



Puget Sound Regional Council

Transportation Policy Board

Thursday, December 9, 2021 • 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Virtual Meeting

The meeting will be streamed live over the internet at www.psrc.org

PUBLIC NOTICE: In accordance with the Governor's proclamations and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, PSRC's offices are closed to the public and all Board members and staff will be participating remotely. Should any major changes to current guidance occur, this meeting may be rescheduled or ways for the public to participate will be updated.

Watch the meeting live stream at <https://www.psrc.org/boards/watch-meetings> or listen by phone at 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 864 1056 7344, Passcode: 132915.

Public comment may be made via Zoom or phone. Registration is required and closes one hour before the meeting starts. Late registrations will not be accepted. [Register here](#).

Comments may also be submitted via email to cmoreau@psrc.org up to one hour before the meeting and these comments will be emailed to Board members. Comments received after that deadline will be provided to Board members after the meeting.

1. **Call to Order (9:30) - Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair**
2. **Communications and Public Comment**
3. **Report of the Chair**
4. **Director's Report**
5. **Consent Agenda (9:45)**
 - a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held November 10, 2021
6. **Discussion Item (9:50)**
 - a. Coordinated Mobility Plan -- *Gil Cerise & Jean Kim, PSRC*
7. **Discussion Item (10:15)**
 - a. Regional Transportation Plan Summary - Financial Strategy & Key Policy Focus Areas -- *Kelly McGourty & Ben Bakkenta, PSRC*
8. **Action Item (11:15)**
 - a. Direction to Release Draft Regional Transportation Plan for Public Comment -- *Kelly McGourty & Ben Bakkenta, PSRC*
9. **Information Item**
 - a. Summary of November 2021 Regional Transportation Plan Breakout Session - Forecast Visualization Tool and Future Visioning

10. Information Item

- a. 2022 TPB Meeting Calendar

11. Next Meeting: January 13, 2022, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Major Topics for January:

- Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds

12. Adjourn (11:30)

Board members please submit proposed amendments and materials prior to the meeting for distribution. Organizations/individuals may submit information for distribution. Send to Casey Moreau, e-mail cmoreau@psrc.org; fax (206) 587-4825; or mail.

Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling (206) 464-7090 or TTY Relay 711.

العربية | Arabic, 中文 | Chinese, Deutsch | German, Français | French, 한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng Việt | Vietnamese, visit <https://www.psrc.org/contact-center/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

November 10, 2021
Virtual Meeting

[To watch a video of the meeting and hear the full discussion, please go to:
<https://www.psrc.org/boards/watch-meetings.>]

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Councilmember Ryan Mello, Vice Chair. Vice Chair Mello announced that in accordance with the Governor's Proclamations, the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting would be held entirely remote. The meeting was live streamed, and a call-in number provided for members of the public to listen.

Vice Chair Mello welcomed new member Councilmember Dave Upthegrove, King County and acknowledged outgoing member Craig Kenworthy, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

A quorum was established by roll call.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Vice Chair Mello reminded board members to use chat for technical needs only. Comments should be verbally addressed to the board to allow the public to hear.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that staff are reviewing the new federal transportation act to identify what this means for Washington state and the region. The board will be briefed when information is available.

The Project Selection Task Force has been meeting since April, and it is anticipated that the November meeting will be its last. The Task Force will be making recommendations on the Policy Framework that guides the project selection process. A summary of the recommendations will go out for public comment in December. In January, the TPB will

receive the culmination of the recommendations from the Task Force and any public comments received. The Executive Board is scheduled to take action on the Policy Framework at its January meeting.

PSRC is working on a board survey for preferences regarding in-person, remote and hybrid meetings in 2022 and beyond. PSRC hopes to facilitate hybrid meetings in January if boardroom technology allows.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held October 14, 2021

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Jan Schuette and seconded by Mayor Mary Lou Pauly to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

TRANSIT INTEGRATION REPORT

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared that the annual Transit Integration Report focuses on how transit agencies in the region coordinate on various aspects of the overall integrated regional transit system. The report is required by state law, and these efforts support the work of VISION 2050 and implementation of the Regional Growth Strategy.

Erin Hogan, PSRC, reviewed the four sections of the Transit Integration Report: Recovering from the Pandemic Together, Progress on the Growing Transit System, Creating a Seamless Customer Experience, and Service and Operations Planning for the Future. Ms. Hogan shared featured stories from local transit operators related to each section. The board was asked for feedback or topics of interest for the 2022 report.

