional Council
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500
Seattle, WA 98104-1035

Re: Draft Regional Transportation Plan, December 2017

Dear Ms. McGourty,

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We wholeheartedly endorse the draft as currently written. PSRC staff have clearly been working diligently with the PSRC Boards to capture the appropriate direction for this major plan update.

We particularly appreciate:

- The consistent tie-in with the VISION 2040 land-use strategy, e.g. “The Regional Transportation Plan prioritizes investments for those parts of the region expected to accommodate the most growth, especially centers and compact urban communities. It implements the VISION 2040 regional growth strategy by targeting transportation investments that provide capacity for a population of 5 million in 2040, ensuring that people can get to work and recreation, that freight and goods movement can supply businesses and factories, and that ports can continue to function as regional and global gateways.” RTP page i.
- The recognition of the role that the Growing Transit Communities strategy and partnership have and are playing in ongoing land-use and transportation policy development.
- The increased focus on social equity and environmental justice.
- The identification of priority transportation routes and facilities critical to the regional system in the event of a major earthquake, i.e. regional resiliency. However, we do recommend some discussion of the role of fast ferries in responding to a natural disaster. Appendix O (Resilience) could have some discussion about the resiliency role that fast ferries are playing in San Francisco and New York.

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- The integrated transit network and plan provisions that focus on how important efficient public transit is to equitable access to opportunity.
- The recognition that the regions ferry system is both a marine highway and a high-capacity transit system and the RTP's emphasis on promoting integration of ferry services and facilities with other modes of transportation and with TOD focused around ferry terminals. We would like to see a brief discussion about the emerging role of fast ferries in the region and some call for further planning in this regard.

Sincerely,



Victoria R. Woodards

Mayor