2020 Project Selection Recommendations

Transportation Policy Board
July 9, 2020
PSRC Funds

PSRC receives ~$260 Million annually in federal transportation funds:

**Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)** ~$80m
- Two funding programs, specific eligibility requirements for each

**Federal Transit Administration (FTA)** ~$180m
- Four funding programs, specific eligibility requirements for each

2020 process is distributing FFY 2023-2024 funds
Project Selection Process Overview

• Project Selection Task Force – met September to December 2019

• Policy Framework adopted in January 2020
  ➢ Based on VISION 2040 policies
  ➢ Provides Board direction for project selection
  ➢ Detailed policies and procedures for conducting the process

• Call for Projects released in February

• Staff committees prepared project recommendations May-June 2020
## Project Selection Process

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A total of $549 million available

- 259 projects submitted across all competitions
- Total request of $800 million
- 128 projects recommended
Project Selection – Policy Review

• Policy Framework and evaluation criteria based on VISION 2040 policies and Regional Transportation Plan regional outcomes

• Addresses:
  • Support for regional and local centers
  • Mobility and accessibility for all modes
  • Safety
  • Equity
  • Climate and air quality
Project Highlights - Supporting Centers

• Overarching policy focus = support for centers and the corridors that serve them

• Project evaluation criteria addresses how the transportation investment supports the development of the center(s) – jobs, housing, center plans and activities

• The Regional FHWA competition is focused solely on supporting Regional Growth and Manufacturing/Industrial Centers

• The Countywide FHWA and Regional FTA competitions are broadened to also support locally designated centers
Example: Bothell Way NE Improvement Project Phase 1

- Provides a 5-lane roadway with signal improvements, protected bicycle lanes, sidewalks, transit improvements to support SWIFT Green Line BRT
- Supports the Canyon Park Regional Growth Center and the expected 20,000+ jobs in the Life Sciences/Global Health industry cluster and the expected 5400+ residents by 2035
- Bothell Way NE is a designated T3 freight corridor and the main arterial connection between SR 522 and Canyon Park
Example: Tacoma’s Water Ditch Trail IIIA

- Multi-use trail with accessibility and safety features
- Connects to completed segments of an overall 6.5 mile trail, future connection to Prairie Line Trail
- Supports the Tacoma Downtown Regional Growth Center and Tacoma Mall Regional Growth Center
Project Highlights - Mobility and Accessibility

• Project evaluation criteria address how the transportation investment achieves the following:
  • Completes a gap in the system
  • Improves circulation
  • Provides active transportation opportunities
  • Improves access for multiple modes
  • *Addresses both freight and personal movement*
Example: Lynnwood’s 42\textsuperscript{nd} Avenue West Improvements

- Completes a new grid street in the Lynnwood Regional Growth Center

- Includes two travel lanes, bicycle sharrows, wide sidewalks, signals, etc.

- Connects City Center to Interurban Trail and Lynnwood Transit Center
Example: Sumner’s Stewart Road Corridor / White River Bridge

- Eliminates bottleneck on corridor within the Sumner-Pacific MIC
- Provides a separated trail crossing, sidewalk and shared use path
- Addresses flow restrictions on the White River and flooding
Project Highlights - Safety

- Project evaluation criteria address how the transportation investment addresses safety and security:
  
  - Improves an existing known safety issue or accident location, or
  
  - Prevents future safety issues

Example: Kitsap County’s Fairgrounds Road

- Sidewalks and bicycle lanes connecting to schools, fairgrounds, local community destinations
- Separates pedestrians from roadway, improves intersection definition
Project Highlights - Safety

Example: North Bend’s SR 202/Mt. Si Roundabout

- Current intersection not ADA compliant
- Replaces signalized intersection with a multimodal roundabout, rapid flashing beacons and audible pedestrian crossings
- Lowers speeds, one-way travel to reduce collisions, improved pedestrian and bicyclist safety
Project Highlights - Equity

• Project evaluation criteria address how the transportation investment benefits:
  • People of color
  • People with low income
  • Seniors
  • People with disabilities
  • Populations located in highly impacted communities for air quality
  • Areas experiencing high levels of unemployment or chronic underemployment
Project Highlights - Equity

Example: King County Metro’s South King County Corridor Speed and Reliability Improvements

- Improvements on congested segments of two transit routes
- Serves communities with “areas of unmet need” as defined by Metro’s 2019 Mobility Framework
- Area includes 51% people of color, 12% seniors, 15% of households in poverty, 12% disability, 8% without access to a vehicle
Project Highlights - Equity

Example: Pierce County’s Canyon Road Freight Corridor Improvements

• Area includes higher percentage of elderly and disabled, Low / Very Low Opportunity Index – enhanced connections to emergency services, businesses and employment

• Improved connection for residents of Puyallup Tribal Nation to Chief Leschi Tribal School

• Improves and extends corridor, sidewalk and shared use path, replaces a functionally obsolete bridge

• In addition to freight, serves local bus routes, recreational access to the Puyallup River, commuter trips
• Project evaluation criteria estimate the potential to reduce air pollutants, including greenhouse gas emissions, by:
  • Reducing vehicle miles traveled
  • Reducing trips
  • Improving traffic flow
  • Converting to alternative fuels, equipment

Example: Sound Transit’s I-405 STRIDE BRT project
  • New service connecting Lynnwood to Burien
  • Significant ridership, mode shift
  • Average trip length of 10 miles
Project Highlights - Climate and Air Quality

Example: Community Transit’s Swift BRT TDM Expansion
- Transportation Demand Management program expansion on Swift BRT Orange and Blue lines
- Outreach, incentives, targeted programs
- Reaching 10,000 potential users, average trip length of 5.7 miles

Example: Kitsap Transit’s Southworth Terminal Redevelopment
- Includes shore-side electrification, additional berthing facility, upgraded passenger facilities
- Supports electric and hybrid electric ferries
Project Highlights – Project Types

Almost 70% of recommended projects include construction / implementation phases

Amount Recommended by Project Type

- Equipment: $162.2
- Preservation: $161.3
- Transit Capital: $111.4
- Multimodal: $52.5
- Other: $22.3
- Bicycle / Pedestrian: $28.1

Number of Projects by Type

- Equipment: 10
- Preservation: 54
- Transit Capital: 26
- Multimodal: 22
- Other: 19
- Bicycle / Pedestrian: 26
Project Highlights – Active Transportation

- While the bicycle/pedestrian set-aside is 10% of the FHWA funds, 75% of all FHWA recommended projects include bicycle and/or pedestrian facilities.
- These are incorporated into projects containing 81% of the total available funding.
Next Steps

**July 2020** – Board action on project recommendations

**September 2020** – Public comment on Draft 2021-2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

**October 2020** – Board adoption of 2021-2024 Regional TIP

**January 2021** – Federal approval of TIP
The Transportation Policy Board is asked to:

Recommend Executive Board approval of the projects recommended for PSRC’s federal funds as identified in Attachments A through D, including the prioritized contingency lists of projects should additional funds become available prior to the next project selection process.