The board discussed how the Port and SeaTac Airport can coordinate with transit agencies, and also noted coordination between transit agencies and other transportation providers such as major employer shuttles and school buses. Other comments referenced labor issues and skillsets needed in the future to support new technologies.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN SUMMARY AND NEXT STEPS

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared that the board had been briefed at its October meeting on major plan elements of the Regional Transportation Plan. Those discussions will continue today as well as in December. This is an opportunity for final review of key messages for inclusion in the draft plan. Mr. Cerise shared the schedule for board review of the Regional Transportation Plan and schedule for plan adoption.

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, briefed the board on PSRC's work to incorporate freight and goods movement into the plan. The Freight Advisory Committee has been engaged in the process, having had smaller working groups to discuss key policy areas of transportation system integration, maintenance and preservation and truck parking. The groups framed key messages for the policy areas.

Responding to board member questions regarding truck parking issues, Ms. Barnes and Ms. McGourty highlighted a recent workshop series hosted by the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration and noted that there were plans for a further state level study. PSRC will continue to work with its Freight Advisory Committee and coordinate with the state and partner agencies to be more specific about the needs, investments and potential solutions related to freight issues.

Ms. Barnes discussed key messages for maintenance and preservation as well as technology. In December the board will receive a final overview of the financial strategy and the six key policy focus areas: safety, equity, climate, access to transit, forward thinking future investments and local agency needs. Summary data and policy briefs are posted on PSRC's website: <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/rtp>.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN BREAKOUT SESSION - FORECAST VISUALIZATION TOOL AND FUTURE VISIONING

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that a great deal of data collection has supported the development of the RTP and the system conditions visualization tools. The data and tools are designed to support both the RTP and the next round of comprehensive plan updates.

Kalon Thomas, PSRC, provided details of data integrated into the existing conditions tool, including demographic and contextual layers that could be used to identify needs, gaps and opportunities. He then provided an overview of the forecast visualization tool, noting how it incorporates the future transit network, the Regional Capacity Projects list, the regional growth strategy, forecast congestion and projects from the current 2021-2024 Regional Transportation Improvement Program. Mr. Thomas showed examples of how the tool could be used by local jurisdictions.

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC, provided examples of how future visioning of the transportation has occurred, noting early concepts for the regional high-capacity transit system. Mr. Bakkenta shared examples such as the recent Regional Passenger-Only Ferry Study and the Regional Aviation Baseline Study. Mr. Bakkenta shared questions for consideration in the breakout rooms to follow, to discuss planning for the next round of future investments.

The board then split into three groups for smaller discussion on the topic of Future Visioning. Summaries of the breakout groups will be included as an information item in the December agenda packet.

Vice Chair Mello shared that an information item regarding the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda was included in the packet.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

TPB MEMBERS & ALTERNATES PRESENT

See attached attendance roster. All attendees remote.

GUESTS and PSRC STAFF ATTENDING

(As determined by staff)

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC
Jennifer Barnes, PSRC
Gil Cerise, PSRC
Leandra Craft
Carolyn Downs, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Taylor Jones, City of Fife
Piset Khuon, PSRC
Rhonda Lewis, King County
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Eric Miller, City of Bellevue
Casey Moreau, PSRC
Julian Mydlil
Kalon Thomas, PSRC

Attachments:

