MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

July 11, 2019

[To watch a video of the meeting and hear the full discussion, please go to: http://psrcwa.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx.]

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Mayor Becky Erickson, Chair.

Chair Erickson welcomed the following new board members:

- Peter Heffernan, King County, PSRC Transportation Operators Committee Member
- Alex Krieg, Sound Transit, PSRC Transportation Operations Committee Alternate

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Tsimerman provided public comment.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, announced that PSRC will begin the next Project Selection Process early in 2020. PSRC will ask for volunteers from all PSRC boards to serve on the Project Selection Task Force which provides guidance on the Project Selection Process. The Task Force makes recommendations to the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) on the Policy Framework for PSRC’s Federal Funds. An email will be sent in July soliciting volunteers for the Task Force. Meetings will be held following TPB, starting in September and go through the end of the year.

In January, the board received a presentation from Craig Kenworthy of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) on their research into a potential Regional Clean Fuel Standard. PSCAA is preparing a draft rule that will be released for public comment later this year.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes of the Transportation Policy Board Meeting held June 13, 2019
b. Routine Amendment to the 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**ACTION:** The motion was made by Councilmember Kate Kruller and seconded by Councilmember Jennifer Robertson to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

**RECOMMEND AUTHORIZING A CHANGE IN THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PROJECT STATUS FOR THE SOUND TRANSIT FEDERAL WAY LINK EXTENSION PROJECT**

Ms. McGourty, PSRC shared that Sound Transit is requesting approval of the Federal Way Link extension project. Projects enter the Regional Transportation Plan as candidate projects, and PSRC boards have an opportunity to review and approve those projects before they move forward to implementation. Ms. McGourty shared that the project meets all the requirements to move forward.

Ms. McGourty provided an overview of the project, a 7.8 mile extension of Link Light Rail between Angle Lake Station in SeaTac to the Federal Way Transit Center. Sound Transit will come back to the TPB in the fall with another project approval request and at that time they can provide a more comprehensive presentation on the overall program.

**ACTION:** The motion was made by Councilmember Kate Kruller and seconded by Councilmember Kathy Lambert to recommend the Executive Board authorize a change in project status for the Sound Transit Federal Way Link Extension project from “Candidate” to “Approved.” The motion passed.

**2019 PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS FOR PSRC’S FFY 2021-2022 FHWA RURAL TOWN CENTERS AND CORRIDORS PROGRAM FUNDS**

Ryan Thompto, PSRC, provided background on the Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program (RTCC). The program goal is to assist rural communities in implementing transportation improvements. The program is funded through a set aside of PSRC’s project selection process for Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds.

Mr. Thompto gave an overview of the competitive project selection process. The project selection committee developed a unanimous funding recommendation, and the board is being asked to approve the release of the recommended projects for public comment.

Public comments received by September 5 will be provided to TPB at the September 12 meeting. At that time the board will be asked to recommend approval of the list of projects to the Executive Board. The Executive Board is scheduled to review public comments and approve final project recommendations at its September 26 meeting.

**ACTION:** The motion was made by Councilmember Bek Ashby and seconded by Mayor Mike Courts to release the list of projects recommended for $5.0 million of Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program funding as
identified in Attachment A, along with the list of recommended contingency list projects, for public comment. The motion passed.

RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE 2019 ADJUSTMENT OF PSRC’S FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION FUNDS AND DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS TO THE FTA REGIONAL CONTINGENCY LIST OF PROJECTS

Sarah Gutschow, PSRC, shared that every year PSRC is required to review the estimates used to program Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds against the actual allocations approved by Congress.

2019 funds were originally approved as part of the 2016 project selection process and distributed based on estimates from previous funding levels. The 2019 final allocation of federal dollars was higher, with an additional $40 million available for distribution. PSRC has been working with transit agencies to revise the 2019 projects based on actual allocations.

Ms. Gutschow provided an overview of the FTA funding process and a summary of 2019 funding adjustments to projects.

**ACTION:** The motion was made by Councilmember Mike Todd and seconded by Doug Deforest to recommend the Executive Board approve the adjustments and $39.8 million in additional FFY 2019 FTA funds to the list of projects as shown in Attachment B. The motion passed.

ROAD USAGE CHARGE STUDY

Reema Griffith, Washington State Transportation Commission, provided a presentation on the Road Usage Charge (RUC) Study. A RUC is a per-mile charge drivers would pay for use of roads. The study was a pilot project to test the RUC as an alternate funding mechanism to pay for transportation as gas tax revenues decline into the future.

The pilot project was 12 months with 2,000 test drivers. Ms. Griffith shared the key findings, research and analysis of the RUC pilot study and provided an overview of the feedback received from drivers in the study.

Ms. Griffith shared the final stages of the pilot with a final report due to decision makers in early 2020.

