



City of Bellevue

City Manager's Office

DATE: March 18, 2024

SUBJECT: February 2024 Puget Sound Regional Committees Update

Executive Board

At its February 22 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Authorized a contract to restore Puget Sound Regional Council's (PSRC) former office suite** for an amount not to exceed \$90,000.
- **Authorized a contract to support the May 30 General Assembly meeting** for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.
- **Adopted a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Four agencies submitted eight projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
 - Community Transit: Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance
 - Issaquah: Northwest Sammamish Road/SE 56th Street Preservation
 - King County: North Fork Bridge
 - King County Metro: Atlantic Base Pavement Replacement
 - King County Metro: Replacement of Overhead Trolley Infrastructure
 - King County Metro: Vehicle, Equipment and Facilities Maintenance
 - King County Metro: Trolley Energy Storage System Replacement
 - Sound Transit: State Route (SR) 522/NE 145th Street Bus Rapid Transit
- **Approved two project status changes in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).** Status changed from "candidate" to "approved":
 - Sound Transit: I-405 Bus Rapid Transit
 - Sound Transit: SR 522/NE 145th Street Bus Rapid Transit
- **Adopted a minor amendment to the RTP** to revise the Regional Capacity Project list. PSRC is required by federal law to maintain a list of regionally significant transportation projects. The amendment added ten new projects to the list, removed one, and updated the descriptions of 37 projects. The amendment is consistent with the RTP's air quality conformity determination, environmental analysis under the State Environmental Policy Act, and adopted financial strategy.
- **Discussed PSRC's RTP dashboard.** PSRC staff shared an annual report on transportation data and demonstrated the online data dashboard. The region is improving or holding steady on metrics related to climate, growth, walking to work and rolling to work, and travel time. However, traffic-related deaths and serious-injury



collisions are increasing in the Puget Sound region. Executive Board members expressed concern about the safety data and about the disparate impacts on Black, Indigenous, and other people of color (BIPOC) residents of the Puget Sound region.

- **Discussed the development process for the 2026-2050 RTP.** Under federal and state law, PSRC is required to develop a long-range RTP every four years. PSRC staff provided an overview of the work program to develop the next RTP, which is scheduled for adoption in 2026. Executive Board members supported focusing on transportation safety, climate, and other policy topics.
- **Received a briefing on Regional Centers Monitoring work.** The draft scope of work highlights three key outcomes for this process: 1) evaluate the success of the system of centers, 2) consider the designation of new regional centers; and, 3) confirm the designation of existing centers with a clear redesignation process. The Executive Board supported the progress to date and gave direction to proceed. Data collection will continue through 2024.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for March 28. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

At its February 8 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended the Executive Board adopt eight projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP,** as described in the February 22 Executive Board update.
- **Recommended the Executive Board approve two project status changes in the RTP,** as described in the February 22 Executive Board update.
- **Recommended the Executive Board adopt a minor amendment to the RTP,** as described in the February 22 Executive Board update.
- **Discussed PSRC's RTP dashboard.** The TPB received an annual report on transportation data, consistent with the February 22 Executive Board update. TPB members were concerned about the increase in traffic-related deaths and serious-injury collisions and its disparate impacts on BIPOC residents.
- **Discussed the development process for the 2026-2050 RTP,** consistent with the February 22 Executive Board update.



The TPB met on March 14; a summary will be included in the next Intergovernmental Affairs packet. The next TPB meeting is scheduled for April 11. Councilmember David Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)

At its February 1 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Heard an update on the 2024 State Legislative Session.** The GMPB was briefed on the Governor's supplemental budget and bills before the Washington State Legislature. PSRC data staff demonstrated a mapping tool to visualize the impact of House Bill 2160 related to community transit-oriented development.
- **Heard a briefing on Regional Centers Monitoring work,** as described in the February 22 Executive Board update. The GMPB provided feedback and direction to proceed on the draft scope of work for the regional centers work program.
- **Heard a briefing on the Equity Advisory Work Plan.** The GMPB was briefed on the progress the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) has made on regional equity work, including the creation of elements in the Regional Equity Strategy and the progress on the Equity Pilot. Staff and the EAC collaborated on the Regional Equity Strategy and created components of community engagement, capacity building, best practices and data and research. The EAC also had \$6 million in FHWA funds through their Equity Pilot Program, developing parameters by which projects will be selected for funding, with an overarching focus on improving equity with transportation investments.

The GMPB met on March 7; a summary will be included in the next Intergovernmental Affairs packet. The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for April 4. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.