TPB November 10, 2021 Attendance Roster

Transportation Policy Board - Novmber 2021						
Voting Members			✓	Non-voting Members		
King County	2	CM Girmay Zahilay		Associate Members		
		CM Dave Upthegrove	1	Island County	1	COMM Melanie Bacon
		Vacant Alt				COMM Jill Johnson Alt
		Vacant Alt		Thurston Regional Planning Council	1	Vacant
Seattle	2	CM Lorena González				COMM Carolina Mejia Alt
		CM Debora Juarez		Public Agency Members		
		CM Alex Pedersen Alt		Puget Sound Clean Air	1	CM Paul Roberts, Everett
Bellevue	1	CM Jennifer Robertson	1			Craig Kenworthy Alt
		CM Janice Zahn Alt				Dan Gatchet
Cities/Towns	3	CM Kate Kruller, Tukwila	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1	Brian Ziegler Alt
		MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair		WA Transportation Improvement Board	1	Dave Ramsay
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah	1			CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt
		DEP MYR Peter Kwon, SeaTac Alt	1	PSRC Committees		
		DEP MYR Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt	1	Regional Staff Cmte.	1	Jesse Hamashima, Pierce Co.
		CM John Wright, Lake Forest Park Alt				Chip Vincent, Renton Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski		Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1	Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.
		Vacant Alt				Russ Blount, Fife Alt
Kitsap County	1	COM Robert Gelder		Transportation Operators Cmte.	1	Peter Heffernan, King County
		COM Charlotte Garrido Alt				Alex Krieg Alt, Sound Transit
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1	Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor		
		CM Kevin Gorman, Alt		Laborers Local Union 242 exp. 12/31/22	1	Billy Hetherington
Cities/Towns	1	CM Bek Ashby, Port Orchard	1			Dale Bright Alt
		CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl Alt		WA Roundtable exp. 12/31/22	1	Neil Strege
Local Transit	1	MYR Becky Erickson, Poulsbo	1			Vacant Alt
		CM John Clauson, Port Orchard Alt		Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce exp. 12/31/22	1	Rob Berman, HDR Engineering
Pierce County	1	CM Ryan Mello, Vice Chair	1	Master Builders of Pierce County exp. 12/31/23	1	Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt
		CM Dave Morell Alt				Jessie Gamble
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1			Jeremiah Lafranca Alt
		CM Conor McCarthy Alt		Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment		
Cities & Towns	1	DEP MYR Bryan Yambe, Fife	1	Seattle Aging & Disability Services exp. 12/31/23	1	Vacant
		CM Cyndy Jacobsen, Puyallup Alt				Jon Morrison Winters Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County		League of Women Voters of WA exp. 12/31/22	1	Cynthia Stewart
		DEP MYR John Palmer, Puyallup Alt				Vacant Alt
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead		Public Health Seattle/ King County exp.12/31/23	1	Darrell Rodgers
		CM Sam Low Alt				Shawn Frederick, SNOHD Alt
Everett	1	CM Paul Roberts		Transportation Choices Coalition exp. 12/31/23	1	Alex Hudson
		CM Scott Bader Alt				Kelsey Mesher Alt
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1	Non-voting	16	Non-voting members present
		CM Jeffrey Beeler, Sultan Alt 1		Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members		
		CM Michael Stevens, Marysville Alt 2		State Legislators	87	Districts within PSRC's boundary
Local Transit	1	CM Kim Daughtry, Lake Stevens				
		CM Jan Schuette, Arlington Alt				
Regional Transit	1	MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife	1			
		Vacant Alt				
Federally Recognized Tribes						
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	1	CM John Daniels, Jr.				
		Vacant Alt				
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Andrew Strobel				
		Robert Barandon Alt				
Suquamish Tribe	1	CM Luther (Jay) Mills				
		CHRMN Leonard Forsman Alt				
Statutory Members						
Ports	1	COM Ryan Calkins, Seattle	1			
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt	1			
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jerry Litt	1			
		COM Hester Serebrin Alt				
WSDOT	1	SEC Roger Millar				
		ASST SEC Julie Meredith Alt 1				
		Mike Cotton Alt 2				
		John Wynands Alt 3				
		Robin Mayhew Alt 4	1			
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)						
House Transportation Cmte.	2	REP Emily Wicks, D				Abbreviations
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt				CHRMN Chairman
		REP Dan Griffey, R				CM Councilmember
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt				COM Commissioner
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	SEN Steve Hobbs, D				MYR Mayor
		SEN Mark Mullet, D Alt	1			DEP MYR Mayor
		Vacant, R				SEC Secretary
		Vacant, R Alt				ASST SEC Assistant Secretary
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	16			REP Representative
		Total Voting members present	19			SEN Senator



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

December 2, 2021

To: Transportation Policy Board
From: Kelly McGourty, Director, Transportation Planning
Subject: **Coordinated Mobility Plan**

IN BRIEF

At its meeting on December 9, 2021, the Transportation Policy Board will be provided a briefing on the development of PSRC's Coordinated Mobility Plan. The briefing will include information on prioritized strategies to address mobility challenges for people with special transportation needs.

