



City of
Bellevue

City Manager's
Office

DATE: June 11, 2024

SUBJECT: Puget Sound Regional Committees Update, May 2024

General Assembly

At its May 30 meeting, the General Assembly:

- **Adopted the Fiscal Years (FY) 2024-2025 Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program.** Federal grants make up nearly 80 percent of PSRC's budget with state grants contributing about 5 percent, and local funds providing 15 percent. PSRC's Biennial Budget and Work Program was adopted in May 2023 and covers July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2025. The Proposed Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program of approximately \$45 million is a steady-state budget with no overall changes in revenues and expenditures beyond the last amendment in September 2023.
- **Reelected Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson as president and Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers as vice president for second one-year terms.**
- **Received a briefing on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Federal Aviation Administration funding from U.S. Representative Rick Larsen.** Representative Larsen is in his twelfth term serving Washington's 2nd Congressional District, which includes portions of Snohomish County and all of Skagit, Whatcom, Island and San Juan counties. Representative Larsen is the lead Democrat on the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.
- **Discussed transportation safety.** The Puget Sound region is currently experiencing a traffic safety crisis. Roadway deaths have risen sharply since 2010, and an increasing number of those killed are people walking or riding a bike — the most vulnerable travelers. In 2022, more than 327 people died on roads in the four-county region. Data for 2023 will be available soon. People of color are disproportionately impacted in the Puget Sound region. An American Indian or Alaska Native resident was seven times more likely to die in a traffic collision than a white resident in 2022.

Executive Board

The Executive Board did not meet in May due to the May 30 General Assembly meeting. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for June 27. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

At its May 9 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended that the Executive Board approve extensions for projects**

receiving Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding. PSRC allocates an estimated \$250 million in FTA funding per year. PSRC routinely monitors the progress of FTA funds awarded to transit agencies. Extensions were recommended for six projects sponsored by three transit agencies.

- **Discussed Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) modeling and analysis tools.** Development of the 2026 RTP is underway. PSRC staff provided an overview of the modeling and analysis tools PSRC is using to develop the RTP and respond to policy questions.
- **Discussed RTP data collection and inventories.** PSRC is updating regional transportation data, including the following:
 - inventories of bicycle and pedestrian facilities and user counts;
 - a regional Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) inventory;
 - an inventory of freight assets throughout the region;
 - information on Transportation Demand Management programs; and,
 - an assessment of transportation services for people with specialized mobility needs.
- **Discussed 2024 outreach activities.** PSRC is conducting public outreach to support development of the 2026 RTP. State and federal law require PSRC to develop a Coordinated Mobility Plan as part of the RTP to address the mobility needs of individuals with transportation challenges due to age, income, language proficiency or ability. Extensive outreach will be conducted to learn more about the needs and priorities of these communities. Public outreach is also underway for the Regional Safety Action Plan (RSAP). VISION 2050, the region's overarching policy framework, includes a policy to support and achieve the state's long-term goal of zero deaths and serious injuries. To help the region achieve this goal, PSRC has launched a multiyear RSAP effort to improve traffic safety in the central Puget Sound region in a comprehensive, data-informed, equitable, and collaborative way.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for June 13. Councilmember Dave Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

Growth Management Policy Board

At its May 2 meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB):

- **Heard a briefing on work to identify and address racially disparate impacts in housing.** Snohomish County planning staff shared the history of Snohomish County's racially restrictive covenants and the work to identify them within the county. Snohomish County is using this information to inform new plans, policies and procedures in its 2024 Comprehensive Plan Update, add a suite of equity policies in its Land Use Element, and propose an inclusionary zoning code.
- **Heard a briefing on Transfer of Development Rights technical assistance available from the Washington Department of Commerce (Commerce).** Commerce staff provided an overview of Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) and Land Conservation

and Local Infrastructure Programs (LCLIP) programs. Through a grant from the National Estuary Program, Commerce will provide feasibility assistance and policy guidance for local governments to use these programs in the Puget Sound region.

- **Received key findings from the draft regional Industrial Lands Analysis update.** Findings from the analysis fall into the categories of supply of industrial lands, positive drivers of demand, incompatible and undesired uses, impacts to communities, maintenance costs, workforce, transit investments, and goods movement. The draft of the regional Industrial Lands Analysis is on the [project's web](#) page, and the release of the final report is targeted for summer 2024.
- **Heard a briefing on the schedule and work program for the next long-range Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).** This planning effort is being led by the Transportation Policy Board (TPB). Board members provided feedback on how the RTP can support VISION 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy with interest expressed in addressing the linkage between transportation and land use, ensuring the plan is “human-centered.” The next RTP is scheduled for adoption in May 2026.

The GMPB met on June 6. An overview of that meeting will be included in the next monthly update. The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for July 18. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.