



City of
Bellevue

City Manager's
Office

DATE: August 6, 2024

SUBJECT: Puget Sound Regional Committees Update, July 2024

Executive Board

At its July 25, 2024 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Approved a budget amendment for the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) conference work.** PSRC will host the 2025 NARC conference in June 2025. The conference will provide an opportunity to showcase the region and the collaborative work of PSRC and its members.
- **Approved the PSRC fiscal year (FY) 2025 indirect cost rate.**
- **Approved contract authority** for consultant services to update the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).
- **Adopted a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Four agencies submitted five projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
 - **Kent:**
 - Meet Me on Meeker, a sidewalk and bicycle improvement project – Washington Avenue E to 64th Avenue S
 - 224th Corridor Completion (State 2) – S 216th Street from 99th Avenue S to 108th Avenue S
 - **Kenmore:** Swamp Creek Tributary Culvert Replacement (NE 192nd Street)
 - **North Bend:** State Route (SR) 202 Shared Use Trail Extension
 - **Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Northwest Region:** SR 16/Burley Creeks – Remove Fish Barriers
- **Approved the 2024 annual adjustment of PSRC's Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds.** PSRC allocates an estimated \$250 million in FTA funding per year. The 2024 final FTA funding amount is \$80 million higher than anticipated, so the Executive Board allocated the additional funding per adopted PSRC policy.
- **Approved projects for PSRC's 2028-2028 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FTA funds.** This funding action allocated approximately \$11.5 million in federal funds to the following City of Bellevue projects:

- **NE Spring Boulevard, Zone 3** – Bellevue will receive \$3.5 million for final design.
- **120th Avenue NE, Stage 4 (North Segment)** – Bellevue will receive approximately \$5.5 million for construction.
- **SE Eastgate Way Sidewalk Gap** (East of Richards Road) – Bellevue will receive approximately \$1.1 million for design.
- **South Downtown Bellevue Arterial Overlay** – Bellevue will receive \$1.5 million for construction.

In addition to the funding allocated directly to Bellevue, this action allocated \$8.2 million to King County Metro’s RapidRide K Line project.

- **Received a briefing from the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC).** Equity is a key policy area in VISION 2050, the region’s long-range plan for growth. VISION 2050 directs PSRC to collaborate with the EAC to make equity central to PSRC’s work. This year, PSRC staff collaborated with the EAC on a wide array of topics related to growth, transportation, data and other topic areas.
- **Approved a salary adjustment for Executive Director Josh Brown from approximately \$280,000 to approximately \$307,000.** The salary adjustment was made following a market analysis of the executive director salary range.

The Executive Board will not meet in August. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for September 26. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

At its July 11 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended the Executive Board adopt a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP,** as described in the July 25 Executive Board update.
- **Recommended the Executive Board approve the 2024 annual adjustment of PSRC’s FTA funds,** as described in the July 25 Executive Board update.
- **Recommended the Executive Board approve projects for PSRC’s 2027-2028 FHWA and FTA funds,** as described in the July 25 Executive Board update.
- **Discussed coordinated mobility planning.** The Coordinated Mobility Plan serves as the comprehensive strategy for addressing transportation challenges experienced by people with accessibility and mobility needs, including older adults, youth, people with low incomes, people with disabilities and people with limited English proficiency (LEP). This encompasses not only specialized transportation services (i.e., ADA complementary paratransit, accessible shuttles) that are targeted to priority populations,

but also public transit services, accessible sidewalks and other facilities. Implementation of this regional plan is a shared responsibility among transit, specialized transportation/human service agencies, local jurisdictions and other regional partners.

The TPB will not meet in August. The next TPB meeting is scheduled for September 12. Councilmember Dave Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

Growth Management Policy Board

At its July 18 meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB):

- **Heard a briefing on open space trends.** Staff provided a summary of the research findings and trends of open space conservation and enhancements to monitor implementation of the [Regional Open Space Conservation Plan](#). The report on open space trends reviews key open space data on land cover, conservation easements, tree canopy cover, housing development and park and trail locations. This data will help assess how the region's open spaces are evolving and enable comparison to goals in the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan to monitor progress.
- **Heard a briefing on protecting mature trees while adding housing.** David Moehring, an architect and former Seattle urban forestry commissioner, and Mike Carey, Tacoma Urban Forest Program Manager, discussed how mature trees can be protected even when cities work to accommodate housing. The presenters provided resources that cities and counties can use to embrace both mature trees and more housing and PSRC staff are looking into additional guidance.
- **Heard a briefing on the Tree Equity Collaborative.** The [Washington State Tree Equity Collaborative](#) was presented to the board by Michael Liang from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The Tree Equity Collaborative aims to enhance neighborhood tree canopy cover by building rigorous and inclusive urban forestry programs. Members can use a [Tree Equity Score Tool](#) which provides information to help prioritize expanding tree cover equitably.

The GMPB will not meet in August. The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for September 5. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.

Economic Development District Board (EDDB)

At its June 5th meeting, the EDDB:

- **Received a staff update from Jason Thibedeau, PSRC's Economic Development Manager.** Jason highlighted that PSRC will be holding a "TOOLBOX Session" on Office to Residential Conversion for regional staff and elected officials. Also highlighted was PSRC's work advocating for funding for the ferry system and local transit agency workforce development efforts relating to mechanics.

- **Received a presentation from Susan Champlain on Boeing's Operations in Washington.** Susan addressed Boeing recent safety issues and steps Boeing is taking to address them before presenting on Boeing's operations across the State of Washington. The Board discussed Boeing's massive economic impact and history in the region and asked questions regarding future Boeing operations including some board member's desire for Boeing to relocate its HQ back to the Puget Sound and the Sustainable Flight Demonstrator.
- **Received a presentation from Dr. Joseph Williams on Washington's Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Sector.** Dr. Williams updated the board on the State's efforts to strengthen the ICT sector. This primarily related to the Commerce Department's efforts to attract more federal dollars from programs such as the CHIPS Act and other programs that Washington State has performed poorly at receiving funding from.
- **Received an informational update on the Industrial Lands Analysis Update.** PSRC Staff shared that the Industrial Lands Analysis Update is now complete and released in draft form. The reports findings related to the supply of industrial lands, uses, community impacts, workforce, goods movement, and other subjects. The draft regional Industrial Lands Analysis update is available on the project's [webpage](#). Release of the final report is targeted for summer 2024.

The next EDDB meeting is scheduled for September 4th. Councilmember Conrad Lee represents Bellevue on the EDDB.