DISCUSSION

People with special transportation needs are those who have transportation challenges due to their age, income, or ability. This includes older adults (age 65+), youth (age 5-17), people with low incomes, and people with disabilities. The Coordinated Mobility Plan, a component of the Regional Transportation Plan, serves as the comprehensive strategy for identifying and addressing transportation challenges experienced by these groups. This encompasses not only specialized transportation services that are targeted to people with special transportation needs, but also public transit services and facilities, as well as accessible sidewalks and bicycle infrastructure. Implementation of this regional plan is a shared responsibility among transit agencies, specialized transportation providers, local jurisdictions, and other regional partners.

Over the past 13 months, PSRC staff have engaged people with special transportation needs directly through an online survey and in meetings conducted by mobility coalitions and other community-based organizations (CBOs). The Transportation Policy Board has received periodic briefings on the feedback received to date.

Working with these stakeholders as well as PSRC's Special Needs Transportation Committee, information has been compiled on the mobility challenges experienced by

people with special transportation needs in the region. Required under federal and state law, prioritized strategies have also been developed to address those challenges. Although a wide variety exists, seven key mobility challenges are being highlighted in the Coordinated Mobility Plan, representing commonly cited issues identified from the targeted outreach. These key needs and associated strategies are summarized below.

1. **Shorter travel times when taking regular transit or specialized transportation.** Strategies to address this need include coordination to reduce transfer wait times, particularly when crossing county/jurisdictional lines, addressing reliability and timeliness of service, and increasing flexibility in scheduling return trips for various types of specialized transportation services.
2. **More transportation services at times when they are needed.** Strategies include opportunities for existing providers to add service to routes or programs where they exist already but do not serve at the time needed, and development of new flexible programs in areas not already served.
3. **More information about available services.** Two strategies identified include tailoring travel training and education programs to the specific needs of targeted groups, and development of a comprehensive trip planning tool that is inclusive of specialized transportation programs.
4. **Better access to health and wellness destinations including medical facilities, pharmacies, and grocery stores.** The strategy associated with this need includes strengthening coordination and partnerships between healthcare and transportation providers to better understand and address patients' unmet transportation challenges and improve health outcomes.
5. **Affordable Transportation services.** Strategies call for transit agencies and specialized transportation providers to assess reduced fare structures for groups burdened by reduced fare costs (example: low-income families with multiple fares per trip), and to simplify the process for applying for/renewing reduced fare passes.
6. **More connected ADA-accessible infrastructure.** The strategy calls for filling in gaps and building accessible sidewalks and other infrastructure (curb cuts, etc.) with a priority in identified equity areas, health/wellness destinations, and transit stations.
7. **Better regional coordination to meet growing mobility needs.** Strategies include broadening regional coordination at the Special Needs Transportation Committee (or similar body) to include more organizations with transportation programs for people with special transportation needs, better defining roles and responsibilities around emergencies and emergency response, and improving

the regional framework for assessing asset needs of specialized transportation providers.

The above challenges and strategies will be included in the draft Coordinated Mobility Plan and incorporated into the draft Regional Transportation Plan, expected to be released for public comment in January 2022.

For more information, please contact Gil Cerise at 206-971-3053, gcerise@psrc.org or Jean Kim at 206-971-3052, jkim@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

December 2, 2021

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director, Transportation Planning

Subject: **Regional Transportation Plan Summary - Financial Strategy & Key Policy Focus Areas**

IN BRIEF

Over the last year the Transportation Policy Board has been briefed on the major elements of the Regional Transportation Plan and discussed the key policy focus areas. Briefings have included data trends, analysis findings and strategic messaging on each topic. Between October and December staff will provide summary information on each topic and ask the board for any final guidance leading up to the release of the draft plan for public comment.

DISCUSSION

In February 2020, the board identified six key policy focus areas for the Regional Transportation Plan, building from the policies and direction in VISION 2050. These include equity, safety, access to transit, climate, local agency needs and forward-thinking investments. The board has also received briefings on the major elements of the plan, including data trends, analysis results and advisory committee input. The board has been asked to provide direction on the key messages and recommendations to include in the draft plan for each element.

