MINUTES OF THE
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

November 14, 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.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Tsimerman provided public comment.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, PSRC, noted that questions have been raised about the impacts of Initiative 976 on the financial strategy of the Regional Transportation Plan and projects funded with PSRC’s federal funds. PSRC will be working with its sponsors to review each project and the Regional Project Evaluation Committee will discuss approaches and next steps at their next meeting. The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) will be briefed on these discussions in December.

The Regional Electric Vehicle Coordination meeting was held October 31. The event went well with over 50 attendees. PSRC is surveying participants to gauge how to bring the most value to the group. Further meetings are anticipated and will be focused on assisting member jurisdictions in advancing electrification of the transportation system.

To continue to provide assistance to our member agencies and ensure the region meets its annual delivery target for Federal Highway Administration funds, PSRC will hold a delivery summit for local agencies on December 4 at the Green River College in Auburn. State and federal partners will be attending the event to provide information on the requirements and challenges for projects using federal funds. Other local agencies have been invited to share peer-to-peer lessons learned.

The Regional Transportation Plan is updated every four years. To accommodate needs in the interim for project updates and adjustments, there will be a mid-cycle amendment
for a limited call for project updates released shortly. More information will be brought back to the board in the coming months.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes of the Transportation Policy Board Meeting held October 10, 2019

ACTION: The motion was made by Commissioner Rob Gelder 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 WSDOT SR 509 EXTENSION (WITH I-5), PHASE 1 PROJECT

Craig Stone, WSDOT, briefed the board on the SR 509 Extension Phase 1 project, part of the Puget Sound Gateway Program. The Puget Sound Gateway Program is composed of two projects: the completion of SR 167 in Pierce County, and the completion of SR 509 in King County. The program has a freight and goods movement focus, ensuring people and goods move more reliably through the Puget Sound region.

Mr. Stone shared the governance of the project and stakeholder engagement. The program is an integration of partnerships from 18 jurisdictions that are helping fund the program. Mr. Stone reviewed key actions from the 2019 legislative session for the project. The legislature did allow authorization to accelerate the program. He reviewed the program schedule for the multiple construction contracts that are currently underway and planned for the remainder of the project.

Mr. Stone provided an overview of the funding history and spoke to the recent impacts of Initiative 976. He discussed funding for the Gateway Program, highlighting funds from state, federal and local sources and tolls. Mr. Stone also shared details of the Construction and Implementation Plan which has unanimous support from all stakeholders. He also briefed the board on the different stages of the SR 509 completion program.

Board members discussed their concerns about the impacts of Initiative 976 on this and other projects. Kelly McGourty, PSRC, explained the Regional Transportation Plan project approval process, which allows the board an opportunity to ensure projects are being implemented consistent with how they have been described and analyzed in the plan. Kelly also explained the key milestones that projects must reach before requesting approval from the board, which allows projects to then move forward towards implementation. Should significant changes to the scope of any project occur after the approval process the board would have an opportunity to revisit as necessary.
**ACTION:** The motion was made by Councilmember Doug Richardson and seconded by Councilmember Jennifer Robertson to recommend the Executive Board authorize a change in project status for the WSDOT SR 509 Extension (with I-5), Phase 1 project from “Candidate” to “Approved.” The motion passed.

**TRANSIT INTEGRATION REPORT**

Gil Cerise, PSRC, informed the board that the Transit Integration report is completed annually. This is a requirement under state law, to document how transit agencies are coordinating on public transit. The report focuses on a collective vision of an integrated transit system in our region, with new investments and improvements to transit system performance as the region grows. Mr. Cerise highlighted new services to be implemented over each of the next five years.

Maggie Moore, PSRC, shared that the report includes 17 stories emphasizing integration between transit agencies, local jurisdictions and other stakeholders to make it easier for customers to access and use transit and increase efficiency. Ms. Moore shared examples of the stories included in the report. She also spoke to the challenges that transit agencies are experiencing. The board also discussed additional opportunities for integration and future report topics.

**REPORT ON PSRC’S TRANSIT / TDM / SPECIAL NEEDS TRANSPORTATION WORK PROGRAM**

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared information on PSRC’s transit work program in preparation for the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update. VISION 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy are in the process of being updated, adding an additional decade of population and employment growth.