VISION 2050 DRAFT REVIEW

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC, shared the VISION 2050 work program timeline and process the Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) went through to develop updates to the plan. He highlighted key policy themes from VISION 2050 and discussed the three growth alternatives analyzed.
Mr. Bakkenta reviewed the next steps for the VISION 2050 timeline. GMPB is scheduled to take action later today to release the VISION 2050 plan for a 60-day public comment period beginning July 19. GMPB is expected to make a final recommendation to the Executive Board at the end of the year, with adoption at the 2020 General Assembly. Throughout Fall of 2019, GMPB will have an opportunity to review public comments and make additional changes to VISION 2050.

**PASSENGER-ONLY FERRY DRAFT SCOPE AND SCHEDULE**

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared that the Washington State Legislature provided funding for the Passenger-Only Ferry study to be completed by PSRC. Mr. Cerise gave an overview of the scope of the study. It includes all 12 Puget Sound counties and will provide analysis on current and potential future Puget Sound Passenger-Only Ferry routes.

Mr. Cerise presented the overall approach and workflow of how the study will be completed. He discussed the schedule of the study and board members provided comment on various areas of interest to include. The next step is to go to the Operations Committee and Executive Board on July 25 to request approval of a budget amendment and contract authority for a consultant. TPB will be briefed on the progress of the study as it moves forward.

**ADJOURN**
The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

July 11, 2019

TPB MEMBERS & ALTERNATES PRESENT

Mayor Don Anderson, Local Transit – Pierce County
Councilmember Bek Ashby, Other Cities & Towns in Kitsap County
Russ Blount, Regional Project Evaluation Committee (Alt.)
Martha Burke, League of Women Voters of Washington
Vicky Clarke, Cascade Bicycle Club
Councilmember John Clauson, Local Transit – Kitsap County (Alt.)
Mayor Mike Courts, Other Cities & Towns in Pierce County
Doug DeForest, Thurston Regional Planning Council
Deputy Mayor Davina Duerr, Other Cities & Towns in King County
Mayor Becky Erickson, Local Transit – Kitsap County, Chair
Anne Eskridge, University of Washington (via remote)
Jesse Hamashima, Regional Staff Committee
Peter Heffernan, Transportation Operators Committee
Councilmember Mark James, Other Cities & Towns in Snohomish County
Craig Kenworthy, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (Alt.)
Councilmember Kate Kruller, Other Cities & Towns in King County
Councilmember Kathy Lambert, King County
Kelsey Mesher, Transportation Choices Coalition
Councilmember Mike O’Brien, City of Seattle
Abel Pacheco, City of Seattle
Dave Ramsay, WA State Transportation Improvement Board
Councilmember Doug Richardson, Pierce County (via remote)
Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Metropolitan Center–Bellevue
Patty Rubstello, WSDOT (1st Alt.)
Councilmember Mike Todd, Local Transit – Snohomish County (Alt.)
Mayor Greg Wheeler, Metropolitan Center–Bremerton
Councilmember Stephanie Wright, Snohomish County (via remote)

TPB MEMBERS ABSENT (*alternate present)

Commissioner Shiv Batra, WA State Transportation Commission
Councilmember Chris Beale, Tacoma
Rob Berman, Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
*Don Cairns, Regional Project Evaluation Committee
Commissioner Ryan Calkins, Ports
Jennifer Cook, AAA
John Daniels, Jr., Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Dan Gatchet, Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board
Commissioner Robert Gelder, Kitsap County
Representative Mia Gregerson, House Transportation Committee
Senator Steve Hobbs, Senate Transportation Committee
TPB MEMBERS ABSENT (*alternate present) continued

Jefferson Ketchel, Snohomish Health District
Dan McKisson, ILWU Local 19
*Secretary Roger Millar, WSDOT
Councilmember Jay Mills, The Suquamish Tribe
Commissioner Helen Price Johnson, Island County
Mayor Dana Ralph, Other Cities & Towns in King County, Vice Chair
*Councilmember Paul Roberts, Metropolitan Center–Everett/Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
*Councilmember Terry Ryan, Local Transit – Snohomish County
Andrew Strobel, Puyallup Tribe of Indians

GUESTS and PSRC STAFF PRESENT -
(As determined by signatures on the Attendance Sheet and documentation by staff)

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC
Hannah Bahnmill, PSRC
Katherine Cato, PSRC
Melissa Cauley, Community Transit
Gil Cerise, PSRC
Carolyn Downs, PSRC
Reema Griffith, WA State Transportation Commission
Sarah Gutschow, PSRC
Craig Helmann, PSRC
Paul Inghram, PSRC
Mark Bandy Jacobs
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Mitch Koch, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Casey Moreau, PSRC
Monica Overby, Sound Transit
Brian Parry, Sound Cities Association
Pavithra Parthasarathi, PSRC
Kim Pearson, PSRC
Manveer Sandhu, Port of Seattle
Kalon Thomas, PSRC
Ryan Thompto, PSRC
Alex Tsimerman, SUP
Noah Tunick, Community Transit
Lacey Jane Wolfe, City of Bellevue