Between October and December staff will provide a summary of these major elements and the discussions and findings to date, and the board will be asked to provide any final guidance or revisions for incorporation into the draft plan. These major elements include:

- Transit Network and Access to Transit
- Bicycle / Pedestrian Infrastructure

- Freight and Goods Movement
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM)
- Specialized Transportation Services
- Technology and Efficiencies
- Maintenance and Preservation
- Highways and Local Agency Needs
- Safety
- Equity
- Climate and Air Quality
- System Performance and Future Investment Needs
- Financial Strategy

The board has held breakout sessions on the key policy focus areas and received more in-depth briefings over the last year and a half on several topics such as finance, climate, plan performance and existing conditions. In October, the summary review of topics included transit, TDM, and bicycle / pedestrian infrastructure. In November, the summary review included freight, maintenance and preservation, and technology. The summary of topics to be covered at the December 9 meeting include the financial strategy and the six key policy focus areas of safety, equity, climate, access to transit, local agency needs and future visioning.

Brief summaries and key data findings are also provided on the PSRC website at <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/rtp>.

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.

Attachments:

1 - Key RTP Element Summaries

Attachment 1: Key RTP Element Summaries

December 2021

Financial Strategy

The board was briefed on the inputs, methodology and results of the financial strategy of the plan at several meetings throughout 2021. This included discussion of both the estimated revenues and expenditures for transportation investments throughout the region through 2050. On the revenue side, the board was briefed on the forecasting of current law revenues, the consultation with peer agencies in the region and from other MPOs, and the menu of options of potential new revenue sources. On the expenditure side, the board was briefed on the draft list of regional capacity projects, the estimation of more local-scale investments as identified in local comprehensive plans, and maintenance, preservation and operational needs – including major replacement activities necessary within the timeframe of the plan.

Key messages identified by the board for inclusion in the plan are to highlight those elements of the financial strategy for which additional steps must be taken in order to be implemented. For example, the menu of potential new revenue sources includes transition to a road usage charge in the future, highway facility tolls, and various other new or increased fees and taxes. The plan document should note which sources are more speculative and identify the barriers and necessary steps towards implementation. In addition, the plan document should identify any key timing issues or challenges with matching revenues to expenditures.

Safety

The board was briefed on the topic of transportation safety in January 2020 with the update of the federally required annual safety targets. In July 2020, PSRC held a Peer Networking Session on safety, with information provided from the National Safety Council, the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission and the City of Poulsbo. The board once again discussed safety in September 2020, with a virtual whiteboard discussion regarding challenges, effective solutions, and how to address safety in the RTP. In April 2021, the board convened into breakout sessions to further discuss safety in the RTP and key issues.

The key messages identified by the board for addressing safety in the RTP and PSRC's role are:

- Emphasize and elevate safety in all aspects of planning and project design, including in PSRC's project selection process
- Continue to monitor trends and gather data, particularly in correlation with population and employment growth, and travel growth by modes
- Develop best practices and resources
- Equity should be a key lens

- All of the “Es” are critical – education, encouragement, enforcement, engineering

The Project Selection Task Force has proposed revisions to the project evaluation criteria for PSRC’s 2022 project selection process that strengthen and elevate the safety criterion. Work is also proposed for PSRC to develop resources and identify effective solutions in partnership with the Regional Project Evaluation Committee. These recommendations will be presented to the board in January 2022.

Safety will be a stand-alone section of the RTP, as well as being addressed throughout the plan in each relevant section. In addition, the plan document will provide information on the Federal Highway Administration’s Safe System approach, which addresses system design and operations to lessen the impact from human mistakes and behaviors. The Safe System approach acknowledges that safety is a shared responsibility among those who use the system across all modes, those who design and manage the system, vehicle manufacturers, emergency responders and law enforcement. The approach identifies five elements that work together across this spectrum of shared responsibility for a holistic approach.

The plan document will further identify future work to be conducted. As noted above, this includes continued refinement of the project selection criteria and an evaluation of the proposed revisions; continued data collection and monitoring, with the key contextual lenses of equity and growth trends; development of best practices and other resources; and consideration of regional forums or other convenings to share this information and further discuss challenges and solutions towards achieving the region’s safety goals.

Equity

PSRC has taken significant strides to incorporate equity throughout the agency’s work programs. Equity is a key policy area identified in VISION 2050, and a regional equity strategy is under development. PSRC’s new Equity Advisory Committee has also been established, and a joint board workshop on equity was held on July 22, 2021. Equity has also been strengthened and elevated in PSRC’s project selection process, with proposals related to the project evaluation criteria and an equity pilot program to be included in the Policy Framework recommendations to be presented to the board in January 2022.

