



DATE: February 12, 2024

SUBJECT: January Puget Sound Regional Committees Update

Executive Board

At its January 25 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Authorized contracts for records digitization** for an amount not to exceed \$35,000.
- **Authorized a contract for furniture purchases** for Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) new offices for an amount not to exceed \$461,000.
- **Approved a budget amendment and contract authority to implement PSRC's Safe Streets for All Safety Grant.** PSRC received a grant award of \$2,870,000 to develop regional and local safety plans.
- **Adopted a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Nine agencies submitted fourteen projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
 - Everett: Merrill and Ring Creek Bridge Replacement
 - Kenmore: Lower Swamp Creek
 - Kent: Meeker Street Multimodal, Kent Elementary School
 - King County (Transit): RapidRide K Line
 - Pierce County: 46th Avenue E/208th Street E
 - Snohomish: Larson Road Bridge 101
 - Tacoma: Puyallup Avenue Transit/Complete Street Improvements
 - Tacoma: Fishing Wars Memorial Bridge Replacement Phase 2
 - Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT): I-90/Eastbound Mercer Slough Bridge Rehabilitation
 - WSDOT: SR 520/Floating Bridge Deck and Expansion Joint Sealer
 - WSDOT: SR 18/Unnamed Tributary to Big Soos and Soosette Creek Fish Passage
 - WSDOT: SR 531/43rd Avenue NE to 67th Avenue NE Widening
 - WSDOT: SR 509/Clear Creek Stream Restoration
 - WSDOT: Vessel Passenger Space Refurbishment
- **Approved ten project status changes in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).** Status changed from "candidate" to "approved"
 - King County: Eastrail Wilburton Trestle Project
 - Kirkland: 124th Avenue NE Roadway Improvements and NE 124th Street/124th Avenue NE/Totem Lake Project



- Seattle: 4th Avenue Protected Bike Lane Project
- Seattle: Northgate to Downtown Transit Improvements Project
- Shoreline: SR 523 (N/NE 145th Street), Aurora Avenue N to I-5, Phase 1 Project
- Shoreline: SR 523 (N/NE 145th Street) and I-5 Interchange Improvements Project

Status changed from “candidate” to “conditionally approved”

- WSDOT: SR 9 – 176th Street SE to SR 96 Project
- **Approved 2025-2026 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Funding Allocations.** A Call for Projects was released in July 2023 for the distribution of an estimated \$558 million of PSRC's 2025-2026 FTA funds. Of those funds, about \$507 million was distributed via the adopted earned share methodology, while about \$100 million was allocated using the new FTA equity formula distribution.
 - **Approved PSRC's Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Equity Pilot Funding.** The Equity Advisory Committee worked with PSRC staff throughout 2023 to review PSRC's current project selection process as it relates to equity and develop an equity pilot program to distribute approximately \$6 million of PSRC's 2025-2026 FHWA funds. The Executive Board allocated the funding to eight transportation projects.
 - **Approved the 2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds.** PSRC has project selection authority for several sources of funds from both the FHWA and FTA. Prior to each funding cycle, the policies and procedures for the project selection process are reviewed and updated as needed to reflect current regional priorities and requirements and are documented in the Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds. The Executive Board unanimously approved changes to increase the scoring values for safety and equity and made other changes. The process will be conducted in 2024 for PSRC's 2027-2028 FHWA and FTA funds.
 - **Received a briefing from the Equity Advisory Committee.** The Committee is advancing the Regional Equity Strategy, which will provide guidance to help members work in a coordinated manner towards the region's goal of providing an exceptional quality of life and opportunity for all.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for February 22. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.



Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

At its January 11 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended Adoption of a Routine Amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP.** Nine agencies submitted fourteen projects, as described in the January 25 Executive Board update above.
- **Recommended adoption of two project status changes in the RTP.** Status changed from “candidate” to “approved”
 - Auburn: Auburn Way S Hemlock to Poplar
 - Covington: SR 516 – 185th Place SE to 192nd Avenue SE
- **Recommended approval of the 2025-2026 FTA funding allocations,** as described in the January 25 Executive Board update above.
- **Recommended approval of PSRC’s FHWA Equity Pilot Funding,** as described in the January 25 Executive Board update above.
- **Recommended approval of the 2024 Policy Framework for PSRC’s Federal Funds.** In addition to the changes described above, the TPB discussed but did not recommend changing climate criteria point values nor making new roadway capacity projects ineligible to compete for funding. Instead, the TPB directed PSRC to further research the potential impacts of those changes for potential future action.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for February 8. Councilmember Dave Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)

At its January 4 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Heard a briefing on the Black Home Initiative.** The GMPB was briefed on the Black Home Initiative, a new regional program that seeks to target the racial inequities in the housing market to increase homeownership among Black residents. The Black Home Initiative includes seven focus areas to address housing production, lending, purchasing and exiting.
- **Heard a briefing on the Covenant Homeownership Act.** The GMPB was briefed on the work of the state Housing Finance Commission to support access to homeownership and affordable housing through the Covenant Homeownership Act. The Covenant Homeownership Act addresses the role of government institutions in housing-related racial discrimination.



- **Heard a briefing on the 2024 Regional Transit-Oriented Development Committee (RTODC) Work Plan.** The 2024 work plan includes restructuring discussions to increase engagement and interaction among members as well as including a work session at each meeting. The committee will begin implementing the work plan at its next meeting on March 15.
- **Heard an update on the Regional Safety Plan Draft Scope of Work.** The board provided feedback on the draft scope of work outline for PSRC's Regional Safety Plan. Sections of the draft work outline include Overview; Safety and Equity Analyses; Engagement and Collaboration; Strategies, Countermeasures and Actions; and Implementation and Next Steps. PSRC will work with a consultant team to advance the development of the Regional Safety Plan, with a target completion date by Q1 of 2025.

The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for February 1. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.