Mr. Cerise discussed the different elements of the transit work program that will be updated and assessed following the update of VISION 2050. That includes identifying needs for transit capital, transit access, and performance measures. Additional efforts in the work program include the annual transit integration report, updating the Passenger-Only Ferry (POF) planning through the Puget Sound POF Study and improving understanding of transit agency long-range planning.

Mr. Cerise provided an overview of PSRC’s transportation demand management (TDM) work program. The TDM work program calls for PSRC to integrate TDM into policies, programs, and projects throughout the region to get the most efficient use out of the transportation system. PSRC is currently collecting data to support this work program element and develop an inventory of TDM in the region. Mr. Cerise reviewed the TDM work program schedule through Winter 2020, and shared details of the next steps.

Jean Kim, PSRC, reviewed the special needs populations in the region, detailing the total number of individuals, different population categories and the projected population...
changes by 2040. Ms. Kim briefed the board on PSRC’s special needs transportation work program, reviewing current data collection efforts and coordination efforts that will be incorporated into the 2020 RTP update.

ADJOURN
The meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.
TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD
November 14, 2019

TPB MEMBERS & ALTERNATES PRESENT

Mayor Don Anderson, Local Transit – Pierce County (via remote)
Councilmember Bek Ashby, Other Cities & Towns in Kitsap County
Councilmember Chris Beale, Tacoma
Rob Berman, Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Russ Blount, Regional Project Evaluation Committee (Alt.)
Keiko Budech, Transportation Choices Coalition (Alt.)
Martha Burke, League of Women Voters of Washington
Don Cairns, Regional Project Evaluation Committee
Vicky Clarke, Cascade Bicycle Club
Councilmember John Clauson, Local Transit – Kitsap County (Alt.) (via remote)
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
Shawn Frederick, Snohomish Health District (Alt.) (via remote)
Commissioner Robert Gelder, Kitsap County
Jesse Hamashima, Regional Staff Committee
Peter Heffernan, Transportation Operators Committee
Councilmember Cynthia Jacobsen, Other Cities & Towns in Pierce County (Alt.)
Councilmember Mark James, Other Cities & Towns in Snohomish County
Craig Kenworthy, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (Alt.)
Alex Krieg, Transportation Operators Committee (Alt.)
Councilmember Kate Kruller, Other Cities & Towns in King County (via remote)
Councilmember Kathy Lambert, King County
Councilmember Abel Pacheco, City of Seattle (via remote)
Mayor Mary Lou Pauly, Other Cities & Towns in King County (Alt.)
Mayor Dana Ralph, Other Cities & Towns in King County, Vice Chair
Dave Ramsay, WA State Transportation Improvement Board
Councilmember Doug Richardson, Pierce County
Councilmember Paul Roberts, Metropolitan Center–Everett/Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (via remote)
Councilmember Jennifer Robertson, Metropolitan Center–Bellevue
Patty Rubstello, WSDOT
Councilmember Mike Todd, Local Transit – Snohomish County
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
TPB MEMBERS ABSENT (*alternate present) continued

Commissioner Ryan Calkins, Ports
Jennifer Cook, AAA
Councilmember John Daniels, Jr., Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Dan Gatchet, Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board
Representative Mia Gregerson, House Transportation Committee
Senator Steve Hobbs, Senate Transportation Committee
*Kelsey Mesher, Transportation Choices Coalition
Dan McKisson, ILWU Local 19
*Secretary Roger Millar, WSDOT
Councilmember Jay Mills, The Suquamish Tribe
Councilmember Mike O’Brien, City of Seattle
Commissioner Helen Price Johnson, Island County
*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
Melissa Cauley, Community Transit
Gil Cerise, PSRC
April Delchamps, Kent
Sarah Gutschow, PSRC
Paul Inghram, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Ben Kahn, PSRC
Catherine Kato, PSRC
Jean Kim, PSRC
Mitch Koch, PSRC
Alex Mather, Pierce Transit
Robin Mayhew, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Maggie Moore, PSRC
Casey Moreau, PSRC
Pavithra Parthasarathi, PSRC
Kim Pearson, PSRC
Brian Perry, Sound Cities Association
Sheila Rogers, PSRC
Craig Stone, WSDOT
Alex Tsimerman, SUP
Joanna Valencia, Seattle
Lacey Jane Wolfe, City of Bellevue