In September 2021, the Transportation Policy Board convened into breakout groups to further discuss equity and the RTP. Board members shared work their organizations have been doing related to transportation and equity; elements that might be missing from the RTP; and key messages related to equity that should be included. In summary, the board suggested the RTP address the following:

- Keep community members informed once they’ve provided outreach
- Provide guidance for comprehensive planning

- Continue to work towards more detailed data collection
- Recognize that the region is diverse across the four counties and across cities, as are their needs and demographic trends
- Continue to monitor and report on progress
- Support local jurisdictions with data and tools such as the visualization tools

Equity has been a key lens of the RTP and is a primary component of the plan's performance measures and monitoring. Equity will also be a stand-alone section of the plan and will incorporate the messages above, as well as addressed throughout the plan in each relevant section. A comprehensive Regional Equity Analysis will also be included that fully details the measurement and analysis of equity in the plan.

Climate

Climate change is a primary focus of VISION 2050, with a goal for the region to substantially reduce emissions of greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change in accordance with the goals of the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (50% below 1990 levels by 2030 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050) as well as to prepare for climate change impacts.

The RTP includes the adopted Four-Part Greenhouse Gas Strategy, recognizing that decisions and investments in the categories of Land Use, Transportation Choices, Pricing and Technology are the primary factors that influence greenhouse gas emissions from on-road transportation and are factors for which PSRC's planning efforts have either direct or indirect influence.

The plan will highlight the past successes, current activities and future potential from each of the four categories in the Greenhouse Gas Strategy. A few key illustrations as reflected in the RTP from each include the following:

- Land Use: the VISION 2050 regional growth strategy
- Transportation Choices: 70% of the plan's investment in system improvements is focused on transit, and the majority of the remaining investments are multimodal, with projects on facilities that support almost 50% of transit bus and truck travel
- Pricing: transition to a road usage charge system after 2030, and express tolls on highway facilities
- Technology: incorporation of a low carbon fuel standard and a transition to electric and other alternative fuel vehicles

With full implementation of the Four-Part Greenhouse Strategy, the region is on track to achieve the climate goals by 2050. The plan will identify ongoing work to advance the strategy, in particular related to decarbonization of the transportation system, as well as necessary future steps to ensure full implementation.

Access to Transit

The board was presented with the summary of the full suite of transit-related elements of the RTP in October 2021, including access to transit which encompasses a variety of modes and system components. From the breakout session held by the board on access to transit in March 2021 the following points were provided:

- Location and context matters – different areas require different solutions, and there are different network gaps between urban, suburban and rural areas.
- Equity remains a primary lens, and the needs of transit-dependent communities should be a priority. Recognize that removing barriers means more than just physical infrastructure, but also services.
- The system should be convenient, flexible, safe, and provide options throughout the day.
- Continue to highlight the importance of affordable housing and land use decisions around transit to support better access and usage.
- Identify roles and responsibilities across the region to support transit access.

The board also provided feedback regarding transportation demand management programs and the bicycle and pedestrian system, both of which support access improvements to the transit system.

The plan includes a significant expansion of the high-capacity transit system throughout the region, as well as the corresponding realignment of local transit services. The needs and opportunities to provide multimodal access to the transit system will be highlighted, and the relevant sections of the plan – such as the bicycle / pedestrian components – will identify those cross-cutting opportunities. In addition, the data and visualization tools will be provided as resources for local jurisdictions and transit agencies to utilize in their further planning for system investments.

Local Agency Needs

The plan is addressing local agency needs in a variety of ways. Most notably this includes the existing and forecast conditions visualization tools, which provide agencies the opportunity to zoom into their respective areas and view system needs and gaps within the context of various other data such as demographic information, congestion, transit routes and stops, and others.

In addition, the plan incorporates the planned investments from local agencies in both the regional capacity projects list and programmatically from existing comprehensive plans. Significant efforts were also undertaken to work with agencies to better estimate maintenance and preservation needs and to address backlogs into the future. The

plan's financial strategy reflects these local agency expenditure needs as well as the forecast of locally available revenues, both in current law and potential new sources.

Future Visioning

The board convened into breakout groups in November 2021 to discuss the visioning of future system needs, beyond what's included in current planning. Examples of ideas that are currently being studied include the concepts of high-speed rail, expanded passenger only ferry routes, airport capacity and others. Comments from the board on this topic are summarized in the Information Item included as Agenda Item 9 in the board packet.

PSRC will summarize the visioning topic and board discussion in the RTP, and highlight any known opportunities made apparent from the forecast conditions visualization tool. In addition, PSRC will continue to monitor the current studies and planning efforts underway, and will consider convening regional stakeholders in the future on various topics to advance this future planning.



Puget Sound Regional Council

ACTION ITEM

December 2, 2021

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director, Transportation Planning

Subject: **Direction to Release Draft Regional Transportation Plan for Public Comment**

IN BRIEF

The Transportation Policy Board has been briefed throughout the year on key elements of the draft Regional Transportation Plan. Over the last several months summaries of the main elements of the plan and key messages to be included in the document have been provided for final board review. At its meeting on December 9 the Board will be asked to direct staff to proceed with preparing final documentation of the draft plan and to release it for public comment in January 2022.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Transportation Policy Board should direct staff to prepare the draft Regional Transportation Plan and release it for public comment in January 2022.

DISCUSSION

Since the launch of the work program in January 2020, the board has discussed a variety of policy issues and elements of the Regional Transportation Plan. These have included the six key policy focus areas identified by the board in February 2020 – safety, equity, climate, access to transit, local agency needs and future visioning. The board has also been briefed and provided feedback on numerous elements of the plan such as the needs and investments of transit, freight, bicycle / pedestrian, transportation demand management, technology, maintenance and preservation and others.

In addition, the board has reviewed the plan's financial strategy and been provided summaries of the public outreach conducted throughout the last year, which included

surveys, virtual stakeholder meetings, interviews, and youth outreach. Additional outreach is planned, in addition to the formal public comment period to be conducted between January and February 2022.

In December, the board will be provided a final summary of remaining plan elements along with a reminder of the overall calendar and next steps, including the process and schedule for public review and comment. The board will be asked to direct staff to prepare the draft plan document and release it for a 45-day public comment period in January.

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or kmcgourty@psrc.org, or Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at 206-971-3286 or bbakkenta@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

INFORMATION ITEM

December 9, 2021

To: Transportation Policy Board

From: Kelly McGourty, Director, Transportation Planning

Subject: **Summary of November 2021 Regional Transportation Plan Breakout Session - Forecast Visualization Tool and Future Visioning**

IN BRIEF

The Transportation Policy Board held the final breakout session for key policy focus areas of the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) at its meeting on November 10, 2021. The topic discussed was future visioning, and a summary of the breakout sessions is provided below.

DISCUSSION

Prior to breaking into small groups for discussion, PSRC staff provided a brief introduction to future visioning of the transportation system, including a preview of the forecast conditions visualization tool and examples of past and current long-range system development ideas. The board then broke into three smaller groups and discussed the topics and the role of PSRC and others moving forward. A summary of comments is provided below.

- When visioning for the future, need to consider the same issues that are current priorities – i.e., safety, equity, access, maintenance and preservation, etc.
- Technology is an underlying assumption for the future system – whether electric vehicles or bicycles, smarter and/or autonomous vehicles, new energy sources, etc.
- New proposals such as high-speed rail are very expensive, and there are less expensive investments that also need implementing. New proposals should have a cost-benefit analysis.
- Keep up with innovation and share knowledge with member agencies.

- Future visioning proposals seem to focus on the bigger system, but the majority of trips are less than 3 miles.
- Unclear what the appetite and support for high-speed rail is in the region and the state, but it may be competitive at the federal level.
- There are more pressing needs such as the preservation of I-5, and there is an opportunity to rethink how the corridor is utilized.
- Need to better express the impacts from the “do nothing” scenario.
- PSRC can take a leadership role in convening forums to tackle emerging issues, sharing best practices and potentially conducting pilot studies.

For more information contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at 206 971-3286 or bbakkenta@psrc.org.

2022 PSRC Transportation Policy Board Meetings

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
No meeting in August						

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Meetings are held 9:30-11:30 a.m. the second Thursday of the month. As needed, the Transportation Policy Board and the Growth Management Policy Board meet in joint session to coordinate activities and make decisions/recommendations.

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. If a meeting is changed or cancelled, TPB members and alternates will be notified. Updated meeting dates are listed at <https://www.psrc.org>.